



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST  
ADVISORY BOARD**

Dave Chamberlain, Chairman  
Lisa Cassidy           Chuck Parker  
Al Craney               Tim Raschko  
Gordon Iverson       Tom Nelson  
Paul Kriegel           Aubrey Stargell  
Fred Loffer             Dick Whitmore  
Ken Osborn  
                                  Kendra Smith, Staff

Minutes March 16, 2009

Present: Ken, Lisa, Fred, Chuck, Gordy, Tom, Tim, Paul, Aubrey, Dave and Al.  
Absent: Dick

Guests: Commissioner Wesen, Paul Wagner, Matt R\_\_\_ from International Forestry Consultants and sits on the King County Regional Forest Council, John C, Kirk Johnson and Gary Christensen all from PDS.

- I. Welcome: Dave opened the meeting at 7:03 and welcomed numerous guests. He also announced that the County web page had one for the FAB>
- II. Minutes: Gordy moved and Tim seconded to approve. Unanimous.
- III. King County Forestry Council: Mat was introduced by Dave. King Co. has this body which is similar to Skagit's FAB. Rural Forest Commissioner advises the County Council and County Exec. They comment on regional issues i.e. Puget Sound Partnership and watershed issues. King Co. gives quite a bit of support to the mall landowners. They look at the following: forestry within the Shorelines of the State; CAO regulations and impacts to forestry; infrastructure; County forest certification (they own forest lands); stormwater management-fees go to managing forests and a source of long-term funding for forest projects and tech assistance to small landowners (they have 2 full time foresters on staff) also education; surveys (Al noted that it is similar to the one done by Kevin Z and WSU). Other issues they look at include: ability to conduct retail sales like getting a portable mill; permit fees that are reasonable and promote sustainable forestry; and affects of regulations on forestry as it relates to shorelines o f the State (not shorelines of state-wide significance).
- IV. Amendments to County Code: Gary C. announced that Planning is working at presenting amended language as requested by the FAB to the Planning Commission in the near future regarding which regulations should apply to forestry operations- the RI. The FAB saw this as very good news and thanked Gary for the PDS's efforts at working with them. Gary suggested that there may be some elements of risk but will work on this with other changes THIS YEAR! John announced that Gary took his thunder but then added a few more specifics. He handed out a draft and asked for feedback. One comment from the FAB was that the language needed to be amended to include all lands outside the UGAs since there are many small lot landowners who could possibly be sending wood to the mills and want to practice forest stewardship. The term should be anything practicing "on-going forestry". It is too hard to try and draw a line in the sand as to what the exact acreage should be due to various landscape conditions; rather if the owner wants to have managed forestry and NOT convert that should be the criteria- anything other would only lead to discussions of hypothetical's. Ken stated that we should seize the moment and grab some publicity..."Protected forest lands and what they offer, such as stormwater management!"
- V. True incentives verses mitigations are needed.

- VI. Alternative Futures: Kirk gave an overview of what has occurred at the Alt Futures to date noting the decision to add forestry as a natural resource to the Ag trend. (There are 4 planning trends- Conservation, Development, as is and an Ag future.) Ag has had a tech team working for the last year and forestry will need to get up to speed. The management committee feels forestry needs to be included. Paul and Kendra will help update the groups and Kirk said he will come on a periodic base or when the FAB desired.
- VII. Adjourned. 9:09