



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

Dave Chamberlain, Chairman
Lisa Cassidy Ken Osborn
Al Craney Chuck Parker
Gordon Iverson Tom Nelson
Paul Kriegel Aubrey Stargell
Tim Raschko Steve Tift
Fred Loffer

Kendra Smith, Staff

Minutes May 10, 2010

Present: Dave, Gordy, Ken, Aubrey, Lisa, Fred, Tim, Steve, Paul and Al

Absent:

Guest: John Cooper

I. Minutes- Ken moved and Aubrey seconded. Approved with amendments.

II Discussion Items:

- a. CAO and Forest Practices- John Cooper gave some background on the permitting differences of these two types of applications and talked about conversions and the SEPA process involved as well. There are 3 options:
- a. Go to DNR to get permit, wait 6 yr moratorium then come back to the County to get the permit.
 - b. COHP- Conversion Option harvest Plan – Don't need to do SEPA on the un-platted parcel, do need to replant. Cost with County same as a conversation on platted lands \$2200. Class III \$1200 to run, save the \$500 from SEPA, \$300 CAO and save \$100 from publishing
 - c. Conversion. Take it out of harvest production, generally for a homesites.

A waiver of a moratorium gets the Dept of Ecology involved.

b. The Nature Conservancy tour- Gordy gave an update stating that he felt that in general it was very successful. They were able to put some names and faces together and there were some good questions and exchanges. One of the issues discussed was conversions to land trusts and PSE. This prompted getting PSE to come to one of the future FAB meeting.

c. Conservation Subdivision- Dave gave an update of the meeting that PDS, County legal and PW held. They will be having a follow up meeting on May 20 8-10a.m. They discussed several proposals with the land trusts voicing their strong desire to have such a tool. Both the Forest and Ag industries were opposed to having this in the natural resource zoning designations . One question was why is there going to be a change of code to assist government/agencies and the same sort of deference is not given to the general public. This makes this sort of thing very unfair. Dave said that all they wanted to accomplish by this new type of subdivision could already be done...they would just have to spend money like everyone else to purchase property.

d. Conversions- Aubrey did some investigation and found that houses are part of but not a major contributor to conversion of forest lands. Al said that Society American Foresters (SAF) has information about the federal lands in Washington. He handed out copies for the FAB to review and have further discussions about at a future meeting. Aubrey

will work on the assessor's maps/site to see what he can find. Major conversions come from mitigation projects in Skagit County.

e.

e. FFP Update- Kendra gave an update.

f. USFS Plan Update- There is a link to this that folks can follow if they want. Kendra will send link if you want it.

f. SAF- The annual meeting will be held in LaConner the 13th and 14th of May. The agenda and speakers are very good and all are invited to attend.

Next meeting June 14th 2010.