



**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
July 11, 2011**

- I. Call to Order. Present: Fred, Gordy, Al, Tom, Steve, Aubrey, Paul, Chuck, Dave, Ken and Lisa
- II. Minutes. Motion was made by Fred and seconded by Gordy to approve all of the minutes dating back to January 2011. Passed unanimous.

Discussion Items:

- III. By-law amendment. After trying to conduct business and approve minutes over the last 7 months without a quorum, the FAB discussed the need to amend the required number of members to fulfill a quorum. Currently the number is 9 out of 12. Paul moved and Gordy seconded to change it to a simple majority (7 out of 12). Further discussion found that the AAB has also changed their by-laws to reflect this number. Motion passed unanimous.
- IV. Legislative/DNR Update. Kendra talked to Representative Lytton about the Community Forest bill and whether there should be any proposed changes to it to help protect the county trust lands (Forest Board lands). The DNR tabled a decision on putting some of the Lake Whatcom lands into a park through an inter-trust exchange to get more information.
- V. Pipeline Regulation. Gary Christensen from PDS gave an overview of the department's proposal and the outcome of the public comments. The PDS will provide another draft to the planning Commission, which will not have public comment provided but will remove buffer requirements. They feel this is what the comments were asking for. There will still be restrictions to high density developments and critical facilities. Gary noted that Forest Practice Permits will not fall under this.
- VI. FEMA regulations for development in the floodplain. FEMA lost in a lawsuit which found them negligent of protecting salmon and orca due to allowing development in the floodplains. The County has 3 options: 1. Adopt a model ordinance. 2. Have every proposed project go through review with FEMA, or 3. Develop code that will satisfy FEMA and NMFS in reviewing for impacts to the floodplains and the waters of the State that are associated. Skagit County is trying for #3. PDS is trying to demonstrate to FEMA that our current CAO should work if the review area is increased to 250 feet. There will be a public hearing on the 19th of July and the Planning Commission will deliberate in mid- August.
- VII. RFI committee- Has not met yet to discuss update to code for the amendments to platted lands sections.
- VIII. Envision. Paul gave an update and shared what the committee has adopted and is taking forward. This information is on their webpage.
- IX. Clearing Ordinance. John Cooper said there will be some amendments made to this code and this is being done by the Public Works department. He will check with Gary to see if there is any more information.
- X. American Alps. Al met with Commissioner W3sen and shared some data on the USFS lands. This was the same information the FAB had discussed some months ago. He showed how the AA may limit the available USFS lands for future harvests.
- XI. USFS Management Plan. Ken talked to Kevin Morse and he talked to Karen Anderson the TNC regional director about teaming together on this topic. They said they would be willing to look at it. Also UBC with UW students will be getting together to do a project and this may be their topic. It was noted that this may be a nice thing to dovetail with as they produce a plan dealing with management of federal lands.

Adjourn:9:03 a.m.