



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

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

**Minutes
August 11, 2016**

Present:

Absent;

Guest: Commissioner Janicki

I. Welcome: Commissioner Janicki was warmly welcomed and introduced to the attending FAB members. Dave commented that her timing was great since it was a short agenda and they would be able to open up to discussions and updates on various issues.

II. Minutes: Gordy moved and Chuck seconded to approve the July minutes with a minor change to Mount Vernon Councilman Dale Reagen's name. Approved unanimous.

III. Updates State Lands and TFW: The Board of Natural Resources (BNR) will be holding a special meeting (8-18-15) to discuss arrearage. The meeting has marbled murrelet on the agenda as well as an update on the spotted owl. They are trying to decide whether to try and get all of the arrearages paid sooner or spread it out. This will dictate the number of harvests. Kendra will be attending the meeting. The Forest Practice Board (FPB) will be holding a special meeting tomorrow, August 11th, to discuss the progress on the Board Manual 16 regarding landslides. The conservation caucus appears to be bringing forth a procedural question for the FPB regarding the steps in dispute resolution and whether or not Policy should continue their work on Type F or just have the FPB make a decision based on minority/majority reports. Policy has been discussing the logic behind doing studies on harvest prescriptions that won't be used by the industry. This is a result of asking CMER to do some related work on the eastside Type N study.

IV. Open discussion: Commissioner Janicki wanted to know what the FAB's top 10 list was with her understanding that pursuing the RFI was number 1. She wanted more specifics on the RFI proposal and how it related to the State legislation that passed several years ago allowing for adoption of these types of regulations.

The FAB reiterated to Commissioner Janicki that they would be more than willing to help the Planning Department in the drafting of regulations that would affect the forest industry. They said they thought that would help save staff and Planning Commission time if they were able to offer expertise upfront. There was some discussion regarding the importance of being in Olympia with all of the potential rule and board manual changes and to ensure both science and the adaptive management process was being followed.

There was some discussion about Linda not being able to staff the FAB by sending agendas out and helping with coffee in the mornings.

Ken Osborn noted that Grandy Lake will be hosting a timber tour on August 24th from 9-4. They will have a presenter from WSU.

The discussion regarding the extreme fire danger for this exceptionally dry year focused back on the need to immediately start managing the federal lands. The risks to lives, communities, infrastructure, health besides the financial costs and destroyed environment should now help convince the legislators to pass a bill. FAB still talked about doing a pilot project in Skagit.

Kendra will send the proposed Federal Bill that has passed the Senate to the FAB.

This dry year was also raising the question as to how to determine Type N streams perennial initiation point (PIP- also known as UMPA) and the typing. If there is lots of rain this fall it could still make the streams fall within the 'norm' and therefore be evaluated. When the Board manual took the ability to type by acreage size out it has now made this situation more of an issue. This is a costly issue to the industry. Paul noted that was one of the areas where Watershed Analysis prescriptions were beneficial. This procedure has been replaced by other procedures and regulations.

Blanchard- The State budget granted only \$2 million of the remaining \$7.5 million needed to offset the cost of removing the "core area" from harvests. The DNR will be reporting back to the Blanchard committee in the near future. The County wrote a letter in March regarding what they believed was a fair approach if funding did not come through. The Burlington School Board wrote a similar letter.

IV. adjourned 9:00 a.m.