



**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
2/3/16**

Present: Chuck, Gordy, Ken, Al, Aubrey, Paul, Tim, Tom and Lisa

Absent: Dave, Steve and Fred

- I. Introductions: Dave is absent so Aubrey Stargell is chair.
- II. Minutes: Gordy moved, and Tom seconded to approve the minutes with the changes made regarding the discussion on the DNR requiring more points when surveying. Passed unanimous. (Ken commented on that because there are unknowns regarding culvert sizes regrading sometimes to be redone adding to cost.)
- III. Finny Bridge: The Public Works Department along with the Forest Service are submitting a grant for funding to repair the Finney Bridge. They have asked the FAB to write a letter of support since this had been a concern of the FAB over this past year. Al noted that Samantha from the USFS commented that there could be sales up there if the bridge were to be fixed. The FAB reviewed a template letter, had some discussions and drafted a version they would like to send. Al moved, and Gordy seconded to send a supporting letter with the changes they made to the template. Kendra will send to version to Aubrey for signature and then send off to PW. The FAB suggested that the letter be sent to the Commissioners as well. Kendra will also look into the costs for this project.
- IV. Discussion Items:
 - a. Green -Up Rule: Some members gave a little more back ground on why this rule was put into place. There was some discussion at the TFW Breakfast meeting.
 - b. Blanchard Mt: Gordy had heard news on the radio as had other members. This is due to a funding request for \$7.7 million as per the original agreement and the interest accrued. Kendra noted that this is a short session and the likelihood is slim that there will be anything put in the budgets for it. Next year will be the final ask and then the County and Burlington Edison School District have said that sales need to be put up to fulfill the trust mandate. These revenues are important to the trusts.
 - c. Property going to a land trust: There was some discussion about property at the east end of Big Lake that is going to the Skagit Land Trust. The FAB realized that this was not suitable for harvest.
 - d. Leg Update: Kendra updated on the fire bills, the master plan resorts and forest practices, cultural resources and thanks to Pearson the dropping of a bill that would allow the FPB to make decisions about unstable slopes without supporting science.
 - e. Small Landowner (SLO): TFW Policy is discussion next steps and caught within the debate of the requirement to work with the SLO with some reduced rules and meet a protection standard of equal or more protective. Many feeling that time will be a good test of how much impact harvesting by SLO really has. Many of their logs go to local mills and support local economy. They stay in US whereas many large landowners send off in export. There are not a lot of choices. Scientist are torn and have even suggested a 5-year test period to see if the lesser standards will be sufficient. Much of this is backed by science in Oregon.
- V. Adjourn: 9:03