



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

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Minutes
September 13, 2017

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

Guest: Commissioner Janicki, Dale Pernula (PDS) and Stacie Pratschner (PDS)

- I. Introductions: Aubrey Stargell chaired the meeting in Dave's absence. Thank you to Commissioner Janicki, Dale Pernula and Stacie Pratschner for attending.
- II. Minutes: no quorum. See the fir4st discussion item below.
- III. Updates: The BoCC approved the code amendments at the end of August to allow trails as a permitted use under Industrial Forest designation. Commissioner Janicki thanked the FAB for their time and considerations.
- IV. Discussion:
 - a. Forming a subcommittee to approve the minutes when there is not a quorum. This would possible make the action move more quickly at the next meeting. This will be taken to the FAB at their next meeting. If they approve than Gordy moved and Ken seconded to approve the August minute.
 - b. RFI: Dale shared what PDS wanted to do. Stacie wanted to attend this meeting and get direct feedback from the FAB on continuing the development of the RFI code changes. The FAB firmly stated that they wanted the RFI to be a stand-alone code amendment and not linked to either the land disturbance ordinance or the County taking on forest practices within the UGAs. Tom emphasized that the RFI was a clean proposal. Ken noted his concern about not allowing forestry as an open space option within a CaRD as a FPA. He feels that applicants asking to put their lands into Open-Space Protected Areas should state their reasoning. When put into this category one can't do forestry as it stands today. Aubrey said this was a way of taking lands out of forestry; a conversion in and of itself. Kendra shared what Dave Chamberlain has been suggesting for lands that have been platted and that is to have an exemption built in. CAO for development and an exemption within the CAO for lands that will be practicing forestry. If the landowner converts than fines, mitigation and or a moratorium can be placed on the area. Ken noted that there was a debate between FAB members on parcel size for DNR rules vs CAO restrictions. Commissioner Janicki wants to see separate paths for each ordinance rather than put them all together. She has a desire to encourage and maintain forestry. She thinks there may be a better approach. One would be to get rid of the land disturbance with the RFI. PDS wanted to know the FAB's thought on what a Forest Management Plan may have in it...since this is something that will be required if a landowner wishes to continue to do forestry on lands greater than 20 acres within a UGA. The suggestion was to use what the accessor uses for forest tax exemptions. Dale said he believed the FRAB and PDS were not that far off from each other's desired outcome. Stacie said she would take what she heard from today's meeting and make some adjustments.
- V. Adjourn 9:05 a.m.