



SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY BOARD

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Fred Loffer Kendra Smith, Staff

Minutes

April 17, 2018

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

Guest: Commissioner Janicki for a portion

I. Minutes: Fred moved and Al seconded to approve. Passed unanimous.

II. Discussion: Forest Practices:

- a. Type F/N break. There was discussion and questions regarding clarification of the proposals that have been circulated at Policy on the potential method in determining how to find this point. FAB generally agreed that as long as foresters could move up or down from the identified break point from where to start the process they could accept the methodology. The FAB is adamant in retaining the ability to electroshock and to have ID teams. It was explained that this was not necessarily going to be the outcome since several caucus want to limit electro-fishing. Thoughts on potential habitat breaks were discussed including barriers and physicals. Diagrams were drawn on the board to try and demonstrate concepts.
- b. Budget: The budget is close to being balanced for this biennium, but not for the future ones. A subcommittee has been working on a process to help in the future as projects are identified, scoped, approved with respect to their costs. One of the largest problem comes from new projects the FPB adds to the list. The process will aid in showing the FPB that new priorities projects may need to be established.
- c. Forestry in Skagit County: Al wants the FAB to think about this and be able to share it with the Commissioners. He noted that the Conservation District is not receiving the funding that they have in the past and that with his retirement there may be very little work in the forestry arena from their office. He asked for the FAB's support in getting some funding to help on writing management plans and education. Al also noted that firewise is no longer funded but may get some future money with PILT being approved. FEMA gives ratings for natural hazards and how a jurisdiction is prepared and Skagit's has been higher due to work on the firewise program. Al asked if the new District Manager could come to the next meeting. FAB said yes.
- d. Education: The FAB started this discussion the first of the year to help support the County Commissioners. Al suggested looking into the Oregon Forest Resource Institute newsletter. He sent it to everyone a month ago. Ken mentioned education on managing small wood lots. This is something the District has done in the past.

III. Adjourn: 8:55 a.m.