



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

Dave Chamberlain, Chairman
Lisa Cassidy Ken Osborn
Al Craney Chuck Parker
Gordon Iverson Tim Raschko
Aubrey Stargell
Tom Nelson Steve Tift
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**Minutes
April 13, 2022**

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

Guest: Commissioner Browning and Nick Kunz

FAB met in person and had zoom set up. Lots of catch up face to face.

1. Minutes: Moved by Tim and seconded by Tom to approve March minutes. Approved unanimous.
2. Discussion:
 - a. Letters of Interest to serve on the FAB: There were 4 individuals interested in serving on the FAB. Letters had been submitted to the Commissioner's office. The FAB was pleased with the four who submitted stating that all would be worthy additions to the Board. The expertise, experience and interest were discussed. The FAB noted that any of the individuals would be good and would send that message to the Commissioners. They particularly liked the experience and background of several noting they were well qualified and well-rounded. They also noted that it was nice to see some 'younger' blood stepping in.
 - b. State Lands- BNR: DNR announced Hilary Franz's new carbon credit pilot program. This was done days before a formal press release and gathering happened without notice to the BNR or counties, (as promised from discussions occurring between timber counties and the DNR over the last year). Franz noted that she would remove the interim moratorium on harvesting trees pre-1900 (though sales of younger trees have also been postponed recently) to place them into a carbon credit pilot program of approximately 2500 ac initially all within four counties. The FAB's comments started with noting that the DNR apparently does not care about jobs and their goal is to make money without logging. But the FAB continued by talking about the impacts this could cause the environment rather than help. Where will logs come from in the future? What other materials will be used instead of wood for building? What about the housing shortage? How will 'state of the art' forestry be promoted and assured (like the Forest Practice rules in Washington). There will also be an environmental justice debate. Discussion also focused on what a carbon market can bring in per million board feet. Does this have the beneficiary's best interest at hand? (\$100/mbf vs \$400/mbf). The FAB brought up the Beck Group report (indicating a loss of 7 mills over the next 50 years. This loss of infrastructure is very significant with numerous and huge impacts. DNR said they would give a report at the May meeting.

- c. Trust Land Transfer: Commissioner Wesen is serving on the DNR committee and asking important questions about implementation and potential impacts. DNR staff is pushing for speedy conclusions and postponing difficult discussion items. They want to make a report to the legislature this fall (as requested by the Leg), in hopes of getting funding for implementation (to purchase lands for replacement).
 - d. TFW- the Forest Practice Board subcommittee for the Water Typing of type F streams was not able to come to consensus on what gradient should be used to determine the ceiling for the Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF). To note this was all due to a request from the Tribes and not part of a CMER study or listed projects. Dispute Resolution for SLO is complete with basically no resolution. There will be minority-majority reports made to the FPB. FAB commented that 41% of wood products are imported today.
 - e. Deming Log Show and Tour- June 10th! Gordy noted that it will not be as technical.
 - f. Education Update: Nick has been working hard on various events including the Envirothon for kids. There was lots of interest which is promising. NRCS grant for the Conservation District which will compliment with the nursery. Nick gave a bit more update on the Forest Institute for Teachers (FIT) and the FAB believes this is a great conduit for educating the public. The location was discussed and the amount of prep time.
3. Next meeting May 10th due to FPB meeting.
 4. Adjourn 9:00 a.m.