



**SKAGIT COUNTY FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**

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Minutes
June 12, 2024

Present: Chuck, Gordy, Steve, Al, Jamie, Kris, David, Aubrey, Absent: Dave C, Peter, Tim, and John
Guests: Commissioner Janicki, Nick Kunz, and Emmett (Skagit Conservation District (SCD)),
Robert Walter Conservation District Wildfire Specialist out of Whatcom County, Robby Eckroth and
Tara O Skagit Planning Department

- I. Minutes: Al moved and Kris seconded to approve. Approved unanimously.
- II. Discussion:
 - a. Rate and Charges: Emmett and Nick gave background on funding the Skagit Conservation District receives from a Rate and Charges resolution. The current one will be sunseting and the SCD is hoping the FAB will support a renewal with the same rates in place. It is \$3/ landowner charge with the revenues goes to education such as the WSU coaching class for small forest landowners and community wildfire work. Aubrey moved and David seconded to recommend to the County Commissioner they consider supporting the renewal of the Rate and Charges as they have been presented. Passed unanimously.
 - b. Community Wildfire Planning (CWP): Robert Walter provided background and current information on the CWP efforts the SCD and Skagit County has evoked upon since 2009. Al Craney also worked on the CWPP, and he noted that this plan also helps with the County's insurance rating and risk management planning. Title III funding goes towards developing and implementing the CW Plan. The last CW Plan update was 2019 so they are currently working on an update with this plan having post fire recovery included. This generally takes 18 months but will need to be accomplished in 4-5 months. FAB will be informed of the progress. To contact Robert his email is RWalters@WhatcomCD.org.
 - c. Education: Nick updated the FAB on the teachers workshop to be held July 10-12. It has expanded in popularity with 8 on the waiting list! The Women in Timber Tour is full and the TV21 loops the DNR "lightening talks".
 - d. Darrington Collaborative: Angelina from Hampton had noted that she has seen results from this group. The FAB tentatively believes it may be beneficial but not ready to fully recommend to the Commissioners due to time commitment and goals for forest management. There are not enough USFS projects yet. Will continue to consider recommending joining the collaborative.

- e. State Lands: Kendra and Commissioner Janicki gave an update of the BNR meeting discussion on timber sales. The FAB spent time organizing a trip to Olympia next month to attend the BNR meeting. The FAB meeting will be cancelled due to this trip. It appears that 8 members will be going.
- f. Skagit County Comprehensive Plan Update: Planning Department staff Robby and Tara gave the FAB an update on the 20 year Plan and worked on a group survey with the FAB members. They will continually update the FAB.

III. Adjourn 9:15 a.m.