

**Whatcom County Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC)  
Meeting Summary  
January 16, 2024**

Start Time:	4:00 p.m.
Location:	Northwest Annex Central Conference Room/Zoom

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present	Absent (Excused?)
David New	Small forest landowner	√	
Holly Koon	Small forest landowner	√	
John Gold	Commercial forest landowner	√ (@4:10)	
David Janicki	Commercial forest landowner	√	
Matt McGee	Harvester	√ (@4:25)	
Quentin Dills	Harvester		√ (No)
Jed Dawson	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Tracy Petroske	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Aubrey Stargell	Forest product manufacturer	√ (@4:13)	
Susan David	Forest product manufacturer	√	
Cory McDonald	DNR	√	
<b>Quorum Present</b>			
<b>Electeds</b>			
Kaylee Galloway	County Council		
<b>Staff</b>			
Cliff Strong	W/C PDS	√	
Lucas Clark	W/C PDS	√	
Chris Elder	W/C PW	√	
<b>Public</b>			
Eric Jacoby		√	
Jessica Espy		√	
Alex Harris	Re-Sources	√	
Brel Froebe	Center for Responsible Forestry	√	

**Meeting Summary**

Vice-Chair David opened the meeting at 4:01 PM.

**Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum**

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

**Agenda Review & Approval**

The agenda was approved with 0 amendments.

**Approval of Minutes**

The meeting summary of December 5<sup>th</sup> were approved with a few amendments.

**Open Public Session**

Alex Harris introduced himself.

**Administration**

**Election of Officers**

After asking whether John and Susan are willing to continue in their roles:

*Motion to re-elect John as the Chair – passed unanimously*

*Motion to re-elect Susan as the Vice-Chair – passed unanimously*

### **Review of Work Plan**

John presented the FAC with a draft 2024 work plan, and asked members to be prepared to discuss and adopt in February. Holly suggested adding requesting forestry tax data from the Treasurer as an annual recurring task.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### **DNR/BNR Update**

Cory McDonald reported on DNR's section of properties for nomination for CCA funding. Two of the properties are in Whatcom County, including Anderson Creek and Brokedown Palace. Preliminary assessments have been made, but will be refined. Council has been asked to comment.

### **Whatcom Forestry Profile Subcommittee**

Nothing new was reported.

### **Carbon Subcommittee**

John reported that he and Susan attended the December CIAC meeting and presented the FAC's recommendations on their Climate Change plan. That plan isn't slated to be updated until 2025, but they will continue to work with the CIAC to make the FAC's recommended changes.

### **Legislative Update**

Jed provided an update the legislature, specifically HB 1488, HB 2247, HB 6121, and HB2201.

### **Forest Resilience Task Force – Appointment of FAC Representatives**

The FRTF is not yet up and running.

## **Old Business**

### **Discussion and recommendation to Council on 2,000-ac Climate Commitment Act (CCA) sites (Brokedown Palace & Anderson Creek)**

John presented a draft letter to provide to the Council. There was much discussion, with Holly pointing out a few technical errors, Aubrey critiqued the CCA program in general as it postpones tax distributions to benefactors, thus harming future generations. The members also expressed concern with the lack of adequate time for review and response, though acknowledged that it is beyond the Council's and their control. Nonetheless, there was general agreement that it would be better to provide some comment than not.

*Motion to approve and send the letter to Council after making some grammatical and formatting changes, and adding some substantive language about replacement lands.*

Chair John called for a voice vote by name, with the following results:

David New – Aye	Jed Dawson – Aye
Holly Koon – No	Tracy Petroske – Abstain
John Gold – Aye	Aubrey Stargell – Aye
David Janicki – Aye	Susan David – Aye
Matt McGee – Aye	Cory McDonald – Abstain

*Motion passes 7-1-2*

## **New Business**

### **Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update**

Cliff provided an overview of the process for the FAC to provide comments on the CompPlan, asking members to think about and develop a list of "big picture" issues that need to be addressed, and send

them to him before their next meeting. At that meeting the FAC will review and approve its list. The consultant will use this list of issues to develop amendments that the FAC will review in more detail in late summer/early fall.

### Announcements

None

### Adjournment

Chair Gold adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM. Next meeting is on February 6, 2024, 4-6pm; Zoom and Northwest Annex Conference Room.