

**Whatcom County Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC)
Meeting Summary
March 7, 2023**

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

Meeting Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were 16 people in attendance (9 of the 11 voting members; 1 Whatcom County Staff, 6 members of the public).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting Date/Time/Location: April 4th, 4-6pm/ Zoom and Northwest Annex Conference Room

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present
David New	Small forest landowner	√
Holly Koon	Small forest landowner	√
John Gold	Commercial forest landowner	√
David Janicki	Commercial forest landowner	√
Matt McGee	Harvester	
Quentin Dills	Harvester	√
Jed Dawson	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√
Bagley Wright	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√
Aubrey Stargell	Forest product manufacturer	√
Susan David	Forest product manufacturer	√
Cory McDonald	DNR	

Quorum Present	YES: √	NO:
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Attendees - Staff	Present	Attendees - Staff	Present
Cliff Strong, PDS	√		

Others Present	
Brandy Reed, WCD	Max & Carol Perry
Alan Chapman	Alex Harris

Meeting Notes

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Introductions

Chair Gold introduced the FAC's new staff support, Cliff Strong; members then introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes from 2/7/2023

The draft meeting summary of 2/7/2023 was **approved: 8 yea, 0 no, 2 absent, 1 abstention.**

Open Public Session

No members of the public spoke.

State Lands/DNR Update

In Cory McDonald's absence, Chair Gold gave an update on pending state legislation, including HB 1488, HB 1789, HB 1578, HB 1460, and SB 5390. He also spoke to:

- the NW Region's fiscal year projection, which will probably fall short of target by 25-30%;
- the proposed Brokedown Palace timber sale, which has been withdrawn due to inclement weather (though will be revived later);
- and other miscellaneous timber sales.

Question was asked about the state's recent carbon offset sale, but no one knew the details.

Subcommittee Reports

Debrief of Report to the Council on 2/21/23

Chair Gold reviewed his presentation to the Council's Climate & Natural Resources Committee.

Whatcom Forestry Profile Subcommittee

Susan David and Holly Koon described their intent and layout for the forestry profile (available at https://www.canva.com/design/DAFccnl5THU/8qU8ANPfrglig24Gp9pQYg/view?utm_content=DAFccnl5THU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink) and reviewed their draft list of potential topics to be addressed (attached). The FAC discussed and confirmed an anticipated completion date of December 2023.

Forest Carbon Subcommittee

Dave New reviewed the subcommittee's intent to review the Climate Action Plan, though no progress has been made yet. Chair Gold ruminated on the potential difficulty of amending an adopted plan.

Old Business

2023 FAC Work Plan

The FAC reviewed Chair Gold's draft work plan and agreed with his assessment and ranking of tasks. Holly Koon suggested adding something about the FAC might act to be a clearing house for "crosscutting" issues (e.g., enforcement on illegal activities on state/private land boundaries). She'll work on more specific language for next meeting.

New Business

Stewart Mountain Community Forest Initiative

Chair Gold asked whether anyone knew of the Stewart Mountain Community Forest Initiative. Though members have heard of it, no one knew any details. The FAC expressed interest in a staff update, though thought it not quite "ripe." Chair Gold said he'd look into it more and report back next meeting.

Discussion of Climate Impact Advisory Committee Chair Ellyn Murphy's briefing to the FAC on the Climate Action Plan

No one had anything to add.

Forestry Tour

There was a discussion about setting up a FAC tour of certain sites, though it was acknowledged that it would need to be set up as a public meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Gold adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM.