

# Wildlife Advisory Committee

## Meeting Summary

Friday, February 12, 2021

Start time: 9:00 A.M.

Whatcom County Planning and Development Services

Northwest Annex Portable Conference Room

5280 Northwest Drive

Bellingham, WA



| QUORUM          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                      |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Members Present |                                     | Public Present       |
| Frank Bob       |                                     | Solvei Metcalf       |
| Greg Green      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                      |
| Robert Waddell  |                                     |                      |
| Joel Ingram     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                      |
| Vikki Jackson   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                      |
| Chris Kazimer   |                                     |                      |
| Stephen Nyman   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <b>Staff Present</b> |
| Shannon Crossen |                                     | Amy Dearborn         |
| Trevor Delgado  |                                     | Kelly Chamberlain    |
| Barry Wenger    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Erin Page            |
|                 |                                     | Cliff Strong         |
|                 |                                     |                      |
|                 |                                     |                      |

1. Barry Wenger opened the meeting at 9:10
2. Barry opened the floor for public comments
  - a. Barry announced personal conflicts that may prevent him from responding immediately to contact from the Committee
3. Review of previous meeting minutes, no changes to be made but no quorum at this time so no vote taken
4. Amy Dearborn reviewed the Species of Local Importance spreadsheet
  - a. Barry asked about the Oregon Spotted Frog since it has no federal protections and requested it be noted in the spreadsheet
  - b. The spreadsheet for the Committee’s current list includes four species recommended for protection:
    - i. Coastal Tailed Frog
    - ii. Elk
    - iii. Townsend’s Big Eared Bats
    - iv. Western Toad
5. Amy shared a compiled list of state requirements and mandates for Species Lists and noted the Committee’s reviews may be missing “effects on property ownership/use.”

- a. Amy also noted that most properties will be unaffected by their recommendations
6. Amy also presented an example memo from 2016 to be reworked and used as a cover letter for the Committee's presentation to Council
7. Cliff Strong noted the next Council meeting agenda is likely full and the Species List will have to wait until the following meeting
  - a. Cliff emphasized the regulations required for species to be selected for protection
    - i. For example: the effect on properties must be specific to each species, one statement regarding them all may not be sufficient
    - ii. Cliff also explained that Mark Personius (PDS Director) may decide to save the list for later in order to keep the scope of the presentation focused on the CAO edits
8. Stephen Nyman mentioned it may be simple to include property effects into the Committee's existing review recommendations without much change to the format
9. Quorum achieved, Vikki Jackson moved to approve previous meeting minutes
  - a. Seconded by Greg Green
  - b. Approved
10. Vikki asked if the Committee has officially approved the list of species to be presented – Committee agreed they have not
  - a. Committee also agreed there has not been enough discussion on Habitats of Local Importance to officially include them in a presentation to Council
  - b. Vikki moved to vote to approve the four local species for recommendation to council (Coastal Tailed Frog, Elk, Townsend's Big Eared Bats, Western Toad)
  - c. Committee voted unanimously in favor – Approved
11. Amy will compile the four reviews submitted by Committee members for the selected species and distribute the document to the members
12. Amy asked Greg if the review on Bats might include maps
  - a. Greg replied that mapping the population's known locations is not really feasible
13. Stephen suggested a small interim meeting to approve the final compiled documents before they are submitted
  - a. Amy agreed to coordinate
14. Amy updated the Committee on their role regarding the Conservation Plan and Program; Mark Personius advised Amy the Committee should update the recommendations from 2017 and fill in any gaps, this would be due at the end of 2021.
15. Barry opened the floor for new or old business
  - a. The Purchase of Development Rights Committee released a GIS tool with conservation and ecological aspects included
16. Barry asked the Committee how they would like to handle members who have been consistently absent
  - i. Barry offered to call these members and inquire if they still have an interest in serving on the Committee
17. Vikki moved to adjourn, Stephen seconded
  - a. Meeting closed 10:14