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Mark Personius, AICP
Director

Forest Advisory Committee Meeting

4:00-6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 3, 2026

In person:

Planning & Development Services, Northwest Annex Conference Room
5280 Northwest Dr, Bellingham, WA

Or join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87106867064?pwd=b0NLTlZnTTZqOHBGQk1mY2FQbWFKQT09>

Meeting ID: 871 0686 7064

Passcode: 722152

One tap mobile: +12532050468,,87106867064#,,, *722152# US

*If you require special assistance to participate, contact the meeting facilitator:
Alexander Harris – 360-922-2318 – aharris@co.whatcom.wa.us*



Forest Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

February 3, 2026

4:00-6:00 p.m.

1. Roll call & Determination of Quorum (5 min)
2. Review and approve agenda (5 min)
3. Review and approve January Meeting Summary (5 min)
4. Open Public Session (5 min)
5. Announcements (10 min)
 - a. Membership: Dave New, Mallore Weinheimer
6. Reports (15 min)
 - a. DNR/BNR *Note: Special Study Session - Sustainable Harvest Calculation (McDonald)
 - b. Legislative Session (New)
 - c. Forest Practices Board (New)
7. Business (75 min)
 - a. FAC 2026 Work Plan
8. Adjourn

Attachments:

- Draft January Meeting Summary
- Draft 2026 FAC Workplan

Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee (FAC)

DRAFT Meeting Summary

January 6, 2026

Start Time:	4:00 p.m.
Location:	Zoom and in-person at the NW Annex Conference Room

Members	Affiliation	Present	Absent (Excused?)
David New	Small forest landowner	√	
Holly Koon	Small forest landowner	√	
David Janicki	Commercial forest landowner	√	
Rob Janicki	Commercial forest landowner	√	
Shelby Beam	Harvester or silviculturist	√	
VACANT	Harvester or silviculturist		
Jed Dawson	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Tracy Petroske	Citizen w/ forestry expertise	√	
Aubrey Stargell	Forest product manufacturer	√	
Adam Ellsworth	Forest product manufacturer	√	
Cory McDonald	DNR		√ (Y)
Brandy Reed	Whatcom Conservation District		√ (N)
Rachel Vasak	Whatcom Land Trust	√	
Frank Bob	Lummi Nation		√ (N)
UNFILLED	Nooksack Indian Tribe		
UNFILLED	U.S. Forest Service		
		Quorum Present	
Electeds			
Staff			
Alexander Harris	WC PDS	√	
Public			
Kaia Hayes	RE Sources	√	
Alan Chapman	WCD Board of Supervisors	√	
Maia Walston	Darrington Collaborative	√	

Meeting Summary

Chair David Janicki opened the meeting at 4:05 PM.

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Agenda Review and Approval of Meeting Summary

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Tracy made a few suggested edits to the December Meeting Summary. Dave made a motion to approve the December meeting summary as amended. Shelby second. Passes unanimously.

Open Public Session

Maia Walston with the Darrington Collaborative introduced herself. Maia met with some members of the FAC to discuss the Darrington Collaborative. She is hoping to learn more about how the FAC operates so we can learn how the Darrington Collaborative can work together in the future.

Announcements

Tracy said she wanted to recognize how helpful it has been to have county staff help administer FAC meetings.

Rachel provided an update: Today, WLT closed on the Phase 2 acquisition of the Stewart Mountain Community Forest. This adds 1,616 acres to the Phase 1 acquisition, which was 550 acres. Now that's over 2,100 acres. Partners involved are: Whatcom Land Trust, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Evergreen Land Trust, and Whatcom County. WLT is working with partners to develop a subsidiary non-profit model that will own and manage the land.

Reports

DNR/BNR

- DNR has decided to pull a bill relating to creating an ecosystem services marketplace that would value water resources. DNR held this bill due to tribal concerns.

Legislative session

- Jed is resigning from the FAC, so he will be vacating the role of reporting to the FAC on legislative updates. Tracy asked if anyone was interested in filling this role of reporting on legislative updates. Dave New said he can take on this role.

Business

Elections

- David and Tracy have agreed to continue serving as Chair and Vice Chair.
- Tracy nominated David J. to continue in his role as Chair. Holly seconded. Passed unanimously.
- David J. nominated Tracy to continue as Vice Chair. Rob seconded. Passed unanimously

FAC had two new applications for open FAC seats. One is Dave New applying for one of the seats for Citizen with Forestry Experience. Another application came from Mallore Weinheimer for the open seat for a Harvester or Silviculturist. FAC members reviewed both applications and decided by consensus that Tracy and David should send a note to Whatcom County Council to voice support for both applications.

FAC Workplan

Kaylee shared her ideas of what else the county could work on:

- Upcoming update to the Climate Action Plan. Lauren Clemens is the county staffer
- How can afforestation help with flood mitigation.
- Ordinance that protects working forestlands from the risk of wildfire started by fireworks.
- Conservation easements, open space, or Whatcom County Assessor.

Alex proposed an idea for the FAC to have a standing presentation every 6 months to present to the Whatcom County Council's Climate Action and Natural Resources Committee. Opportunity to give updates and ask what Council needs from the advisory committee. FAC members and Councilmember Galloway agreed this was a good idea. Agreement to discuss at the next meeting what format these presentations should follow.

Holly shared her draft Work Plan that included the following topics:

- Lake Whatcom
 - Implementation of the Lake Whatcom Forest Program
 - Lake Whatcom Policy Group (perhaps a FAC rep should attend these meetings). Their workgroup has a forest chapter
 - DNR Landscape Plan and the Interjurisdictional Committee (IJC).
- Forest Resilience Plan
- Federal lands
- Interfacing with council on specific topics
- Continuing education plan (tours, presentations, etc)

FAC members had some discussion on the format the work plan should take. Adam shared that prioritizing will be essential.

Presentation: Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI)

Adam Ellsworth is the Log Procurement Manager for SPI's Burlington mill. Adam presented on SPI's operation in Burlington, as well as the lands they manage throughout western Washington. Adam made it clear that their mill depends on logs that come from their own lands as well as state public lands managed by DNR.

Tracy asked if a tour of the SPI Burlington Mill would be possible. Alex offered to help schedule two separate tours with FAC members (to avoid quorum).

Next Meeting

Agreement to discuss Work Plan.

Adjourn

Tracy adjourned the meeting at 6:05pm.