

1 Summary of December 5, 2019
2 Countywide Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting #6
3 Judge Guy Boyington Building
4 857 Commercial Street
5 Astoria, OR 97103
6

7 The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Andy Davis, CCAC Chair.
8

CCAC Members Present

Andy Davis
Jan Mitchell
Patrick Corcoran
Robert Stricklin
Theodore Lundy
Cheryl Johnson
Jim Alegria
Ron Weber

CCAC Commissioners Absent

Harold Gable
Jim Coughlin/Andrea Mazzarella

Staff Present

Gail Henrikson

Public Present

Diane Jette
Comm. Pamela Wev
Cynthia Rubus
Misty Ogier
Nancy Ferber
Pamela Matson McDonald
Dori Larson
Jay Browning
Jesse Browning
Tim Shiel
Shelly Solum
Jed Arnold
Matt Betts
Ashley Lertora
Mike Baldwin
John Nygaard
Roger Dorband
Carolyn Eady

9 **Welcome and Introductions**

10 The CCAC members, staff and members of the public introduced themselves.
11

12 **Review of November 21, 2019 Meeting Summary:**

13 Due to the short turnaround time between the November and December 2019 meetings, the Committee voted
14 to table review of the meeting summary to the next meeting. **Motion by Theodore Lundy, seconded by Patrick**
15 **Corcoran. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.**
16

17 **Planning Area CAC Liaison Reports:**

18 **Elsie-Jewell / Seaside Rural (EJSRCAC):** Ron Weber stated that the EJSRCAC had reviewed all of the Goal 4
19 policies and had revisited Goal 1. He added that mailings with meeting dates should be sent to the Elsie-Jewell
20 area on a quarterly basis.
21

22 **Southwest Coastal (SWCCAC):** Theodore Lundy stated that the SWCCAC had met on November 13. He read a
23 summary of the last SWCCAC meeting, which included three proposals the committee had agreed should be
24 included in Goals 3 and 4. (A copy of Mr. Lundy's report is attached to this meeting summary.)
25

26 **Clatsop Plains (CPCAC):** Robert Stricklin stated that he had no report.
27

28 **Lewis and Clark Olney Wallooskee (LCOWCAC):** No liaisons from the LCOWCAC were in attendance. Ms.
29 Henrikson provided the committee with a brief review of their November meeting.
30

1 **Northeast (NECAC):** Cheryl Johnson stated that the NECAC had met on November 7. She discussed the recently-
2 held forest lands conversation.

3
4 **Goal 4 Discussion:**

5 Cheryl Johnson noted that salmon are not mentioned in any of the policies in Goal 4. She stated that she has
6 not yet prepared any revised policies, but is thinking about it and has reached out for assistance.

7
8 Robert Stricklin stated that he has no antipathy towards industrial forests. He supports being able to walk into
9 the woods and have 100 species waving at him. He stressed the need to support both biodiversity and industrial
10 forest lands.

11
12 The committee discussed the policies in Goal 4.

13
14 Jan Mitchell discussed the use of spraying on forest lands. She stated that once the use of herbicides and
15 pesticides is screwed up, it can't be undone. Ms. Mitchell expressed her concern about having adequate
16 protections around small streams.

17
18 Ashley Lertora, Oregon Department of Forestry, stated that spray helicopters are equipped with GPS units and
19 spray parallel to the stream. She added that a 60-foot-wide buffer is required along streams when spraying
20 occurs.

21
22 The committee discussed whether and how the Forest Practices Act could be changed or overridden in the
23 comprehensive plan. Ms. Mitchell was tasked with developing a policy to encourage the Board of
24 Commissioners to work with state agencies to review and revise the Forest Practices Act.

25
26 Roger Dorband reminded the committee that the representative from the Crag Law Center had encouraged the
27 committees to draft policies for the comprehensive plan that would encourage changes to the Forest Practices
28 Act.

29
30 Carolyn Eady stated that the County should encourage people to attend the Board of Forestry meetings and
31 request that changes be made.

32
33 After further discussion, Ms. Johnson was tasked with making changes to Policy 3. As currently written Policy 3
34 reads: "Forest practices on lands designated Conservation-Forest shall conform to the Oregon Forest Practices
35 Act and Oregon Forest Practice Rules, as revised."

36
37 Tim Shiel, Stimson Lumber, discussed the minimum requirements contained in the Forest Practices Act and
38 detailed how Stimson Lumber either met or exceeded those requirements.

39
40 Dave Browning provided an example of how a company could go beyond the minimum requirements in the
41 Forest Practices Act. He stated that when trees located outside required stream buffers lean into the buffer
42 area, loggers can choose to either leave those trees in place or harvest them. He stated that if the tree is left in
43 place, that would be considered as exceeding the minimum requirements.

44
45 Jesse Browning informed the committee that his company, J. M. Browning, will leave an extra row of trees
46 outside of the buffer in order to protect the buffer.

47 Mr. Dorband countered that no buffers were required around tributary streams. He stated that water in fish-
48 bearing streams was heating up because tributary streams are not protected.

49
50 Ms. Lertora reminded the committee that there are penalties if the minimum Forest Practices Act standards are
51 not met.

1
2 Ron Weber asked the committee how the County could encourage forest land owners to become better
3 stewards. Ms. Lertora stated that education was key and she recommended that the county reach out to the
4 state forestry extension.

5
6 Theodore Lundy questioned whether the example of saving additional trees adjacent to required buffers
7 provided proof that the buffer requirements were inadequate.
8

9 Ms. Lertora discussed the “social license” and emphasized that industrial land owners already have incentives to
10 be good stewards of their land. Ms. Lertora listed some of the available incentives. She stated that Hampton
11 Lumber, Greenwood Resources and Stimson Lumber already are certified through the Sustainable Forestry
12 Initiative (SFI). She mentioned other certification programs such as FSC (Forest Stewardship Council). The four
13 certification systems in Oregon include SFI, FSC, American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and ASTM Responsible.
14

15 Ms. Eady stated that timber companies were harvesting trees after only 25 years. She again emphasized the
16 need to get people before the Board of Forestry in order to make their concerns heard.
17

18 The committee began to discuss Policy 4:

19 Division of forestlands will be permitted only upon a finding that the proposed division meets
20 the following criteria:

- 21 a. the proposed division will not diminish the potential for timber production, watershed
22 protection and fish and wildlife habitat, and
- 23 b. the creation of new parcels will not materially alter the overall stability of the area's
24 land use pattern.
25

26 Mr. Weber asked about the criteria that would be used to determine whether a proposed division of land would
27 diminish potential or alter the overall stability of the land use pattern. The committee discussed possible
28 criteria. **Motion by Jim Alegria, seconded Cheryl Johnson, to revise Policy 4 to include language that the**
29 **County will develop specific criteria to determine compliance with Policy 4 of Goal 4 within five years of**
30 **completing the comprehensive plan update. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.**
31

32 Cheryl Johnson asked a follow-up question regarding process. Ms. Johnson asked whether the formation of a
33 forestry subgroup was still being considered. Ms. Henrikson stated that she was still considering this idea. She
34 stressed the importance of Goal 4, but also the need to keep the process on track.
35

36 The committee continued to discuss construction of dwellings on forestlands and how that related to wildfire
37 protection and provision of utilities. Mr. Alegria asked what restrictions were in place to prevent template
38 dwellings from growing into more dense pockets of residential development. Mr. Stricklin stated that there used
39 to be a program that was oriented to rural problem solving, that would allow the creation of hamlets. Mr.
40 Stricklin asked whether this program was still in effect. He stated that the program was run through the
41 Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and was used to encourage small communities to
42 think outside of the box. Ms. Henrikson stated that she did not know the answer to that question, but would
43 follow up on it. Mr. Stricklin suggested contacting the planner for the City of Gearhart.
44

45 Mr. Weber stated that the EJSRCAC had been discussing wood chipping versus burning at their meeting earlier
46 that afternoon. Ms. Lertora stated that both are acceptable practices. The choice is dependent upon many
47 different variables, including accessibility for chip trucks. The committee discussed the economics of chipping
48 and whether it would prevent regrowth of the forest. It was noted that Stimson Lumber uses chipping in
49 proximity to homes instead of burning. The committee continued discussion, including the pros and cons of
50 removing tree stumps after harvest.
51

1 The committee discussed Policy 6:

2 The designation of new park and recreation areas (campgrounds, etc.) on forestlands shall
3 require an assessment of public need for these facilities and their potential impact on adjacent
4 forestlands. The productive capacity of the land shall be evaluated and considered when siting
5 these developments. These developments, if allowed, shall be sited and designed so as not to
6 preclude forest management wherever possible.

7 Mr. Stricklin asked whether this policy pertained only to resource lands or whether it also applied to Open
8 Space, Parks and Recreation-zoned lands.

9
10 **Public Comment and Input:**

11 Diane Jette stated that it would be useful to have a flow chart showing all the various forest regulations and the
12 different state agencies.

13
14 Carolyn Eady stated that forests are a public draw within the county. She stated that climate change is not
15 addressed at all in Goal 4.

16
17 Ashley Lertora discussed the ongoing update of the Forest Management Plan. She referred attendees to the
18 Oregon Department of Forestry website to review the document and for additional information.

19
20 Jed Arnold volunteered Dan Stark from Oregon State University as a possible resource to help advise the
21 committee. He suggested it was better to go straight to the source to verify items that committee members
22 were hearing about.

23
24 There was general discussion about sending notifications to new property owners.

25
26 **2020 Schedule:**

27 Ms. Henrikson reminded the committee that there would not be any meetings in January, February or March.
28 She stated that during that time period, staff would be working on rewriting Goals 1-4. She stated that meetings
29 would pick up again in April 2020.

30
31 **Closing Comments and Adjournment:**

32 Ron Weber thanked the committee for their patience. He explained that this has presented a big learning curve
33 for him.

34
35 Theodore Lundy expressed concern that the committee is rushing Goal 4 and that they have barely scratched
36 the surface.

37
38 Cheryl Johnson stated that she really appreciated the forest conversation and that it was very positive. She has
39 selectively harvested timber on her property. She added that she found the Forest Practices Act to be very
40 frustrating. She quoted Katie Voelke of the North Coast Land Conservancy, who said that the land use plan is an
41 opportunity to make a statement and that the statement should reflect the value of the citizens. Ms. Johnson
42 stressed the value of clean water and health habitat for salmon.

43
44 ***There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.***