

1 Summary of November 14, 2019  
2 Clatsop Plains Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting #4  
3 Pacific Grange  
4 90475 Highway 101  
5

6 The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by Mary Kemhus, CPCAC Chair.  
7

**CPCAC Members Present**

Maria Pincetich  
Mary Kemhus  
Robert Stricklin

**CPCAC Commissioners Absent**

Jerri Myers  
Diane Heintz

**Staff Present**

Julia Decker  
Gail Henrikson

**Public Present**

Bill Eddy  
John Dunzer  
Don Abing  
Carole Connell

8 **Welcome and Introductions**

9 The CPCAC members, staff and members of the public introduced themselves.  
10

11 **Review of October 10, 2019, Meeting Summary:**

12 There were no corrections, additions or deletions to the meeting summary.  
13

14 **Report from Countywide CAC (CCAC) Liaison:**

15 Mr. Stricklin reported on the ODF Forest Practices Act workshop that he had attended. He observed that  
16 the speaker focused much of the presentation on the history of the timber industry in Clatsop County. He  
17 stated that more time should have been devoted to discussion of the Forest Practices Act.  
18

19 Ms. Pincetich asked a question about the upcoming November 21<sup>st</sup> forestry tour.  
20

21 The committee discussed topics associated with Goal 10 (Housing) and the impact of short-term rental  
22 units on longer-term housing. Ms. Henrikson noted that it would be several months before the committees  
23 began their reviews of Goal 10. Ms. Pincetich requested background information regarding short-term  
24 rentals when the committee did begin its Goal 10 discussion. Ms. Henrikson stated that the committee  
25 members should be using the performance review worksheet to help guide their review of the policies.  
26

27 Ms. Pincetich asked for clarification regarding her role on the committee. Ms. Henrikson explained that the  
28 Citizen Advisory Committee's role was to gather public input and to make recommendations regarding  
29 changes to existing policies in the comprehensive plan or to identify new policies that should be  
30 incorporated.  
31

32 Mr. Abing arrived and introduced himself to the group.  
33

34 Ms. Kemhus welcomed Mr. Abing and thanked him for attending.  
35

36 Mr. Abing stated that he was skeptical about the discussions related to forests.  
37

38 Ms. Pincetich asked whether forest could be used for recreational purposes. Mr. Eddy replied that  
39 Greenwood Resources allows access for hiking, biking and hunting for free. He said the Weyerhaeuser  
40 charge \$300 per year for a permit.  
41

42 The committee continued to discuss issues related to dumping on private forest lands and liability to  
43 private owners who allow public use of forest lands. The committee considered how users of private forest  
44 lands could be monitored. The committee also discussed issues of equity and access.  
45

1 Mr. Stricklin asked whether providing fire protection encourages development. The committee discussed  
2 forest management dwellings and the role that service provision might play in encouraging development in  
3 resource areas. Mr. Eddy stated that a person cannot get insurance if fire protection is not provided.  
4

5 Mr. Stricklin and Ms. Kemhus stated that the County's language in Goal 4 should include the entire text  
6 from Statewide Planning Goal 4. Ms. Kemhus asked why the entire text had not originally been included in  
7 the County's comprehensive plan.  
8

9 Ms. Pincetich expressed concern that the County is losing forest lands, but she was unsure what the reason  
10 for that loss is. Mr. Abing stated that harvesting activities have been very aggressive over the last 10 years  
11 and that replanting has not caught up with that. He added the timber companies are also taking additional  
12 tree species such as alder.  
13

14 The committee continued to discuss the Forest Practices Act and its replanting requirements.  
15

16 Mr. Abing stated that Douglas fir is preferred over all other species of tree, even if it creates a monoculture.  
17 He discussed selective harvest methods and some family farms practice this technique and prosper. The  
18 committee discussed how selective harvesting works and how it might improve forest health long-term.  
19 The committee also discussed a possible lack of enforcement of the replanting requirements by the Oregon  
20 Department of Forestry.  
21

22 Ms. Kemhus stated that perhaps the planting/harvesting cycle should be increased to 60 years. The  
23 committee agreed that laws needed to be changes at the state level and state regulators needed to enforce  
24 existing regulations.  
25

26 Ms. Pincetich proffered that if the County cannot legislate activities on resource lands, that it could at least  
27 establish policies to slow down those activities. Mr. Eddy stated that the Forest Practices Act has been  
28 improved and that some timber companies are better at following the regulations and managing their  
29 forests than other companies.  
30

31 Ms. Henrikson encouraged the committee to consider policies that might address the demand for timber  
32 products rather than trying to create policies that could not be enforced due to the Forest Practices Act.  
33 She suggested that a policy encouraging the County to go paperless within a certain period of time as an  
34 example.  
35

36 Mr. Abing stated that planted tree species needed to be diversified in order to increase the health of the  
37 forests. He cited red and yellow cedar, Oregon ash, Pacific yes, Sitka spruce and big leaf maple as examples  
38 of trees that should be planted. The committee discussed what the types of tree species that are required  
39 to be replanted and at what percentages each should be replanted. The committee also discussed impacts  
40 from the spruce mite infestation. Ms. Pincetich asked whether it was even possible to obtain the native  
41 species that Mr. Abing had mentioned.  
42

43 The committee discussed what policies could be included in Goal 4 that would be enforceable by the  
44 County. The committee also discussed when the Forest Practices Act was applicable and when it was not.  
45

46 The committee reviewed a zoning map of the county to determine how much land was zoned for resource  
47 forestry uses. Approximately 85-90% of the county is designated for forestry uses. The committee also  
48 reviewed the boundaries of the Clatsop Plains planning area.  
49

50 Ms. Kemhus asked Mr. Eddy, Gearhart RFD Fire Chief, to discuss wildfire risks. Mr. Eddy discussed how  
51 increased development and a lack of water from Warrenton will impact fire-fighting efforts. Mr. Eddy  
52 discussed how defensible space requirements around buildings in wildfire-prone areas should be included  
53 in the Goal 4 policies.

1  
2 Ms. Kemhus brought Policy 7 to the committee's attention. The committee discussed elk browse. Mr.  
3 Abing stated that the Chinook would manage elk based on seasonal needs. He added the Chinook did not  
4 distinguish between male and female elk in the hunting practices. The committee continued to discuss the  
5 interconnections between elk, predators, and development.  
6

7 **Public Comment and Input:**

8 John Dunzer, addressed the committee. Mr. Dunzer discussed climate change and the impending Cascadia  
9 event. He discussed how burning wood slash for power would create a renewable energy source that could  
10 also serve residents after a Cascadia event. He stressed the need to form a public utility district and that  
11 this should be encouraged in the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that the new Seaside School could  
12 purchase the steam created by power plant. If the County does not want to move forward with a public  
13 utility district, he urged that the county not take steps to prohibit such a venture. He also recommended  
14 that electric substations be moved out of the tsunami inundation zones.  
15

16 Mr. Dunzer warned about rural landslides on forest lands. He stated that when timber is harvested, the  
17 possibility of rural landslides may increase, and thus timber harvesting should not be allowed in close  
18 proximities to highways. The committee discussed what types of vegetation and trees would be  
19 appropriate to plant in those areas.  
20

21 Mr. Dunzer suggested that there is a need for a program or partnership between the timber industry to  
22 encourage them to slowly convert to newer trucks in order to reduce emissions. He stressed the need for  
23 incremental change and informed the committee that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be captured. Mr. Dunzer  
24 discussed the possibility of making aviation fuel at the Bradwood property.  
25

26 Mr. Abing stated that the Chinook Nation is not the first clear-cutters of land. He stated that they are  
27 selective clear-cutters. Traditionally, fallen trees would be used first before cutting a tree. He discussed  
28 with the committee what types of trees are used for which purposes. He stated that he objects with  
29 harvesting timber all the way to the stream bank.  
30

31 Ms. Kemhus thanked Mr. Abing for attending the meeting.  
32

33 Carole Connell, Gearhart City Planner, addressed the committee. Ms. Connell discussed the Gearhart Urban  
34 Growth Boundary (UGB) and how development that happens outside the UGB, but adjacent to it, affects  
35 the City of Gearhart. She requested that the City be notified when such development occurs. Ms. Connell  
36 stated that she saw the provision of water as being an influencing factor on development in the future. She  
37 also stated that Gearhart has a new Transportation System Plan (TSP) and that there are concerns  
38 regarding connectivity. She stated that at some point in the future, possibly in 25 years, the City of  
39 Gearhart will need to expand north of its current boundary. Ms. Connell also asked how butterfly habitat  
40 was being managed what efforts were being made to protect Neacoxie Creek.  
41

42 **Holiday Schedule and Distribution of Materials:**

43 Ms. Henrikson distributed the background materials for Goal 5. She asked the committee if they wanted to  
44 have a meeting in December. The committee agreed to cancel the December meeting and to hold their  
45 next meeting in April 2020.  
46

47 **Closing Comments and Adjournment:**

48 ***There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm.***  
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