

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title Mr.

First Name Thomas

Last Name Smith

Today's Date 10/25/2022

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? YES

Mailing Address [REDACTED]

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee	Forestry Advisory Committee
Forestry Advisory Committee Position:	Citizen with forestry expertise Small forest landowner (see attached email)
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 3
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	No
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to	<i>Field not completed.</i>

the following questions

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

Retired from WA DNR (2020) where I served as a Timber Pre-sales Forester (6.5yrs) in Whatcom Co east of Hwy 9, a Forest Practices Forester (6.5 years) in Whatcom Co. west of hwy 9, and a Wildfire Unit Manager (20yrs) in Whatcom Co. and Skagit Co.

1982 grad of UW with BS degree in Forest Resource Management with interest in forest ecology and fire ecology. As a Pre-sales Forester, I established timber sale boundaries and identified new road locations, administered logging contracts, and road easement compliance. As a Forest Practices Forester, I reviewed all logging proposals in my area for approval or disapproval, performed field compliance visits and initiated corrective action if needed. Participated in Watershed Analyses for Lake Whatcom, Acme, and Cornell Cr areas. Served on Lake Whatcom Watershed Forum in reviewing logging proposals and forestry issues. As a Wildfire Unit Manager I trained and supervised fire crews, supervised inspections of logging operations for fire safety, and monitored forest fire danger conditions in Whatcom Co. I provided fire training as requested to Fire Districts and worked closely with Conservation District staff on Firewise outreach and field work. Currently serve as a FD#16 Fire Commissioner and member of the Wildfire Advisory Committee to the Commissioner. (DNR) I am also assisting with the Stewart Mtn. Community Forest plan development.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I have a strong interest in seeing forestry practices done well. In my previous roles, I have seen good logging operations, logging plans with good intentions for resource protection fail and I've seen logging with little regard for resource protection. Much of my work has had an element of education involved: the public, landowners, loggers, politicians, and myself. Serving on this committee will give me the opportunity to share what knowledge I've gathered about forestry in Whatcom County over 33 years.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt 360 595 2512

Signature of applicant:

Thomas A Smith

Place Signed / Submitted

Acme, WA

(Section Break)

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

From: Tom SMith
To: Jill Nixon
Subject: Re: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Sunday, November 6, 2022 5:00:13 PM

Thank you, Jill for updating me on the situation with my application. Yes! if there is a position open for small forest landowner, I think I may qualify and my existing application would still be relevant with a small addendum to the application in the email thread below. I was unable to find the definition of "small forest landowner" as it applies to this committee position, but I hope my forested acres, annuals fees for forest fire protection, and management qualifies me for the position. I was able to change the committees position in my app, but unable to add the following to it:

I live on the outskirts of Acme on an 11.8 acre parcel with several acres of forestland adjacent to other forestland upslope. My own forest management has included reforesting a pasture, thinning trees for lumber and firewood, and replanting openings created by harvesting.

If this addendum cannot be forwarded to the Council with my application and I need to reapply, please let me know ASAP and I'll get an entirely new application in to you.

Thanks,
Tom Smith