

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Monday, November 29, 2021 11:23:44 AM

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 Alexander

Last Name Harris

Today's Date 11/29/2021

Street Address 3232 Hillside Rd

City Deming

Zip 98244

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

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone 5413241343

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address alex.harris24@gmail.com

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Acme/VanZandt Flood Control Sub-Zone Advisory Committee

Committee

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 the following questions

Attached

9. Please describe your occupation (or former

I am currently a graduate student at Western Washington University studying community-driven forest stewardship. As a

occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

grad student I also work as a Teaching Assistant teaching Physical Geography (ENVS 203). I also work as a non-profit consultant for various clients working on conservation projects and policy issues.

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

Personally, I am very interested in participating in this committee because I live in the South Fork valley where the flood and landslide risks are very real, as demonstrated by the recent flood events in November 2021. A debris flow on Hillside Road cut off access for three days and cut out the power for two days. This was a sobering reminder of how vulnerable my community is to flood events. I feel compelled to volunteer my time to collaborate with fellow community members to help find solutions to these problems and mitigate future risks.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Ian Smith: 360-319-8917
Holly O'Neil: 360-303-3217

Signature of applicant:

Alexander Harris

Place Signed / Submitted

Deming, WA

(Section Break)

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

ALEXANDER HARRIS

alex.harris24@gmail.com

541-324-1343

Deming, Washington

EDUCATION

Western Washington University

- Master of Arts Candidate
- Environmental Policy
- Graduate Teaching Assistant
- Research focus:
Community forest development
in the Mt Baker Foothills

University of Oregon

- Bachelor of Arts, June 2014
- Double major in Philosophy
and Political Science
- Magna Cum Laude (GPA: 3.82)
- Proficient Spanish speaker
- Philosophy Club
- Pre-Law Society

POLICY EXPERTISE

- Ecological forest management
- Community forest development
- Forest-carbon sequestration
- Fuels reduction
- Firefighting/suppression
- Wildfire preparedness

WORK EXPERIENCE

FOREST POLICY CONSULTANT Mar. 2019 - Present

I currently work on a contract basis for three forest conservation non-profits providing a variety of professional services, such as:

Evergreen Land Trust

- technical writing and analysis
- grant writing
- facilitation of coalition efforts
- stakeholder engagement
- community forest development
- in-depth research

Cascadia Wildlands

- wildfire policy analysis
- communications support
- coalition building/coordination
- policy development
- presenting to large audiences
- legislative lobbying

Oregon Wild

- coalition building/facilitation
- science messaging
- website development
- social media support

COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE May 2019 - Mar. 2020

Stand - Bellingham, Washington - stand.earth

My work with Stand involved monitoring and analyzing news media coverage and strategically targeting reporters/outlets accordingly. I also ghost-wrote op eds, contributed to Twitter/Facebook, and developed other content for Stand's website.

PUBLIC LANDS ORGANIZER Dec. 2016 - Jan. 2019

Oregon Wild - Portland, Oregon - oregonwild.org

I worked as a community organizer to build support for the protection of Oregon's National Forests and other public lands. This involved organizing educational forums and grassroots trainings all across Oregon, while generating pressure on key elected officials through a variety of grassroots techniques. My job also entailed:

- cultivating grassroots leadership
 - educational presentations
 - convening a public lands coalition
 - lobbying elected officials
 - maintaining social media channels
 - writing for online audiences
 - developing a forest-carbon report
 - facilitating coalition efforts
-

ALEXANDER HARRIS

alex.harris24@gmail.com

541-324-1343

Deming, Washington

INTERNSHIPS

Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW)

- Legal document translator
- Eugene, Oregon
- February - March 2015

Dept. of Political Science, Brigham Young University

- Research Assistant
 - Lima, Peru
 - June - July 2013
-

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Cancer survivor
 - Published in the Oregon Undergraduate Research Journal (2014)
 - Winner of the Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (2014)
 - Captain of Ashland High School Tennis Team (2009, 2010)
 - Eagle Scout Award (2007)
-

SKILLS

- Facilitation/mediation
- Technical writing
- Proficient Spanish speaker
- Coalition building
- Public speaking
- Teaching

WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

CONSERVATION ORGANIZER Dec. 2015 – Dec. 2016 **Sierra Club - Portland, Oregon - sierraclub.org**

I worked as a grassroots organizer to build opposition to major oil, coal, and gas export proposals along the Columbia River. I also worked to spread awareness about the Trans-Pacific Partnership and congressional legislation on biomass policy. My work on these campaigns entailed:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| - coalition building | - grassroots mobilization |
| - cultivating leadership | - planning rallies |
| - organizing edu. forums | - training volunteers |
| - lobbying politicians | - campaign planning |
| - news media/communications | - developing literature |

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER Mar. - Dec. 2015

Rogue Climate - Phoenix, Oregon - rogueclimate.org

I worked as an organizer building awareness of the LNG export project in S. Oregon. My work was primarily devoted to organizing "Hike the Pipe!", a 5-week, 310-mile awareness hike along the entire route of the proposed pipeline. My role entailed:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| - recruiting volunteers and hikers | - managing volunteers |
| - coordinating all logistics | - messaging/media work |
| - fundraising/finance | - community outreach |

PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVER Jun. 2012 - Mar. 2015

Track Town Pizza - Eugene, Oregon

FRONT DESK OFFICE ASSISTANT Apr. - Oct. 2012

University of Oregon - Eugene, Oregon

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Oct. 2010 - Apr. 2011

KBYU Public Broadcasting Station - Provo, Utah

*Addendum with prior work
experience available upon request*
