

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL
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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

April 8, 2025

TO: County Council

FROM: Jill Nixon, Legislative Coordinator II

SUBJ: Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee Member Quentin Dills

County Council appointed Quentin Dills to the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee on April 12, 2022. The last meeting Mr. Dills attended was in December 2023. In the Spring of 2024, FAC Chair John Gold spoke with Mr. Dills, who indicated he would not continue on the committee. However, Mr. Dills did not submit or discuss a resignation directly with County staff or the Council.

If Mr. Dills does not respond by or at the April 15, 2025 Council meeting, County staff asks that the Council remove Mr. Dills from the committee, declare the position vacant, and appoint someone else.

Whatcom County Code 2.03, Advisory Groups, provides the following guidance in removing members from advisory groups:

2.03.025 Removal.

In circumstances where the council has the authority to remove from office a member of an advisory group prior to the expiration of the advisory group member's term of office, the council shall make such removal only upon the proper grounds specified in law. In the absence of such guidance in law, the council shall not remove a member from office without having given the member an opportunity to be heard by the council, if so requested.

Whatcom County Council has the authority to remove Mr. Dills from his position on the Forest Advisory Committee. There is no specific guidance in law for removing a member of the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee other than WCC 2.03.025.

Attachments to this agenda item document the attempts staff has made to give Mr. Dills an opportunity to participate on the Advisory Committee. Since the Chair's conversation with Mr. Dills in the Spring of 2024, Mr. Dills has not responded to any outreach efforts by County staff and the Council Chair to engage him on the Advisory Committee or secure his resignation. His two email addresses and one of two phone numbers on record are both for previous employers that he no longer works with. He has not responded to mail or phone messages.

In addition, I attempted to notify Mr. Dills by phone that reconsideration of his appointment is scheduled on the April 15, 2025 Council meeting.

Finally, a letter sent to his address-of-record invited him to either respond to the Council Office to let us know if he prefers to participate or to resign, or to attend the April 15, 2025 Council meeting for an opportunity to be heard.

Council Action Requested

If Mr. Dills does not respond to the Council Office by or attend the Council meeting on April 15, 2025, Council is asked to:

1. Pass a motion to revoke Mr. Dill's membership on the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee, and
2. Direct Council staff to advertise the vacancy and collect qualified applications for Council consideration.