1. **Call to Order**

Commissioner Cole, followed by introductions of the Thurston County Planning Commission members, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

   a. **Attendance**

   **Thurston County**
   Members Present: Tom Cole, Bob Bower, Margaret Paradise, George Darkenwald and Joyce Roper.
   
   Members Absent: Liz Lyman, Liz Kohlenberg and Craig Ottavelli
   
   Staff Present: John Sonnen, Nancy Pritchett and Cami Petersen

   b. **Approval of Agenda**

   Commissioner Bower moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Paradise seconded. The Agenda was approved.

   c. **Approval of Minutes from May 5, 2004**

   Commissioner Paradise moved to approve the Minutes from May 5, 2004. Commissioner Roper seconded. Motion carried.

   d. **Acceptance of Tapes as Official Record**

   Commissioner Bower moved to accepted the tapes of the May 5, 2004 meeting as the official record. Commissioner Roper seconded. Motion carried.

2. **Public Communication**

None.
3. **Staff Updates**

Nancy Pritchett stated that the Planning Commission Attendance Record had not recorded unexcused absences for the past year. Ms. Pritchett reminded the Planning Commission that unexcused absences are to be recorded as stated in the Rules of Procedure and the Attendance Record will now reflect those unexcused absences.

4. **Worksession: Chehalis Basin Watershed Management Plan**

The Planning Commission continued their discussion of the comments on the Chehalis Watershed Management Plan. The discussion concluded that the following three topics should be included in the Planning Commission’s comment letter to the Board of County Commissioners. The three topics include the following:

- The supporting documents for the basis of this plan should be available for the public for review. Those documents are not currently readily available from any identified source and the Planning Commission has had difficulty trying to research and find this information for review. Create a list of TMDL’s.
- More detail should be contained in the plan to identify ways of limiting or regulating discharge to the waterway. The plan should also contain more information concerning recharge.
- The plan should contain information concerning undefined water right ownership and usage transfer of water rights.

The Planning Commission agreed that Commissioner Lyman will draft a comment letter to the Board of Commissioners concerning the comments discussed. The draft letter will then be emailed to all Planning Commission members for review and final comment on or before May 18th. The final draft of the Planning Commission’s comment letter will be given to the Board of Commissioners on or before May 24, 2004.

5. **Calendar (Tentative)**

- **May 19, 2004** – Cancelled
- **June 2, 2004** – Peggy Paradise will be absent, Bob Bower will be late
- **June 16, 2004** – Joyce Roper will be absent

The Planning Commission discussed changing the regular meeting time from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Planning Commission decided that this topic would be discussed and decided on at the June 2, 2004 meeting. The majority of the Planning Commission would like to move the meeting time back to 7:00 p.m.
6. **Briefing: Critical Areas – Riparian**  
   Staff: John Sonnen

Mr. Sonnen provided a color map for the Planning Commission to view that identified type 4 and 5 streams as well as forested lands. Mr. Sonnen answered questions from the Planning Commissioners concerning this map. Mr. Sonnen explained that he would prefer to defer the discussion pertaining to type 4 and 5 streams to the June 2, 2004 meeting when all of the Planning Commission members will be present. The Planning Commission agreed to defer this discussion until the June 2, 2004 meeting.

Mr. Sonnen began the discussion of the draft document titled: Preliminary Draft Amendments to the Critical Areas Regulations, TCC 17.15.700 Important Wildlife Habitats and Species Riparian Habitat Areas, dated March 24, 2004. The discussion included the following:

- Staff is asking the Planning Commission to consider the proposal of restoration instead of habitat widths in the Urban Growth Areas.
- Mr. Sonnen provided the Planning Commission members with an email from Debbie Carnevali dated April 27, 2004, which discussed the subject of conifer trees and mixed plantings within buffer areas.
- Enhancement – provide an incentive to the landowners for enhancement; how would enhancement be enforced.
- Estimate to make sure that the fees charged for 25% buffer reduction fees are adequate to cover staff costs for compliance. The issue was discussed concerning the county’s present situation in which permit fees are not enough to cover the cost of allowing staff to make site inspections on all new septic systems.
- The Planning Commission agreed to identify high intensity uses that would not be allowed in the 25% buffer reduction area.
- Regulating agriculture – best management practices for farmers
- The Planning Commission discussed whether they would like to require best management practices for all existing uses or to require this on all intensive and commercial uses.

The Planning Commission decided to continue this discussion at the June 2, 2004 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Tom Cole, Vice Chair
## Thurston County Planning Commission

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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<th>DATE OF REQUEST</th>
<th>ISSUE/REQUEST</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>STAFF</th>
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