

**Orcas Highlands Association Agenda
Board Meeting, April 26, 2021, 1:30 PM (PST)**

I. Roll Call: Bob Burke, Mike Shivers, Jens Kruse, Lee Goodwin, Brian Ehrmantraut, David Turnoy

II. Call to order: 1:30.

III. Approval of minutes from Feb. 22: Approved.

IV. President's report: Not here

V. Treasurer's report: We have moved all accounts to Banner Bank, Patti Greiner is our new bookkeeper, she and Marcia together did our last mailing, Patti now has access to Banner Bank. Five members are two dues behind, two are more than 90 days. Some people paid credit card convenience fee, some didn't, announce at annual meeting that members need to pay this. David will put note in letter about paying this fee.

VI. Old business

A. Fire prevention

1. Inspecting lots from roads – get information from Carson or Rich, then start notifying folks if they have a buildup that needs dealing with.

2. Education and outreach to the membership with the help of county officials and their guidance – we can send a cover letter about Firewise, send links to members so they can start getting educated. Lee asks if there is someone from Orcas Fire and/or DNR who could teach us. Brian says Rich Harvey would be the best to educate. We can see about putting together a program. The Firewise scientist motivates a lot of people. Judy Cook suggested to start by calling DNR. Brian will try to track down some resources. If we do something remotely, we could open it up to other Firewise communities on the island.

3. Fire assessment – Rich Harvey? Brian will contact Rich to look at the common areas and some illustrative private areas from the roads once he is available. Or Rainshadow Consulting? Carson Sprenger will join Brian, Bob, and David this Thursday at 10:00. Others welcome.

4. Quarterly assessment proposal – we need to quantify what the costs will be so we know what to base the amount on. We will have to decide on the scope before we can decide how much to charge. Question of whether to burn or chip? Chips take a long time to degrade; you need a place to put them, which could be by the road, question if they are a fire hazard. The island preference seems to be burning as opposed to chipping, which also is cheaper. We will ask Carson and/or Rich which way to go. Bob says we have about 300 small trees in the ROW, we need to deal with them or could perhaps just thin them. Brian is concerned about the alders down below that are dying and need to be removed. Access can be a problem where the stuff to be removed is down below and hard to remove.

B. Road use fee – Youngren – Bob calculated \$120 per load. There were 70 loads. This would be a fee of \$8,400. Bob says we can justify this fee with science. Moved and approved to

send this bill to Eric. Bob did an inventory of the roads, looking for recent wear and tear, he can't find anything that is recent and caused by the logging trucks.

C. Plan for mailbox addition – Bob has put up a new box for the new member at 123 Discovery. To add a new shelf and accommodate the Postal Service, it would require a lot of moving of boxes. We would have to put small boxes together to have enough room. Lee asked if we can extend the structure? Bob thinks we could extend five feet with county approval. This way would be more expensive but would be the best long-term solution. Should we bring this up at the annual meeting? Yes.

D. Potholes – Bob's report - we only really had one true pothole, Bob filled it. We have some low spots that we need to keep an eye on. We will need to fill some of these before we chip seal again.

VII. Committee reports:

Policy:

Architecture: New garage for Jirsa.

Nominations: Lee is willing to run again.

Firewise: Covered above.

Roads: Covered above.

VIII. New business

A. Tree work at burn pile

B. Bettendorf attitude – noise - warn them sheriff will be called. They make a lot of noise when here. They also have large fires when burning is restricted.

C. May cleanup day

1. May 22 by appointment and May 29 in general.

2. Equipment needed: Flatbed dump truck? Yes, David will try to get it. Machine for picking up piles – Bob - \$600, saw shop will pick up and deliver, it is a mini-excavator. It can be used at the burn pile to move piles, would be safer. It can also be used at the road edge. Moved and approved to hire the excavator.

D. Planning for annual meeting

1. Date – June 10, 5:00

2. Location – Zoom

3. What to cover? We will meet on May 24 for planning.

F. Fiber question – Chris will contact Brian Rulifson to tell him we have this under control.

IX. Next meeting: Monday, May 24 at 1:30 (prep for annual meeting)

X. Adjournment: 2:50.