



Pinchot Partners

F O R E S T C O L L A B O R A T I V E

June 17, 2026 | 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
St. Mary's Mission, Toledo, WA | Virtual

In attendance. *Staff: Janene Ritchie, Peter Sandifer*; Board: Amy Boyd, Matt Comisky, Bob Guenther, Anjolene Ngari, John O'Brien*, David Owen, Ashley Short, Andrew Spaeth*; USFS: Quentin Hall*; DFW: Deidre Hayward; Cowlitz Indian Tribe: Christina Donehower*, Dalton Fry, Greg LaDue Grove; DNR: Ben Hagedorn; FS: Nic Granum; Ways2H: Skip Sponsel; Strategic Planning Committee: Amy Besunder, Molly Whitney, Gina Owen; General Membership: Sheryl Hall**

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed with the addition of time for Bob Guenther. MOTION to approve agenda as amended: David Owen; Second: Ashley Short. CARRIED.

Approval of May Meeting Notes

Janene reported that all action items from the May meeting have been completed. MOTION to approve Meeting Notes: Bob Guenther; Second: Anjolene Ngari. CARRIED.

Action Items

- Strategic planning subcommittee will meet to revise Pillar 4 and send edits to board for review and approval at July meeting. Due June 26.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account: \$15,929.61; Savings Account: \$80,3543.26.

MOTION to approve Treasurer's Report: David Owen; Second: Amy Boyd. CARRIED.

Strategic Planning Pillars Stress Test: Amy Besunder, [slide deck](#)

Why now?

- Strengthen organizational sustainability
- Clarify our role in the community
- Diversify funding sources
- Increase visibility and engagement

Expand our impact beyond traditional Forest Service-sector collaboration. Outcome: A clear roadmap that positions Pinchot Partners as a leading catalyst for community resilience through 2029. This plan was developed through extensive engagement with 22+ stakeholders who shape Pinchot Partners' future.

4 pillars as outline below:



PINCHOT PARTNERS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2029

Building resilient communities
through collaborative action

This one-page strategic framework guides Pinchot Partners' community-driven forest stewardship and long-term resilience work. It clarifies where we focus, how we show impact, and how we engage the people and partners who make progress possible.

Pillar 5: Deliver & Measure Community Impact

Demonstrate measurable ecological, economic, and community outcomes through visible projects, cross-sector partnerships, and transparent evaluation.

Pillar 4: Broaden Resilience Beyond Forest Service-Centered Issues

Expand the organization's scope from Forest Service-centered collaboration toward whole-community resilience, including wildfire preparedness, emergency response capacity, rural economic resilience, and community well-being.

Pillar 2: Deepen Role as Community Connector & Catalyst

Clarify and communicate the organization's long-term identity as a trusted community convener, collaborative leader, and selective implementation partner. Establish clear criteria for when Pinchot Partners convenes, advocates, implements projects, or serves as a fiscal/economic intermediary.

Pillar 3: Increase Public Visibility & Engagement

Build broader public awareness, trust, and participation by becoming more visible, accessible, and relevant in community life. Expand beyond institutional collaboration into sustained public-facing engagement.

Pillar 1: Strengthen Long-Term Organizational & Financial Sustainability

Develop leadership capacity, governance effectiveness, staffing stability, and organizational systems that support long-term resilience, while gradually diversifying funding sources to reduce dependency on federal and state agency funding.

Years 1–2 focus on strengthening the foundation and core functions before scaling impact.

Pinchot Partners | Strategic Plan 2026-2029 | Community-Driven Forest Stewardship & Resilience

Most concern came from pillar 4: Broaden Resilience Beyond Forest-Service Centered Issues. This included concerns about moving away from core work with the Forest Service and into state issues. The committee affirmed that this is not the intention and will clarify this pillar in the next meeting for review from the board prior to the July meeting.

USFS Update: Quentin Hall

Current implementation includes:

- North Packwood "Finding of Applicability and No Extraordinary Circumstance" (FANEC) signed June 15, 2026. Will send docs as soon as technical difficulties with new public-facing site are resolved.
- 15 active timber sales on the North zone including 2 GNA sales

Collaborative and Administrative Updates

- August 19, 2026 - 11am - 3pm: Joint field tour of East Fork Lewis River forest wide plantation thinning units with South Gifford Collaborative. Meet at 11am at the Sunset Falls Day Use area parking lot. Social hour at Barrel Mountain Brewing in Battle Ground to follow.
- BUy with several grant invoices and application due June 30 including:
 - Forest Service RAC agreement
 - Final invoice and report for DNR Building Forest Partnerships.

- LTAC grant for fungi fest expenses
- Cowlitz Statewide Foundation application due; will be requesting \$50,000. This is the last of 3 years before we will need to take a break from applying for 1 year.
- Will receive \$25,000 from DNR Building Forest Partnerships for July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027. Developing scope of work with Andrew.
- Working on scheduling a virtual presentation on new NEPA regs from Susan Jane Brown. More to come, this will take place outside of usual meeting time.

Request from Bob to gauge interest on potential hydrogen presentation in July

- Bob requests time at Pinchot Partners meeting for a presentation from Skip Sponsel with Ways2H. The board affirmed that while interesting, these and similar biomass efforts fall outside of the scope of Pinchot Partners capacity at the moment. Janene will work with Bob to set up a presentation time outside of the meeting that interested folks can attend.

Meeting adjourned at 11:39am

Draft minutes prepared by Janene Ritchie