

September 30, 2014

TO: COBI Ethics Committee

FROM: Councilmember David Ward

RE: Response to Complaint

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Earlier this week I received an ethics complaint filed by one Robert Dashiell against me. I thought it would be useful to provide a factual response to his allocations.

My career includes over 30 years of experience in the geospatial industry. This includes the use of various forms of remote sensing technology to produce a variety of products. I have extensive experience in LIDAR, IFSAR, Aerial photography, Satellite imagery, and other technologies. Based on this experience I have suggested to the COBI Environmental Technical Advisory Committee ( ETAC) an approach for part of the SMP monitoring program. They liked the approach and have included it in their recommendation to the council. My experience in the geospatial industry was one of the reasons I was asked to be the council liaison to ETAC.

Specific facts relating to the allegations.

1. The 2011-2011 F-1 form attached to the complaint shows me working for Intermap Technologies. I retired from that firm at the end of 2013 and then consulted with them for the first quarter of 2014. That ended at the end of March. I have no current relationship with Intermap.
2. Intermap Technologies is a firm that collects Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar or IFSAR for use in creating elevation models. This is a completely different technology than the LIDAR that ETAC is recommending for the SMP monitoring. Intermap has no capacity for LIDAR collection.
3. The firm that we are proposing for the LIDAR collection is Quantum in Oregon. They are the LIDAR provider to the Puget Sound LIDAR Consortium. I have no relationship with Quantum nor have I ever worked for them.
4. I do have a relationship with a group at the University of Washington. Because of my experience described above I was invited a few years ago to be a member of the Precision Forestry Cooperative Board. This is a volunteer group that provides comments to the University on research projects they are considering. It is an unpaid position. I consider it an honor to be invited to participate in this group.

In his complaint Mr. Dashiell has completely misconnected the dots. I see him frequently at meeting and never once has he asked me about any of these allegations. A simple conversation would have cleared up the whole thing. I am happy to discuss any of these points with the committee.

Regards

David Ward

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