

NEWFC Board –Minutes

February 11, 2011

NRCS Conference Room

Next Meeting: March 16 – 1 PM, SCCD, Bimonthly Forest Service meeting is rescheduled for April 19

Attending board: Lloyd McGee (president)), Ron Gray (treasurer), Tim Coleman (secretary), Serena Carlson (executive director), Maurice Williamson, Steve West, Jeff Juel, Phil Carew, David Heflick, Bob Playfair, Mike Petersen, Russ Vaagen (vice president), Dick Dunton a quorum was present.

Absent Board Members: Derrick Knowles

Technical Advisory Members: Josh Anderson, John Eminger

Guests: Steve McConnell

Agenda

1. Review January Minutes
2. Approve Treasurer's report
3. Lloyd Transition
4. CFLRP Coordination
5. Project Committee
6. Education & Public Relations Committee

Minutes

1. Review of January 2011 Minutes with changes (Russ missing from list): Ron motioned and Maurice seconded to approve. Approved

2. Treasurer's Report

Current checkbook balance at the beginning of January was \$6593.00 with ending balance of \$5343.71. Dick motioned and Maurice seconded. Approved

RAC grants – although NEWFC was awarded a \$50K grant by the Colville Resource Advisory Committee last year the coalition has yet to see any of the money. Serena is hopeful those funds will be released soon after necessary paper work is accepted by the Forest Service.

3. Lloyd transition

Lloyd will be heading to Wenatchee, starting Feb 28 to join The Nature Conservancy staff as its forestry program manager. TNC is okay with Lloyd helping with NEWFC Board transition but then wants him to step down as president. TNC wants to know more about NEWFC before agreeing to support his continued participation beyond that timeframe. Board elections can occur in April to speed transition of filling the president position.

There was discussion re Lloyd's departure presenting an opportunity to expand the board by bringing on new board members. All agreed that new members should embody values of collaborative problem solving and support the coalition's emphasis on vegetation

management. Recreation, range and other management issues can be dovetailed in with vegetation management projects, but they those and other issues are not the focus of NEWFC's work.

4. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act Proposal

David is finishing up the Colville CFLRP proposal which must be submitted by COB, today. Mesic management strategies remain to be resolved which could complicate each project where mesic units are located which is unlike WUI and Active Management areas where management strategies have been resolved. Lloyd noted that until circumstances change NEWFC will recommend to the FS to stay out of mesic stands except where adjacent to existing road systems. The project selection advisory committee will make its recommendations to the WO in May.

5. Projects Committee

Lloyd opened a discussion about industry loaning implementation funds to the Forest Service to advance projects. There could be contractual conflicts & biases the USFS would balk at but that could be addressed by having a third party (AFRC was mentioned) managing the funds. At this time there aren't implementation funds for East Wedge Project. The Board delved into further discussion regarding improving project-level NEPA and implementation.

6. Education & Public Relations Committee

EPRC is planning to run ads in local newspapers and radio highlighting successes of the Coalition with statements from the NEWFC video. John suggested an addition to ads inviting the public to NEWFC's next meeting. Sign-on letter continues to garner more signatures and Lynn O'Connor is helping with that effort in Stevens County. Tim gave a recent outreach presentation to NE Washington Realtors Association with positive feedback received from the group. There is a good opportunity to do a press release around CFLRP. Steve suggested creating a new committees be formed to address recreation and range issues. Tim noted the Coalition had formed a recreation committee that eventually fell apart. NEWFC also formed the Grazing Study Group which met for just a few months back in 2008.

Lloyd McGee, President

Tim Coleman, Secretary