

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2012  
Vaagen Bros. Conference

Next meeting: May 17, Board and joint meeting with U.S. Forest Service

Attending board: Russ Vaagen (president), Bart George, David Heflick, Tim Coleman (secretary), Dick Dunton, Maurice Williamson, Derrick Knowles, and Mike Petersen -- a quorum was present

Absent Board Members: Bob Playfair, Steve West, Lloyd McGee, Jeff Juel, Ron Gray

Attending Technical: Todd Baldwin (Kalispell Tribe), Tricia Woods, Matt Scott, Lunell Haught (Haught Strategies - workshop contractor)

A. Agenda:

1. Minute review
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Review of Collaborative Workshop

B. Discussion

1. Minutes: Review March 15, 2012 minutes. Mike moved and Dick seconded to approve minutes as revised. Approved.

The board discussed distribution and content of draft meeting minutes prior to their revision and approval. Board secretary Tim Coleman explained that draft minutes are sent out to the board for review and clarification of content. Mistakes or misleading statements do occur which is why board review is essential. Because of this and the risk of misinterpreting what was said (or not) *draft* minutes are not for distribution outside the Board. Until draft minutes are reviewed and approved by the board discussion about their content should only occur within the board. Following board approval minutes can be distributed more broadly.

2. Treasurer's Report: starting checkbook balance was \$23,901.31 and ending balance of \$15,241.16. Dick moved and Tim seconded to accept the report as read. Approved

3. Review of Collaborative Workshop

Workshop contractor Lunell Haught handed out a synopsis of discussion points and breakout group notes from the April 12, 2012 Collaborative Workshop held in Colville. She said a clear take home message was that people are struggling with capacity and clarity i.e. what is the definition of forest restoration? Where can NEWFC dovetail in with other groups to broaden community collaboration? Many of those interviewed think former supervisor Brazell and Lloyd McGee were good at communicating outside of NEWFC they no longer participate at that level and NEWFC doesn't have someone in place yet to fill that void. Lunell cautioned the board to use its political strength sparingly.

Lunell asked how can NEWFC improve collaboration with motorized recreation and ranchers? She advised it might be a good time for reinstate discussions with these groups. The board further discussed ways to broaden collaboration: 1) expand dialogue with other interest groups (range, rec, etc.), 2) develop an open-door communication mechanism between NEWFC and community groups, 3) follow-up with the Forest Service to clarify definitions, roles & responsibilities, and 4) encourage tribes, county commissioners and other elected officials to step up and participate.

A second collaborative workshop is needed to reconnect with everyone who participated in the first event. Lunell also recommended that quarterly dialogue between NEWFC and participants, et al would improve communication and hopefully expand collaboration apart from NEWFC but collaborating with NEWFC to advance their interests.

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Russ Vaagen, President

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Timothy Coleman, Secretary