

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2013
Vaagen Bros. Conference Room

Next board meeting: May 16, 10 AM to noon – Joint meeting with CNF, 1-3 PM

Attending Board Members: Russ Vaagen, Steve West, Timothy Coleman, Maurice Williamson, David Heflick, Dick Dunton, Jeff Juel, Mike Petersen, Derrick Knowles - a quorum was present

Absent Board Members: John Smith, Bart George, Lloyd McGee, Ron Gray
Attending Technical Advisors: Carl Wright, Gloria Flora, Matthew Scott, Steve McConnell

A. Agenda:

- 1) Review February Minutes
- 2) Treasurer's Report
- 3) Power Lake
- 4) Rep. McMorris Rodgers meeting follow-up
- 5) Conservation Caucus issues – CNW letter
- 6) Reset: broadening community collaboration
- 7) A to Z Report
- 8) Other

B. Discussion

1. Minutes: Review March minutes. Dick moved and Maurice seconded to approve minutes. Approved.

2. Treasurer's Report: current checkbook and bank balance of \$24,842.37 including \$1,109 in general fund and ED has \$2,000 and \$21,000 remaining in NFF grant. Dick moved and Mike seconded to approve the report. Approved

3. Power Lake

Alliance for the Wild Rockies forwarded a letter to Jeff regarding a letter the Colville National Forest sent to them. AWR previously agreed to support Derek Churchill prescriptions applied to this project would resolve their appeal concerns. AWR asked that NEWFC communicate with them if the CNF agreed to their proposal. Recently, the CNF informed the Kalispel Tribe and PCFP regarding changes but has not sent NEWFC formal notice re their acceptance of Churchill prescriptions. Gayne Sears contacted Mike and said there would be an official letter coming from her addressed to Russ.

4. Rep. McMorris Rodgers meeting

This meeting was primarily about A to Z Project. Maurice's perception of it was that NEWFC was encouraged to continue our community collaboration work.

5. Conservation Caucus issues – CNW letter

Mitch sent a letter to the Executive Committee regarding changes in Conservation Northwest's collaborative relationship to NEWFC. David has been putting 90% of his time into implementing NEWFC's forest restoration and active management proposals at the project level. David's new schedule will allow him to put a maximum of 50% of his time into NEWFC-related work. He will no longer be able to be a point person from NEWFC to the CNF, work on unit-specific analysis, nor be co-chair of the Projects Committee; and he will only be representing CNW at meetings. He will, however, be communicate CNW's position re forestry projects to NEWFC. His area of interest will be the west side of the CNF and will not have the capacity to expand his NEWFC-related work to the east side of the forest.

6. Reset: broadening community collaboration

Russ noted that NEWFC has the opportunity to take a fresh look at collaboration and potentially broaden participation from additional community interest groups. A first step will be to draft up a discussion document defining what broadening community collaboration might look like and objectives for getting there.

A significant difference between NEWFC and other collaborative groups is that we lack political leaders. Most other collaborative groups have a county commissioner that participates in group leadership. In order for a NEWFC "reset" to be successful there has to be participation by elected officials. It could be help in getting tribes involved to a greater degree by supporting a Tribal Forest Protection Act project adjacent to tribal reservations.

Russ suggested that another meeting be held ASAP to further discuss this subject.

7. A to Z

The board is supportive of moving ahead with this project.

Russ Vaagen, President

Timothy Coleman, Secretary