

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes  
June 20, 2013  
Vaagen Bros. Lumber Co. Conference Room

Next board meeting: Annual Meeting – Bi-monthly meeting with U.S. Forest Service - tentatively set for July 18.

Attending Board Members: Russ Vaagen, Ron Gray, Timothy Coleman, Maurice Williamson, David Heflick, Chris Childers (attending for Jason Sappington), Mike Petersen - a quorum was present

Absent Board Members: Dick Dunton, Steve West, John Smith, Bart George, Lloyd McGee, Jeff Juel, Derrick Knowles

Attending Technical Advisors: Matt Scott, Gloria Flora, Tricia Woods

A. Agenda:

- 1) Review May Minutes
- 2) Board member replacement
- 3) Project Updates
  - CFLRP
  - Malo East Lake
  - Deer Jasper/Renshaw -- Expanding Collaboration
  - A to Z Project
  - Kettle Face South
- 4) South End Project
- 5) Expanding Collaboration
- 6) Annual Meeting

B. Discussion

1. Minutes: Review May minutes as amended. Maurice moved and Mike seconded to approve minutes. Approved.

2. Board member replacement

Chris Childers will operate as proxy for Jason Sappington (Pendoray Newsprint). Jason will be asked to send a letter of resignation and requesting Chris filled his board seat. This issue will be addressed at the next Executive Committee and board meeting in July.

3. Project Updates

a. CFLRP – Dave advised the board to immediately address 2014 CFLRP projects list after completion of review of the 2013 list. Dave handed out the 2013 list that was only just released by the CNF – which he said has created confusion and is frankly an inefficiency in this process. CNF is now an official CFLRP forest and as such funding is no longer assigned to specific projects. Another challenge is monitoring data is not being collected, not meeting timelines and in fact the CNF does not have a plan to accomplish that.

**Action: Dave will draft a letter regarding the monitoring plan and circulate to the board.**

b. Malo East Lake

Laura Jo sent a letter to Russ in response to NEWFC's letter regarding Unit 36 of MEL. The coalition's letter included key issues where the CNF failed to follow collaborated agreements made with the NEWFC including: 1) lack of tracking data and 2) degradation of pileated woodpecker habitat.

David moved that we not respond to LJW letter and that NEWFC set up its own GIS tracking database. However, not replying to this letter leaves its conclusions unchallenged, instead it was suggested sending a short letter responding to specific points of contention would be appropriate. Mike noted that Power Lake is a similarly collaborated project that NEWFC should be tracking.

**Action: Russ agreed to draft this letter to Laura Jo in response to her MEL letter and circulate it to the board.**

c. Deer Jasper

Apparently the scoping letter the CNF sent out regarding decommissioning 40 miles of road was based on partial agreements made during the collaborative process and that has caused some negative public response. The fact is the 40 miles was the sum total of miles the collaborative group offered from which various scenarios from road obliteration to recreation trails were proposed. Dave read from the letter he submitted during scoping which clarified collaborative agreements about this issue. The board agreed a letter from NEWFC about this issue was appropriate. Tim offered to craft a memo to be circulated to the Deer Jasper collaborative group for their signature, clarifying that various options were agreed to by the collaborative group including using routes for motorized and non-motorized trails, etc.

**Action: Dave will send Tim a copy of the paragraph he read and Tim will craft a memo and send to Deer Jasper collaborative group members asking for their signature and sent to R6 in time to meet scoping comment deadline, June 21.**

**Action: Russ will craft a letter re Deer Jasper road closures and submit on behalf of NEWFC.**

Maurice spoke with Jean re not having enough data to provide more detail about Deer Jasper, but additional detail has not been made available at this time.

d. A to Z

Not yet resolved, and a key sticking point, is how NEPA costs of nearly \$.5 million will be covered for this project. WO has said this problem would get fixed but direction from R6 said there has to be separation between timber volume and analysis in the contract bidding process. However, a significant problem is that timber volume is being appraised as per usual procedures but without adjusting for costs of NEPA analysis.

e. Kettle Face South

There is a significant problem with the timber component price compared to pulp, which in effect values pulp at the same level as sawlogs. This has happened in Hanlon which has 50% pulp.

4. South End Project

Mike met with a representative from Tri County Motorized Recreation Association, Rep. McMorris Rodgers staff and Karen Honeycutt from the CNF. They discussed a potential resolution to the South End Project appeal. CNF has increased its enforcement, monitoring and budget to respond to motor rec restoration needs. TCMRA rep agreed to self-monitor their user group and help repair any damages from illegal use. Mike told the CNF that conservation would likely be interested in helping with this effort.

5. Expanding Collaboration

North Central Washington Collaborative Group: This is a new start up collaborative that covers parts of the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest from Tapash area, north. It is sponsored by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Group. There are a lot of staff retiring or changing jobs on the OWNF. Russ is on the steering committee to help the start-up group get established. The group would like to look at NEWFC operating agreements to help guide development of their own.

Russ suggested we bring the Forest Service's collaborative team to an upcoming workshop organized by NEWFC. A second follow-up workshop could focus on forming a new broader collaborative group.

Tim asked if he should submit a proposal for his work for the coalition, as well as the use of the remaining NFF money, and this was agreeable to the group.

**Action: Tim will draft a work plan re expanding collaboration, including training for NCWC. The FS' National Collaboration Cadre was suggested as a good fit for this training.**

6. Annual Meeting

A proposal was made to tentatively schedule NEWFC's annual meeting, July 18, depending on what works best for the board. Ron recommended that the Coalition actively pursue an executive director. It was agreed the Executive Committee will meet and put together a creative proposal regarding full or partial facilitation / ED to be discussed at board meeting before the annual meeting. Board elections will be held at this meeting. Board officer positions are up for election each year. Board members elections are staggered. This year, **Ron, Russ, Steve, Derrick, Mike and Lloyd are up for reelection.**

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Russ Vaagen, President

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Timothy Coleman, Secretary

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