

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes  
October 30, 2013  
Vaagen Bros. Lumber Co. Conference Room

Next board meeting: November 14 – Board and Joint Meeting with CNF

Attending Board Members & Contractors: Russ Vaagen, Ron Gray, Timothy Coleman, Maurice Williamson, Matt Scott, Chris Childers, Dick Dunton, Mike Petersen, David Heflick, Steve West, Gloria Flora - a quorum was present

Absent Board Members: John Smith, Lloyd McGee, Bart George

Advisory Committee & Invited guests: Tricia Woods, Sheila Stalp, Mike Poulson

A. Agenda:

- 1) Review September Minutes
- 2) Treasurer's Report
- 3) NFF Grant
- 4) Communication Policy
- 5) Spokesman-Review Ed Board
- 6) Collaborative Process
- 7) East-Wedge / Summit-Pierre Prescriptions
- 8) A to Z Project Update
- 9) Capitol Christmas Tree
- 10) Collaborative Cadre'
- 11) CFLR Projects 2014

B. Discussion

1. Review Minutes

Review of September minutes as amended. Maurice moved and Ron seconded to approve minutes as amended. Approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

Ron presented a treasurer's report, the current balance is \$23,492.37. Maurice moved and Dick seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Approved.

3. National Forest Foundation Grant

Tim and Gloria prepared a final grant report, budget and expense report covering the August 1 2012 to 2013 grant cycle. Project objectives were met or exceeded.

4. Communication Policy

Tim's letter to editor published in the Statesman Examiner was discussed. Russ reminded board members regarding "no surprises" policy. Please check in with board members if you plan to submit potentially controversial letters to editor, op-ed, project challenges, etc.

5. Spokesman-Review Editorial Board Visit

The purpose of this meeting is to highlight the accomplishments of NEWFC and tell our story, especially regarding A to Z Project. It was agreed that meeting participants will gather beforehand to discuss their presentation. Gloria suggested participants develop 1) key messages beforehand, 2) what do we want from S-R and vet those with other participants. There will be a call at 9 AM, Friday to discuss this further.

## 6. Collaborative Process

NEWFC has been asked by the Forest Service to provide a letter of endorsement for the Deer Jasper Project. DJ is a collaborative process independent of NEWFC and with our participation. Maurice and Dave responded to the FS about bringing this issue to the board. Dave noted the typical process whereby he and Maurice would have met with CNF officials by now has not occurred and so he feels uncomfortable supporting the project because he knows so little about what the CNF proposes to accomplish. Mike noted that NEWFC board are collaboration specialists and urged board members who have participated in DJ to get other participants together, get more details from the CNF and come up a list of necessary actions and details before the whole of collaborators can provide a reasoned support letter.

## 7. East Wedge / Summit Pierre Prescriptions

CNF's James Pass contacted Dave re cedar prescriptions and NEWFC's retention guidelines. In some units of SP stands were predominantly red cedar. Post harvest field tour of SP stands showed NEWFC guidelines were not met in AMZ and otherwise vibrant stand of cedar was shelterwood cut purportedly to benefit D. fir expansion. D. fir leave trees where scraggly, many had 30% live crown or less. Pass proposes prescriptions in some units of the East Wedge Project area that would be similarly logged. Dave is hesitant to support similar prescriptions there. Dave asked if the board would like to do a field trip on to investigate – there were no objections. Mike felt we should stick with our NEWFC agreements.

**Action: Dave will send out a Doodle regarding setting up a field trip to Summit Pierre**

## 8. A to Z Project

A third party contractor has been hired to do NEPA work. Russ has been contacted by recreation groups asking if trail work could be included as part of the project. An objective of the project is to identify process efficiencies.

## 9. Capitol Christmas Tree

VBL volunteered to provide a large crane to lift the tree onto the truck, which the CNF expressed appreciation. After putting resources into moving the crane VBL discovered the Forest Service had found another crane to do the job. Then, Russ got a request for chips to provide ground cover and when VBL asked if it could be hog fuel (which is a cheaper product) the CNF rejected that because it was a tripping hazard.

## 10. Collaboration Cadre'

Russ was contacted by a Cadre' representative about furthering collaboration process but until more resources becomes available this project is on hold.

## 11. CFLR Projects 2014

End of the 2013 reporting document is being prepared – so too is the 2014 project list. All were delayed because of government shutdown. Derek Churchill has been working with CNF to improve on restoration strategies that will next be applied to Nine Iron.

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Russ Vaagen, President

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Timothy Coleman, Secretary

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