

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2014
Vaagen Bros. Lumber Co. Conference Room

Next board meeting: May 15 – board and bi-monthly meeting with USFS

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

Absent Board Members: Mike Petersen, Steve West, Bart George, Lloyd McGee
Invited Guests: Commissioner Steve Parker

A. Agenda:

- 1) Calendar Review
- 2) Review March Minutes
- 3) Financial Report
- 4) Strategic Updates
- 5) Project Updates
- 6) Action Updates
- 7) Action Items and future Agenda Topics

B. Discussion

1. Calendar Review

Prescribed fire seminar, April 30 – meet at the CNF supervisor's office at 9 AM.

2. Review Minutes

Review of March minutes. Maurice moved and Matt seconded to approve March minutes as amended. Approved.

3. Financial Report

Gloria gave a financial report. The current balance is \$96 after all checks are paid with one invoice.

4. Strategic Updates

David suggest Malo-East Lake would be a good candidate for Title II monitoring funding because it was the first project that NEWFC's silv. recommendations were applied. Hanlon and A to Z were also proposed. Applications are required to be submitted by May 22.

Russ will be attending a Small Wood Conference and hopes to address budget issues supporting collaborative process and trade settlement money being administered by Sustainable Northwest.

-- Strategic Action Plan

We need more strategic branding re who NEWFC is and how we help forest management in the Colville National Forest. Russ and Gloria led a discussion of strategic objectives including working with elected officials and rekindling discussion about balanced management. There is a meeting April 23 in Colville and that might be a time to start those discussions.

The Governor has recommended Farm Bill site selection to determine forest restoration project location be done through collaborative processes, with help from Aaron Everett. Once site selection is completed those recommendations would then be submitted to USDA. DNR Policy Director Brad Ack met with NEWFC board representatives regarding multiple owner collaboration to address forest restoration and fuels reduction work.

5. Project Updates

-- Deer Jasper

The Deer-Jasper Project EA is out. There was an expectation that a draft EA would be coupled with a decision – but that didn't happen. A public comment period is now in process. Tim and David noted their groups were likely to submit comments. Russ recommended NEWFC submit comments rather than individual groups.

-- Adaptive Management Committee

This committee is an outgrowth of the Projects Committee.

-- A to Z Scoping

Mark Teply gave a progress update of A to Z Project NEPA analysis. Cramer Fish Science has completed public comments period and seven key issues were identified that have helped develop alternatives. About fifty comments were received. Roads, recreation, range, forest management and wildlife were among key issues identified. Of all issues, roads were a concern of all interest groups. There will be field tours organized to further discuss the roads issue. Pine marten/pileated woodpecker and lynx analysis special management unit treatments are being considered.

6. Action Updates

50th Anniversary of The Wilderness Act: Gayne convened a conference call with various interest groups. Key objectives identified were to show films in larger communities in NE Washington that highlighted the cultural, historic and ecological values of wilderness. In some cases discussion groups will be held as part of outreach events.

7. Action Items and Future Agenda Topics

1) Redo of A to Z monitoring protocols for Title II issues. 2) RAC proposals.

Russ Vaagen, President

Timothy Coleman, Secretary

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