

NEWFC Board – Minutes
November 17, 2009
NRCS Conference Room
www.NEWForestryCoalition.org

Next NEWFC meetings will be December 17 –

Attending board: Lloyd McGee (president), Russ Vaagen (vice president), Steve West, David Heflick, Ron Gray (treasurer), Tim Coleman (secretary); Jeff Juel, Claudia Michalke (executive director); Bob Playfair, Derrick Knowles, Maurice Williamson, Dick Dunton (**a quorum was present**)

Absent Board Members: Mike Petersen, Phil Carew

Others attending: Russ Larsen, Phil Aune

Agenda

1. Minutes review/approval
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Executive Committee Report
4. East-Wedge Project
5. Education & Public Relations Committee Report

1. Minutes – Lloyd motioned and Derrick seconded to approve October minutes. (unanimous)

2. Treasurer's Report – Current checkbook balance is \$1,783.71. These are general (not project specific) funds. Dick motioned and Russ seconded. (unanimous)

3. Executive Committee

Lloyd gave an recap of the Roundtable co-sponsored by Senator Cantwell and Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers. There are four teams (committees) that have been formed that include members of the roundtable and other interested individuals covering the following issues: 1) Range, 2) Recreation Access, 3) Mining, and 4) Highway 20. There is no forestry committee because it was agreed this issue has been dealt with and those members from timber industry will decide which (if any) committee they will participant in. Timelines: 1) version one agreements by December 15, 2) version two by early January, 3) wrap up by March, possibly earlier.

4. East Wedge Project

There are three phases of the project. The first phase (data collection) is currently underway. As much as possible local contractors will carry out project preparatory work. Phil asked if there was a way to improve transitory range to help improve livestock fodder. Maurice said this was being considered. Much of the landscape is transitory winter range and the project area abuts the Border so removal of woody debris (that helps keep cattle from wandering into Canada) is a concern. There are several ways to broaden the Purpose & Need though an objective with this project is to complete it as expeditiously as possible. It is the hope of the Coalition to improve the level of collaboration with recreation, ranching and other interest groups in order to meet multiple

objectives in future projects. Where we are at with ranching (and motorized recreation) interests at this time is similar to what it was between conservation and timber industry back 6 years ago.

5. Education and Public Relations Committee

The EPRC will be meeting this Thursday. The committee will be reviewing the NEWFC video that has been in the production phase since last winter. Initial reviews are very positive and EPRC seeks to further improve the video before its release in December. The committee is always looking for opportunities for opportunities to raise awareness about the coalition. There is a potential for news stories about organizations that are coalition members, the committee is considering an expose' of Columbia Cedar.

Tim Coleman, Secretary

Lloyd McGee, President