

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

Next NEWFC meetings will be January 21; meeting with CNF, 1 PM –

Attending NEWFC Board: Lloyd McGee (president), Russ Vaagen (vice president), David Heflick, Ron Gray (treasurer), Tim Coleman (secretary); Mike Petersen, Claudia Michalke (executive director), Dick Dunton (**a quorum was present**)

Absent Board members: Phil Carew, Maurice Williamson, Jeff Juel, Derrick Knowles, Bob Playfair

Public attending: Russ Larsen

Agenda

1. Minutes review/approval
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Executive Committee Report
4. Roundtable
5. Meeting Schedule
6. Board insurance
7. Education & Public Relations Committee Report
8. East Wedge Project
9. Disabled Hunter Grant
10. Hanlon Project

1. Minutes – Dick motioned and Ron seconded to approve November minutes.
(unanimous)

2. Treasurer's Report – Current checkbook balance is \$1,783.71. These are general funds. There is \$4,718.37 on deposit with Stevens County Conservation District: \$1,000 to pay for SCCD finance management, \$715.17 to Claudia to prepare a disabled hunter survey monitoring report, and prepare and submit a final grant report to the National Forest Foundation, and \$3,000 to the Forest Service to pay for disabled hunter route replacement gates. Mike motioned to approve the report and Dick seconded.
(unanimous)

3. Executive Committee

Blue Mountain Forest Committee and a representative of the National Forest Foundation will be visiting our region today and meeting with some NEWFC board members and Forest Service to discuss collaborative work in the Blue Mountains -- Claudia has generously offered to host all of us for dinner afterwards. This will be an excellent opportunity to share ideas from each of our respective groups.

4. Congressional Roundtable

The third meeting of the congressional roundtable was held this past Tuesday. Each subcommittee presented progress reports for their working groups. Four subcommittees reporting were: a) Range, b) Highway 20, c) Recreation, and d) Mining – group participation was good and constructive. Each committee reported making some progress

toward reaching agreements within their respective committees. There was consensus for continuing this roundtable discussion January 22nd.

5. Meeting schedule

The board will try moving its meeting schedule to the third Wednesday beginning February 17.

6. Board insurance

Mike discussed purchasing directors insurance. The executive committee discussed this in the past and decided against it but is now willing to reconsider that decision if new information provides a good rationale for purchasing such insurance. Cost would be about \$600/year. Mike agreed to look into the issue and report to the board.

7. Education and Public Relations Committee

Mike and Ron will be giving a NEWFC presentation to the Spokane County Republicans tomorrow. The committee is looking into creative opportunities for using the NEWFC video and its distribution.

8. East Wedge Project

Stevens County CD sent their Phase 1 report for this project to the Forest Service on November 21. Project contractors are recommending doing 80 stand exams in the WUI and 20 outside of it. Roads condition in the project area are mostly good. There are 8 road crossing / fish passage problem within the area. SCCD proposes to complete stand exams and hold at least one public meeting. They requested approval for stand exam criteria that would be specific to the project area and that the Forest Service assign their silviculturists to provide technical assistance during project development, or failing such, permit the conservation district to hire a silviculturist. A public information meeting about the project is set for January 20, 6:30 PM @ the Bull Hill Resort.

9. Disabled hunter grant

Approximately 240 people participated in the disabled hunter survey reporting process this fall. Claudia will be preparing a final report for submittal to the National Forest Foundation which provided the main source of funding for this very popular trail system.

10. Hanlon Project

A phone conference will be scheduled with district staff regarding the WEPP watershed monitoring process. There have been some concerns raised by Selkirk Conservation Alliance that the Coalition has been working to address, including the extent to which this watershed has been affected by past management.

Tim Coleman, Secretary

Lloyd McGee, President