

NEWFC Board – Minutes
March 17, 2010
NRCS Conference Room

April meeting date TBA

Attending board: Lloyd McGee (president), Russ Vaagen (vice president), David Heflick, (treasurer), Tim Coleman (secretary), Maurice Williamson (**a quorum was not present**)

Absent Board Members: Bob Playfair, Derrick Knowles, Mike Petersen, Steve West, Dick Dunton, Phil Carew, Ron Gray, Jeff Juel

Board Advisors: Phil Aune (AFRC), Scott Ketchum (Forest Capital), Steve Harris (DNR), Charlie Kessler, Claudia Michalke (East-Wedge Project Coordinator)

Agenda

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Forest Landscape Restoration Act - Project Proposal
3. East Wedge

1. Treasurer's Report

Current checkbook balance is \$1783.71.

2. CLFRPP

The Collaborative Landscape Forest Restoration Project Proposal (CLFRPP) from the Colville National Forest is a work-in-progress. Concerns were raised about lack of Okanogan NF lands being included in the project proposal. The Colville Tribes are very concerned about national forest lands adjacent their reservation and have voiced support for a CLFRPP that is more expansive, including portions of the Republic and Tonasket ranger districts. R-6 Forester Mary Wagner will review proposals and weed out those that don't have adequate "shovel-ready" projects. A question remains whether existing (past) NEPA decisions comply with this provision.

The board reviewed the Forest Landscape Restoration Act sections associated with proposal development. Key issues to be addressed are: 1) extent of project collaboration, 2) fuels reduction & benefits, 3) funding sources and 4) overall landscape strategy. The final product must be submitted to R-6 by April 11.

Lloyd questioned if NEWFC agrees to push for inclusion of ONF land does that obligate us to collaborate with the ONF PAC? If so, there is a capacity issue. After discussion the board agreed NEWFC doesn't need to establish a similar collaborative framework with ONF as it has with the CNF in order to support inclusion of ONF. A proposal was made to request the PAC support our CLFRPP. The board agreed to approach the CNF, asking

them to delay submitting the CLFRPP until NEWFC has the opportunity to communicate to the PAC.

3. East Wedge

Issues were raised as to the extent of NEWFC engagement in this project relative to design and inventory. The board expects to discuss this further with the Forest Service at the joint CNF/NEWFC meeting this afternoon.

end

Lloyd McGee, President

Tim Coleman, Secretary