

NEWFC Board – Minutes
June 17, 2010
NRCS Conference Room
www.NEWForestryCoalition.org

Attending board: Lloyd McGee (president), Russ Vaagen (vice president), Ron Gray (treasurer) Tim Coleman (secretary), Maurice Williamson, Mike Petersen, Steve West, Dick Dunton, David Heflick, Jeff Juel (**a quorum was present**)

Absent Board Members: Bob Playfair, Phil Carew, Derrick Knowles

Board Advisors: Claudia Michalke, Tania Ellersick, Serena Carlson

Agenda

1. May 12 Minutes
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Executive Director Hire
4. Executive Session
5. Board Elections
6. Renewal of NEWFC/CNF MOU
7. Taskforce Report
8. CFLRP

1. May 12 meeting minutes.

Dick motioned to approve, Lloyd seconded. Passed.

2. Treasurer's Report

Current checkbook balance is \$1733.71.

3. NEWFC Executive Director

Serena Carlson has applied for the executive director position at NEWFC. Her work experiences include communications and community relations with Intermountain Forest Association, Senate staff with WA Legislature, and The Gallatin Group. Serena is interested in a 6-month contract.

4. Executive session began @ 1:20 PM

--Grant Funding Opportunities for ED position.

The ED hiring committee has looked into funding opportunities for funding ED contract. There is the possibility of RAC funding (Title II), Forest Service contingency funds, National Forest Foundation and private donations (including NEWFC membership). FS contingency funds allocation will be determined at the end of June.

Motion: Maurice motioned to authorize the Executive Committee to proceed with determining if adequate funds are available for the part-time executive director position and if so to offer Serena the job, seconded by Mike. Approved.

5. Board Elections

Lloyd pointed out that the entire current board was elected in 2009 for two years. As such, only officer positions are up for election this year.

Motion: Mike moved and Steve seconded to re-elect current board officers. Approved

Board members felt we needed to remedy the current situation regarding all board members being elected at the same time. It was felt this could be remedied next year.

Motion: Mike moved and Russ seconded that in 2011 half the board will be elected / reelected for one-year terms - as determined by lottery - while the remainder are elected/reelected for two years terms. Approved.

6. Renewal of NEWFC/CNF MOU

Lloyd spoke with Supervisor West about NEWFC/CNF MOU renewal. If the MOU is changed it might have to go back to Portland for approval and as such some board members raised concerns about changing the MOU in any way. The Board discussed presenting it to Laura Jo on an expedited basis for renewal and in time for our July meeting with CNF staff. The Board agreed to assign review of the MOU to the Ex Com to see if there are any pressing concerns. There is a stop-gap measure in the MOU that either party (CNF or NEWFC) can opt out of the agreement at any time. Lloyd will discuss this with Laura Jo at our annual NEWFC picnic, today.

7. Taskforce Report

- Kettle Face

NEWFC has asked the Forest Service to implement prescribed fire in this project area but it has balked somewhat. This is the first project where there is a significant amount of our Restoration Management Zone. Because fire plays such a significant ecological role in dry forest that exists within much of the project area - science findings support using prescribed fire to restore forest health. Mesic stands that exist in the PA are more likely to burn hot and cause mortality (15-30%) because of the homogenous nature of existing forest structure. "Skips and gaps" will be used to recreate historic forest spacing and ground conditions. The Forest Service's chief concern is public reaction to prescribed fire.

- Hanlon Project

The appeal of this project was denied by the Forest Service and no further delay is anticipated.

- East Wedge

Plant surveys are a work in progress. George Wooten, who is leading this assessment, has reported that some areas are absent plant groups of concern and don't need further review. George has lined up 4 college interns to assist him and this is an opportunity to give them some work experience. Lynn Kaney has put together a draft project proposal. Don Strand has been hired as a fuels specialist. Claudia is looking for a wildlife biologist. Claudia hopes NEWFC will be asked to engage on or about August 1.

- Walker and Power Lake

Lloyd expressed some uncertainty regarding investing time in these projects. We need to see a final project boundary map before deciding whether or not we will participate. Tri-County Motorized Recreation Coalition and Eastern Washington ATV Assoc. are both involved in Power Lake.

8. CFLRP

Word from Region 6 is that the Colville's submission for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act funding is number two on the list. Hopefully we should know for sure very soon.

Lloyd McGee, President

Tim Coleman, Secretary
