Committee for Family Forestlands
Minutes
June 5, 2012

A meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 526.016] was held on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at The Oxbow Restaurant, Prairie City, Oregon.

Committee Members Present:
Susan Watkins            Brad Withrow-Robinson
Mike Cloughesy           Sara Leiman
Scott Gray               Joseph Holmberg
Roje Gootee              Sarah Deumling

ODF Staff Present:       Guests:
Linda Ellis              Vic Shuck

Special Note
This was a very informative three-day tour addressing the unique complexities and issues facing private forestland owners in eastern Oregon. The Committee unanimously voiced their appreciation, gratitude and thanks to Roje Gootee for her insight and commitment in planning and hosting this event at her property in Ritter and nearby forests and communities in Grant County.

A. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes
Minutes from the May 22, 2012, CFF meeting were approved as submitted.

B. Charter
After review by the Committee, the formatting changes recommended and incorporated after last month’s meeting were approved for presentation to the Board in July.

C. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Letter
Not everyone had a chance to review the draft. Committee members are to review and send their comments to Susan Watkins before June 15.

D. Annual Report
The Committee reviewed the Annual Report and prioritized the issues for the upcoming year into three tiers of importance.

Tier 1
- Water issues – TMDL, RipStream
- Critical infrastructure; capacity of contractors and mills that purchase small woodlot products; connecting across ownerships – large FF
- Family ownership of forestland
  - taxes and financial issues
o next generations
- positive impacts of family forestlands (#9 combined with #3)
- adjacent lands issues (#11 combined with #3)

- East side issues and summary white paper
- Fire Protection Funding

Tier 2
- Oregon Legislature
- PF program stem to stern review → Information and communication with family forestland owners; outreach to the public regarding family forestland issues
- Spotted owl critical habitat – monitoring
- How can CFF influence federal policy (Farm Bill)? Explore the range of (state and federal) incentive programs available to family forestland owners.

Action Items:
- Craig Shinn will begin preparing a draft next week, circulate to members for comment, and submit the final to Lena Tucker by June 15.
- Ellis to add October BOF meeting prep text to accomplishments, and move BOF tour highlights noted in December to correctly reflect the topic in November.

E. Eastern Oregon Tour Review
Watkins asked Committee members to summarize their immediate impressions or take-away messages from the tour to include in the Committee's ongoing white paper project.

Leiman suggested possibly creating another brief summary or white paper on eastern Oregon issues using members’ impressions and add it to the packet going before the Board in July. The Committee agreed that a one-page summary should be prepared and noted the timing will be good as the BOF is beginning to plan for their eastern Oregon tour in November.

Cloughesy recommended asking ODF to add a Committee member (Roje Gootee) to the BOF tour agenda coming up in November and to use the Eastern Oregon white paper as discussion points. Gootee agreed to present the white paper and represent CFF and family forestland owners on the east side. The Committee also may suggest materials to be included in the Board's tour packet and will invite Board members to discuss East side issues with the CFF after the Board's tour.

Action Items:
- Committee members will summarize their immediate impressions or take-away messages from the tour and send them to Watkins by Friday, June 8.
Watkins will compile members’ comments into a one-page summary of key issues to submit with the Annual Report in July.

Ellis will ask Lena Tucker to look into getting Roje Gootee on the BOF tour agenda planned for November.

Before our next meeting in September, members were asked to mull over this tour again and jot down the impressions that stayed with them.

F. Other Business

- Ellis will send out a poll to lock down future meeting dates beginning in September.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Susan Watkins at 1:30 p.m.

/s/
Linda Ellis
Administrative Assistant
Committee for Family Forestlands