Committee Members Present:  
Bob Messinger       John Warness  
Elwayne Henderson   Lee Fledderjohann  
James Todd          Martin Lugus  
Stanley Benson  

ODF Staff Present:  
Peter Daugherty       Brad Knotts  
Marganne Allen       Kristin Cotugno  
Brian Pew            Stu Otto  
Cassie Marshall  

Call to Order  
Pursuant to public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a regular committee meeting of the Eastern Oregon Regional Forest Practices Committee [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at the Crook County Fire Department in Prineville, Oregon. 

Bob Messinger called the meeting to order. Introductions of committee members were made.  

Housekeeping  
Peter Daugherty, Chief of the ODF Private Forests Division, began an orientation session for both new and recurring members of the Committee, regarding the scope of the Committee and general expectations. Marganne Allen with ODF’s Private Forests Program provided a presentation about the key Public Official, Public Meetings and Public Record laws within Oregon Revised Statutes. Committee members were provided a printed copy of the Guide for Public Officials prepared by the Government Ethics Commission to assist them in setting expectations for their service on the Committee. 

A time was announced for public comment, and Bob Messinger requested if any persons present wished to comment. No public comment was received. 

Discussion moved to selection of a Chair for the Committee. Peter Daugherty asked if any objections were offered to Bob Messinger serving an additional term as chair; no objections from Committee members were offered.  

Update on the Evaluation of Services and Rebuilding Capacity Within the ODF Private Forests Program – Peter Daugherty  
In 2009-2010, the Private Forests program experienced a 40 percent reduction in positions and public services. House Bill 5023 funding created a restoration package that approaches 2009 staffing levels. Daugherty told Committee members that ODF was not going to just hire staff, instead using the opportunity to restructure the entire service delivery model for Private Forests, reporting progress to the Legislature in February 2012. 

Mr. Daugherty explained that the reduction last biennium was from 114 FTE to 80 FTE and the current bill provided the opportunity to restore to 107 FTE. The Department was phasing in resources though 12 Stewardship Foresters were immediately restored as the current 30 was not considered sufficient (57 previously).

Two budget notes were included in HB 5023, including the Compliance Audit (1) and Private Forests effectiveness and efficiency review (2). The Department would be providing regular updates to the Legislature regarding progress on both assignments. 

For a review of the elements within Budget Note Two, Marganne Allen (ODF Private Forests Field Support Manager) presented a review of the consulting process business model underway with Guidon Performance Solutions.
Ms. Allen explained the LEAN-Kaizen principles for business model analysis used by Guidon. During LEAN, several areas for potential improvements are identified, and for those areas of highest potential solution, a group problem-solving session known as Kaizen occurs. Kaizen is a Japanese word meaning “improvement” and “change for the better.” Development of Kaizen as an industrial improvement model was introduced in post-WW2 Japan based on principles developed by Deming and other key strategic business analysts.

Two specific opportunities – The Inspection/Unit Accomplishment/Notification Reporting Process and the Notification (NOAP) Submission Process – have been identified for Kaizen events to occur. Additional information about upcoming Kaizen events and the ongoing development of the Private Forests program will be provided to Committee members.

Rex Storm recommended that ODF consider how to deal with seasonal variation in workloads for Private Forests Division field staff.

**Rulemaking Process to Implement 2011 HB 2165**

Peter Daugherty provided an overview of 2011 House Bill 2165. This legislation was passed by the Oregon Legislature and modified the NOAP process and changed the conditions under which written plans may be required.

Brad Knotts (ODF forest practices field coordinator) provided some highlights of the legislation and an explanation of the options for how objectives would be implemented.

The law makes changes in the Notification process, including providing six days instead of three to notify subscribers and establishes the ability to provide copies of Notifications electronically.

The bill went further to expand the conditions under which the need for written plans may be waived. The State Forester now has discretion to waive written plans for operations using standard prescriptions for not entering riparian management areas (RMAs) around significant wetlands and fish bearing or domestic use streams (Type F and D). The bill also reduced the written plan requirement for operations near significant wetlands from within 300 to 100 feet. This change is estimated to provide a 60 percent workload reduction in written plan review of operations near significant wetlands and a 40 percent workload reduction near Type F and D streams for ODF staff as based on 2010 volumes of written plans submitted. Rulemaking is needed to implement one, or both, provisions.

Bob Messinger stated that the criteria for waiving written plans should be set, but ODF should balance that need with maintaining an acceptable level of discretion for stewardship foresters.

Stan Benson recommended to put as much of the waiver criteria in rule as is practical. A technical note may still be needed for some of the standards.

Rulemaking to implement 2011 HB 2165 is planned during 2011 and 2012. ODF is recruiting a Stewardship Forester to serve as a project lead, and the process will draw on extensive input from the RFPCs, ODF staff and other stakeholders. Brad Knotts told the Committee that the options for implementation include development of an OAR or articulating the objectives and best management practices for achieving the objectives in a Technical Note referenced in rules.

**Update on ODF Private Forests Board of Forestry Work Plan**

Peter Daugherty explained what topics are included in the Board of Forestry work plans for Private Forests:

- Issue 1: Water Quality
- Issue 2: Landslides & Public Safety, Forest Pesticides and Special Resource Sites

Following ODF bringing the exposure allegation to the Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC), direction was provided by the Governor’s office regarding PARC’s initiation of a multi-agency exposure study including several Oregon agencies (including Oregon Health Authority, Forestry, Agriculture, DEQ) and federal resources (including EPA and the ATSDR). The investigation study is underway, and results from the study are anticipated in 2012.
Meeting minutes cont’d…

Working Lunch - Prioritization of ODF Private Forests Technical Specialists
Peter Daugherty discussed with Committee members that with the additional funding designated in House Bill 5023 came the opportunity for ODF to add back technical specialist capacity to support field operations.

For Committee reference, Daugherty provided some prior history and context regarding the work of developing landslide and public safety rule concepts with participation from the Regional Forest Practices Committees several years ago. Further work regarding current policy on special resources site rules is on hold.

Peter Daugherty began a discussion to take Committee input on prioritizing those specialist services to add back in the redesigned Private Forests program. Daugherty offered the following list of positions for consideration:

- Wildlife and Fisheries
- Civil Penalties
- Hydrology
- Roads and Engineering/Geotech
- Silviculture/Chemical
- Riparian and Aquatic

Committee members offered the following prioritized recommendations for adding back technical capacity: 1) Hydrology/road engineering; 2) Silvicultural/chemical; 3) Riparian/aquatic; and 4) Wildlife

Other Business & Scheduling Future Committee Meetings
Recommendation that ODF reconsider reinstatement of the Operator of the Year award and requested that Peter Daugherty enact this request with the Board, ODF Private Forests and ODF Public Affairs.

Peter Daugherty requested Committee members establish a quarterly schedule for the Committee to meet.

Bob Messinger entertained a call for any additional new business of the committee meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

/s/
Marganne Allen
Committee Assistant
Regional Forest Practices Committee

November 23, 2011