

Lane County Forestland Classification Committee Meeting

April 22, 2016 – 9 AM – 12:00PM

Minutes

In Attendance

Committee Members:

Sue Bowers (Chair) – At large Representative

Steve Cafferata – Eastern Lane Landowner Representative

Lauren Grand (Secretary) – OSU Extension Agent – Lane County

Terry Ney – Chief, Lane Fire Authority, State Fire Marshal Representative

Lindsay Reaves – Western Lane Landowner Representative

Tom Soward – Oregon Department of Forestry Representative

ODF Staff:

AJ Hudgik – GIS Expert

Link Smith – Western Lane District Forester

Greg Wagenblast – South Cascades District Forester

Invited Guests:

Jim Langborg – Fire Chief, Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue

9 AM Meeting to order by Sue Bowers

Review and approve minutes from 4/11/16 meeting

Motion to approve the minutes passes. AJ requests copy of the finalized minutes to be posted on the Oregon.gov website.

Discussion of the By-Laws

By-laws have been updated to appropriately reflect the efforts as they relate to Lane County.

Suggested updates included:

- Place of business is located at Western Lane District office in Veneta.
- Meeting must be noticed to the community a minimum of 7 days prior.
 - Announcements will go out to ODF PR in Salem and to major local media outlets
 - Provisions for posting the announcements will be the responsibility of ODF Representative Tom Soward
- Decisions by the committee will be made by consensus

Sue Bowers suggests by-laws be updated and reviewed for adoption at next meeting when the corrections have been made. Group agrees.

Introductions

Invited guest, Jim Langborg - Fire Chief of the Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, is asked to join us at the table as a resource for local knowledge of the area to be classified at this meeting.

Case Study of Enterprise Road Fire and McMinnville Fire

These fires were offered as examples to why all lands meeting the definition of forestland within the fire protection boundary need to be classified. In both situations a fire was started on a property that was not classified and spread to land that was classified. ODF still responded to and controlled the fires. It is the goal to properly classify lands in their current use and vegetation composition so all lands needing and receiving protection are paying the appropriate taxes.

Discussion of Classification Procedures

In general the Forest Land Classification WUI Flowchart in the Forestland Classification Tools Manual (pg. 40) will be used as the procedure for classifying lands. Barriers impermeable to fire will be considered when classifying and sections may be reviewed in smaller pieces in these specific cases.

Link Smith mentions: Oregon Department of Forestry has the ability to enforce rules and laws pertaining to fire prevention within 1/8th mile outside of the fire protection boundary, but NO lands outside of the fire protection boundary can be classified.

Sue Bowers asks if grazing land will be classified differently. Greg Wagenblast reads OAR Statute 629-045-0003 which states that lands west of the Cascades and north of Lane County's Southern Boarder do not need further classification separating grazing lands.

Public meeting process

Sue Bowers suggests that each public attendee be allowed to comment for a maximum of 3 minutes at the beginning of each meeting. Consensus is reached. Link Smith also notes that the by-laws indicate that the chair can limit public comment.

An additional consensus is reached that members of the public can be invited to the table as expert consultants, at which point their comment will not be limited. The chair will make a formal comment at the beginning of the meeting inviting such guests to the table.

10 minutes at the end of each meeting will be saved for additional public comment.

10:05 Break

10:10 Meeting Re-called To Order

Next Meeting Planning

The committee agrees to meet monthly on the third Friday of each month from 9am – 3pm at the Western Lane Oregon Department of Forestry Office in Veneta.

Next Meetings Scheduled are:

May 20th

June 17th

July 15th

We will re-visit our meeting planning at the July 15th meeting.

Further Discussion of Procedures

Committee will be classifying lands up to the ODF Fire Protection Boundary. If forestland goes far beyond the boundary, the committee will make a recommendation to move the boundary and include the adjacent forestland.

If there are areas within the city and rural fire districts being considered for classification, the committee will use the consultation with a local fire chief to determine if the area is enough of a threat that constant assistance from ODF is necessary. However, our main purpose is to classify land as forestland or non-forestland.

Recommendations for classification by the committee will be recorded on the township maps assessed. All maps are printed with the active classification rules.

If a $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ is not classified as forestland then it will be highlighted in yellow. If a $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ is classified then it will have a white check mark in the center.

If the committee has a recommendation for extending the fire protection boundary, that will be denoted in red.

If entire Township is classified as forestland, then the chair will check the township as class I forestland at the bottom of the map, initial, and date.

Review & classification of lands

The Committee began their review of the lands in Lane County in **Range 12W (R 12W)**:

Township 15S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify all of T15S R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands.

No Sections in T15S, R12W suggested for further review

Township 16S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify all of T16S R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands.

No Sections in T16S, R12W suggested for further review

Township 17S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify all of T17S R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands.

No Sections in T17S, R12W suggested for further review

Township 18S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify on the following Sections in T18S, R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands: 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 21, 28, 33.

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 21, 28, 33 T18S, R12W are not suggested for further review.

The Committee asked for more definitive information, including photos, of the following Sections 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36 in T18S, R12W, so that further review and evaluation could be made on these sections.

Township 19S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify all of T19S R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands.

No Sections in T19S, R12W suggested for further review

Township 20S:

The committee reviewed and determined to classify all of T20S R12W within Western Lane Fire Protection District Boundaries not including forest service lands.

No Sections in T20S, R12W suggested for further review

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 PM