Charter of the Committee for Family Forestlands

Presented to Board of Forestry July 22, 2020

Pursuant to ORS 526.016 General duties, limits, meetings, and rules; the State Board of Forestry hereby establishes a standing committee to assist the Board in addressing family forestland issues.

Purpose: The Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) shall advise the Oregon Board of Forestry and State Forester in matters relating to family forestlands consistent with the Board of Forestry’s Forestry Program for Oregon such as but not limited to:

♦ Maintenance of a viable family forestland base in Oregon.
♦ Maintenance and enhancement of the positive contributions that family forestland owners make to Oregon’s vitality, including timber availability and the protection and enhancement of watersheds and fish and wildlife habitat.
♦ Evaluating the effects that changes in forest policies have on family forestland owners.
♦ Formulation of policies and policy option recommendations for family forestland.
♦ Providing guidance for implementing Department of Forestry program strategies and activities to improve services to family forestland owners.
♦ Evaluating the types and levels of assistance needed by family forestland owners to fulfill their objectives while considering public values and benefits that are derived from their lands.
♦ Improving family forestland owners’ access to the Board of Forestry.
♦ Raising public awareness of the role family forestland owners play in maintaining the Oregon environment.
♦ Improving federal forest neighbor relationships with family forestland owners to help maintain and build viable forest economies.

The Board and State Forester shall consult with the committee with regards to such matters.

Committee Membership: The committee shall be composed of no more than thirteen members consisting of:

Seven voting members:
1. Four family forestland owners: one from each of the Department of Forestry’s three administrative regions and one at-large.
2. One forest industry representative.
3. One environmental community representative.
4. One citizen-at-large (preferably, this member shall serve as committee chairperson).

Ex-officio members, which may include:
1. Oregon State University College of Forestry
2. State Forester representative
3. Oregon Forest Resources Institute
4. Public land manager
5. Representative of forestry interest or consulting group
6. Small forestland owner group

**Member Appointments, Qualifications, Committee Organization:**

1. The Board of Forestry shall appoint voting committee members.
2. Family forestland owners’ acreage of forestland, 10 to 5,000 acres, shall be a consideration in selecting landowners to provide a perspective of small to large forest ownership. The forest Industry representative shall be a landowner of more than 5,000 acres of forestland or the authorized representative of such landowner. The environmental community member shall be a recognized representative of the environmental community. The citizen-at-large shall be a private citizen who does not own forestland.
3. Voting members are appointed to three-year terms with a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.
4. The State Forester shall appoint the Director for the Private Forests Program to serve as secretary to the committee.
5. Committee members are expected to participate regularly in committee activities; lack of participation shall be grounds for replacement at the request of the chairperson to the Board of Forestry.
6. The Board of Forestry shall appoint the chairperson and vice-chairperson.
7. Ex-officio members are appointed by the CFF to two-year terms with no maximum number of terms.

**Conduct of Meetings:**

1. The committee may determine the operating procedures governing the transaction of their business.
2. The chairperson shall have the usual duties and power of a presiding officer.
3. All meetings will be conducted as open public meetings, consistent with ORS 192.610 – ORS 192.710.
4. The committee secretary shall send an agenda together with minutes of the previously held meeting to all committee members prior to each meeting.

**Process for Formal Recommendations:**

1. Members first determine their intent to make a recommendation to the Board of Forestry by voting. A majority vote is needed to approve that action. Proxy voting is allowed.
2. The Committee for Family Forestlands will seek consensus on the content of their recommendation through discussions and deliberations conducted with the highest standards of professionalism and honoring dissenting opinions in accordance with the Department’s Working Guidelines.
3. After the language is drafted it must be formally approved by the majority members before forwarding on to the Board of Forestry.

4. The Committee Chair is obliged to ensure that any documentation or presentation of the committee’s recommendation also reflect any conflicting or minority views by summarizing those deliberations. This may also include a voting tally on any disputed component of a recommendation.

5. In the case of a recommendation having independent or interleaved components, the Committee may determine to vote on these separately.