

~Final~
Committee for Family Forestlands
Minutes
October 17, 2006

A meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) was held in the Sunpass room at ODF's Salem compound. Chair Ron Cease called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Committee members present:

Ron Cease	Peter Hayes
Mike Cloughesy	Bill Arsenault

Committee members absent:

Fritz Ellett	Ned Livingston
Greg Miller	Viviane Simon-Brown
Gary Springer	

Staff present:

Julie Welp, ODF	Bob Young, ODF
Arlene Whalen, ODF	Bernie Bochsler, ODF

Guests:

Lanny Quackenbush, ODF	Steve Vaught, ODF
Alan Kanaskie, ODF	Jim Cathcart, ODF
Mike Gaudern, OSWA	

Agenda Items:

1. Review Agenda
2. Approve Minutes from August 31, 2006
3. Follow Up on Past Actions
4. CFF Communication Plan
5. Invasive Species Issue Paper
6. November Board Agenda Items
7. Annual Forest Health Update
8. Private Forests Program Budget Presentation
9. Private Forests Program Personnel Update
10. Enforcement of the FPA
11. Determination of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Peter Hayes and Bill Arsenault brought the committee up to date on the tree dedication ceremony for Ilene Waldorf. The tree chosen was a Valley Ponderosa Pine and will be planted near Mill Creek and Bldg C. A plaque will also be designed to mount near the tree. Committee members will be asked to contribute to the cost. Bill will draft a letter detailing Ilene's background and contributions. The letter should be signed by the Board of Forestry and presented to Ilene. Ron will talk to Ilene about the best dates for her to attend the ceremony in conjunction with a CFF meeting. Tentative dates are 11/30 and 12/4. The committee would also like to invite the Board of Forestry and Marvin Brown.

Bob Young updated the committee on the new Private Forests Program Director, Peter Daugherty. He will be joining the department on January 3, 2007.

Approve minutes from August 31, 2006

The minutes were not approved since there wasn't a committee quorum present.

Follow up on past actions

The group discussed the latest news on the upcoming symposium. Mike Cloughesy provided an update on the symposium meeting from October 16. One item discussed was having a balance of speakers in terms of gender, distribution across the state, and age class. The speakers included here have not all been confirmed at the time of the meeting. The welcoming on the first day will be handled by Paige Fischer and Justin Heffernan, who are second-generation forestland owners. Viviane will talk on process and have an ice-breaker question for the attendees. General Session I will set the context of the symposium. Tom Nygren will be the moderator for this session. Other speakers include Hal Salwasser, John Bliss, Steve Hobbs, and Ron Cease. There was some concern about the length of this session with so many speakers. Breakout Session I is next on the agenda. These sessions will be divided by group and each group will stay together for all the breakout sessions. We want a good mix of people in each group. General Session II will address strategies to sustain family forestlands. These include current, past, and near-future strategies. The moderator will be Gary Springer, and the speakers for this session include Bettina Von Hagen, Ryan Temple, and Clint Bentz. Breakout Session II will be held after this session, then there will be a reception that evening. We also hope to have an optional workshop that evening. General Session III addresses the political arena. Gail Achterman will be the moderator; speakers will include Jim Brown, David Ford, and Adam Davis. Breakout Session III follows this session. General Session IV will have people who have attended the sessions highlight the issues they have heard over the course of the symposium. Diane Snyder will moderate this session, and speakers will include Chris Heffernan, Brenda Woodard, Russ Hoeflich, and Alan Foutch.

Mike mentioned that the symposium subcommittee had three concerns. One is regarding the regional roundtables. We want to make the attendees at the roundtables feel connected to the symposium and also represented there. It's been suggested that there be three hosts at each roundtable: a landowner host, an extension forester host, and a stewardship forester host. These hosts would attend the symposium and act in a host role there as well, directing people where to go and how to get around the LaSells Center. We also want to include people from the Benton Small Woodlands Association in meet and greet roles. Another concern is the attendance at the symposium by the Board of Forestry. The Board meeting that month will be Thursday/Friday and includes the symposium on Friday, but we would like the Board to also attend the symposium on Saturday. We need to remind them as soon as possible so the Board members can add Saturday to their calendars. We also need to schedule a meeting for whole symposium committee. There was no report on symposium logistics.

Peter Hayes brought the group up to date on the fund-raising issue. Originally, any funds raised over our goal would go to OSWA. Instead, OSWA will be engaged as a contractor and 20 percent of the total funds raised will go to OSWA since they are putting in the labor to raise the funds. Attendees will have the chance to decide how much of their registration fees will go to the symposium, OSWA, or both. Some clarification might still be needed on this issue.

Arlene Whalen spoke next on the publicity for the symposium and the fund-raising. Mike Gaudern had asked Arlene to draft a fund-raising letter. We need to encourage people and organizations to contribute funds, but there are some expectations that the donors will also get something in return. The committee needs to decide what that will be. Possible ideas are listing the sponsors on the symposium website and signs or give them exhibit space. We also need to break out what

the funds will be specifically used for, so the sponsors know where their money is going. Mike Gaudern would like the committee members to let him know of any potential sponsors. He will make the initial contact with these people, but whoever suggested the names will need to do some follow-up contact as well. The fund-raising letter should come from both the CFF and the Board of Forestry with reference to OSWA. A question was raised about the appearance of the state asking for financial support for an event like this. The CFF represents the Board, which is part of a state agency. We need to be very clear on who is involved and what their roles are and what the symposium is all about.

Invasive species

Jim Cathcart presented the committee with a staff report on invasive species. The question is whether the BOF should develop a work plan to address the invasive species issue. The process to answer that question began in 2005. Sometimes, what is considered an invasive species can vary from person to person, but the consensus seems to be: unwanted, unwelcome, and could cause Oregon economical, ecological, or social harm. Invasive species could be thought of as the antithesis of sustainability. Ideally, policies, programs, and actions would stop these species before they arrived, but if that isn't possible, early detection, rapid response, and eradication are vital. If that doesn't work, management is the next step. Funding is necessary to prevent or manage invasive species. Perhaps, an "emergency fund," or something similar, could be set up to deal with this issue, as needed. Requests for funding these kinds of projects are included in the upcoming budget package.

Board agenda items

Lanny Quackenbush and Bob Young brought the committee up to date on issues Private Forests will be addressing to the Board in November. One is on landslides and public safety. Bob gave some background on the issue. There has been a lack of shared responsibility between various state agencies. An early warning system has been implemented by the department, but it really isn't ODF's area of responsibility. Further-review-area maps haven't been fully implemented. Private Forests' question to the Board is, given this lack of shared responsibility, what direction does the Board want us to take? By taking on some of these responsibilities that aren't really ours, we're implying that harvesting is the cause of landslides, which isn't always the case. Private Forests would like the Board to reiterate the need of shared responsibility among agencies.

Another issue that will be presented to the Board is special resource sites. How does the Board want us to develop a charter on special resource sites, how will we develop rules and regulations around these areas, especially in relation to the Endangered Species Act and how it affects Oregon land owners. The first step of this process would involve writing an issue paper, with available options, in one of two ways. The first option includes the department writing the issue paper, then creating a review team to look at the paper. The team would include a variety of people from forestry, landowners, and the environmental sector. Another option would be to involve the stakeholders in the actual development of the paper. Private Forests is recommending the former option to the Board. The committee suggested that this issue be thoroughly reviewed before further recommendations are made.

Another issue Private Forests will present to the Board is the permanent adoption of the stewardship agreements rules. There aren't a lot of incentives in the rules right now, but this is a starting point.

Other Board agenda items

Lanny brought the CFF up to date on appointments and reappointments for the three Regional Forest Practices Committees that Private Forests will be recommending to the Board. Also, Private Forests will ask the Board to push back the date we present voluntary measures to promote the Oregon plan to March 2007.

Forest health

Alan Kanaskie gave a presentation on forest health, mainly focused on 2005 issues. He explained the aerial surveys the department does. This helps discover possible diseases or bug infestation or bear damage. This information is shared with landowners and other public agencies so the problems can be addressed. He went on to describe what and where the biggest problems are. The group had many questions regarding Sudden Oak Death and how the department is handling the eradication of it.

Budget and personnel update

Bob Young gave a presentation on a family forestland owner survey that OFRI had done in 2004. This was a dry run for his upcoming presentation to the Board. He summarized some of the information that came out of that survey. Unsurprisingly, the topics that most interested the landowners in the survey were less regulation, financial assistance, and information. The presentation also included information on why funding is so important to improve the program's ability to deliver necessary services. Some of these issues will be affected by the results of the November election.

Bob also mentioned the recent and future personnel changes. Peter Daugherty will become the new Program Director in January 2007, Marganne Allen was hired as the new Monitoring and Forest Health Manager, starting October 23, 2006, and the program is in the process of hiring a new fish and wildlife specialist to replace Rod Kramer. Jim Cathcart will return to the Forest Resource Trust position.

FPA enforcement

In the previous CFF meeting, the committee had asked for information on FPA enforcement, so Lanny provided information on the types and frequency of violations.

CFF Communication Plan

Tabled until the next meeting when more committee members will be in attendance.

Next meeting

We need to schedule around Ilene Waldorf's schedule so we can include her ceremony in the next meeting. Tentative dates are November 30 and December 4. Lanny would like to include the budget for stewardship budget proposal at the next meeting. Bill would like an update on the seedling issue, and the CFF communication plan needs to be approved.

Next symposium meeting

Several dates in early to mid-November were listed as possible dates for the next symposium meeting. We will check with other symposium committee members who were not at this CFF meeting.