



OREGON FOREST RESOURCES INSTITUTE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Video Conference Call

April 24, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jerry Anderson, Hancock Forest Management
Audrey Barnes, Nickel Mountain, LLC
Anthony Davis, OSU College of Forestry
Tyler Freres, Freres Lumber Co., Inc.
David Hampton, Hampton Lumber
Jon Irvine, Oregon AFL-CIO
Steve McNulty, Weyerhaeuser Company
Jennifer Phillippi, Perpetua Forests Company
Quincy Powers, Powers Ranch Co.
Casey Roscoe, Seneca Sawmill Co.
Eric Schooler, Collins

Staff:

Inka Bajandas
Jordan Benner
Mike Cloughesy
Norie Dimeo-Ediger
Rikki Heath
Erin Isselmann
Kathy Storm
Julie Woodward

Guests:

Fran Cafferata Coe, Cafferata Consulting
Betsy Earls, Weyerhaeuser Company
Lena Tucker, Oregon Department of Forestry

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tyler Freres at 9:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Jennifer Phillippi moved to approve the January 24, 2020, board meeting and March 13, 2020, board conference call minutes. The motion was seconded by Jon Irvine. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Audrey Barnes, Tyler Freres, David Hampton, Jon Irvine, Steve McNulty, Jennifer Phillippi, Quincy Powers, Casey Roscoe and Eric Schooler. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Senior Manager, Business Operations Kathy Storm reviewed the February 2020 financial report.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director Erin Isselmann reviewed Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget reductions and the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget. Due to COVID-19, forest products harvest levels and revenues have been revised downward by the Oregon Department of Forestry. Isselmann reviewed the estimated revenue projections and how they impact OFRI's budget. In consultation with the budget working group, staff presented two levels of cuts to the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget. Discussion followed. Board members supported \$430,000 in reductions to the Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget; however, the board wants to approve the original proposed budget in case revenue reductions are not as severe as predicted.

Motion: David Hampton moved to approve OFRI's Fiscal Year 2020-21 proposed budget, which totals \$4,800,686 in revenue and \$4,484,389 in expenditures based on a harvest tax projection of \$3,235,378 from timber harvest projections of 2.89 billion board feet, and a projected carryover from Fiscal Year 2019-20 of \$1,321,141, and to authorize the Executive Director to implement budgeted programs, including any necessary contract and agreements, with the approval of the Board Chair – however, directing the Executive Director to make \$430,000 in budget reductions and report back to the board in May 2020. The motion was seconded by Steve McNulty. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Audrey Barnes, Tyler Freres, David Hampton, Jon Irvine, Steve McNulty, Jennifer Phillippi, Quincy Powers, Casey Roscoe, and Eric Schooler. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Chair Freres reviewed the potential adjustment to the OFRI tax ceiling allowed by OFRI's implementing legislation. The 2019 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, West Region, increased by 2.69 percent, allowing for an increase in the forest products harvest tax ceiling from \$1.53 per thousand board feet to \$1.57 per thousand board feet.

Motion: Steve McNulty moved to increase OFRI's harvest tax ceiling of \$1.53 per thousand board feet by 2.69 percent (2019 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, West Region) to an adjusted rate of \$1.57 per thousand board feet. The motion was seconded by Jerry Anderson. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Audrey Barnes, Tyler Freres, David Hampton, Jon Irvine, Steve McNulty, Jennifer Phillippi, Quincy Powers, Casey Roscoe, and Eric Schooler. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Director of Forestry Mike Cloughesy reported that the June 12 tour in Tillamook was canceled due to COVID-19. Staff recommends holding the rescheduled board tour before October, however, keeping the board meeting for October 23. Board members concurred.

Cloughesy provided an update on the *Trees to Tap* and carbon special reports. *Trees to Tap* will be printed in June, and the carbon report will be printed in late August or September.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Freres announced nominations for Fiscal Year 2020-21 board officers. Chair Tyler Freres and Vice Chair Jennifer Phillippi are interested in serving second terms. Freres asked for further nominations from the floor; no further nominations were received. Tyler Freres received ten unanimous votes as Chair and Jennifer Phillippi received ten unanimous votes as Vice Chair.

Director of K-12 Education Norie Dimeo-Ediger reported that a new page on LearnForests.org was set up, titled "Forest Learning at Home," due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is intended for parents to use at home. Website visits and downloads are up dramatically, with *Sounds of the Forest, Explore the Forest* and the activity sheet among the most popular downloads.

Cloughesy reported that Tree School will be delivered through webinars instead of in person, due to COVID-19. All sessions are advertised and archived on KnowYourForest.org.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Julie Woodward

- Oregon Envirothon is continuing with an online event. This is a natural resources high school competition that usually occurs in person at The Oregon Garden. This year staff have worked with schoolteachers and partners to create an online version; positive responses have been received from schools.
- Thanked the landowner working group for their review of *Wildlife in Managed Forests – Forests as Habitat* publication, which will be printed in May.
- *Establishing and Managing your Forest in Western Oregon* is being updated by author Alicia Christiansen with OSU. A final copy will be sent to the landowner working group for review before the July board meeting.
- The *Wildlife in Managed Forests* program is continuing to do outreach through podcasts with Pacific Logging Congress, blogs and social media posts, including a fun series on animals that live in isolation in Oregon forests.
- The Oregon SAF annual meeting that was to occur in April has been postponed to October 7-8.
- Assisting Cloughesy with landowner webinars.

Jordan Benner

- Educational advertising
 - Canceled television events have led to greater bonus weight than usual.
 - Overall viewership has been up 17%.
 - Adults 18-54 viewership is up 45%.
 - Television ads are on every other week until May 11.
- Social media engagement
 - Engagement on all our paid social platforms is up significantly.
 - Facebook conversations are more two-sided than usual.
 - People are calling and emailing for more information on the 40 million trees.
- Developed an appreciation video for the Wauna paper mill in Clatskanie.
- Averaged 21,000 monthly visits and 2,800 downloads on the OregonForests.org website.

Inka Bajandas

- The *Trees to Tap Special Report*, which summarizes the science report and was written by Paul Barnum, is well into the design phase and is on track to be completed and printed by the end of June. Working closely with Cloughesy and Benner to develop a detailed plan to market both the special report and the science report.

- Working on writing a 12-page summary of the *Carbon in Oregon's Managed Forests* science report that will be printed this summer along with copies of the full science report. Created a marketing plan to promote the summary and science reports.

Rikki Heath

- All school field trips and Outdoor School experiences have been canceled for the remainder of the year.
- Since OFRI's social media intern resigned and field trips have been canceled due to COVID-19, Heath is assuming most of the social media work.
- Working on transferring the Envirothon test to an online version.

Erin Isselmann

- Has been contacted by Stop Poaching to get involved. Their target audience is private forest landowners.
- A letter was sent three weeks ago to the Speaker of the House and Senate President requesting appointment of Kris Elliott to the public representative position on the board, but have not received a response.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Freres thanked everyone for their flexibility, and thanked Jerry Anderson, David Hampton and Steve McNulty for their work on the budget working group.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Storm
Recording Secretary