



OREGON FOREST RESOURCES INSTITUTE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Video Conference Call

January 20, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jerry Anderson, Manulife Investment Management
Jennifer Beathe, Starker Forests, Inc.
Gordon Culbertson, Whitewater Forests, LLC
Tom DeLuca, Oregon State University
Kris Elliott, Oregon State University
David Hampton, Hampton Lumber
Matt Hegerberg, Heron Timber
Eric Schooler, Collins
Brian Trenholm, Weyerhaeuser Company

Staff:

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

Guests:

Sara Duncan, Oregon Forest & Industries Council
Garren Hitner, Century Forest Management, LLC
Richard Martinson, Oregon State University
Dan Newton, New Timber
John Plymale, Gard Communications
Quincy Powers, Powers Ranch Co.
Alexis Wong, Gard Communications

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Anderson at 9:03 a.m. Chair Anderson welcomed new board members Jennifer Beathe, Gordon Culbertson and Brian Trenholm, and asked them to provide a brief background.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: David Hampton moved to approve the October 21 and November 2, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jerry Anderson. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Eric Schooler and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Senior Manager, Business Operations Kathy Storm reviewed the financial reports from September through November, 2021. After two quarterly payments, OFRI has received 58 percent of the total forest products harvest tax budget. The Oregon Department of Forestry will be reviewing projected harvest levels after the February, 2022 payment.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Anderson reported that the Nominations Working Group (NWG) solicited additional applications for Class 1 and 2 positions, resulting in applications received from Garren Hitner and Dan Newton. The group continues to seek applications for the remaining Class 2 position. The NWG recommends that Garren Hitner and Dan Newton be nominated for the Class 1 positions on the OFRI board.

Motion: David Hampton moved to recommend Garren Hitner and Dan Newton to the State Forester for appointment. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Beathe. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Eric Schooler and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Acting Executive Director Mike Cloughesy reviewed draft board working assignments and proposed assignments be based on a calendar rather than fiscal year. Board members agreed with calendar year assignments.

Senior Manager, Public Outreach Jordan Benner introduced Alexis Wong and John Plymale of Gard Communications. Wong and Plymale played two educational media spots: "Big Things, Little Things"

and “Oregon is Trees.” Benner noted the addition of OFRI’s mission at the end of each spot. Positive feedback was received from board members. The educational media will run mid-March through mid-June.

Motion: Eric Schooler moved to proceed with the media purchase. The motion was seconded by David Hampton. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Eric Schooler and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Benner presented a proposal to create a media campaign about the Private Forest Accord process and upcoming changes to Oregon’s forestry, if approved by the legislature in February. Board members asked staff to schedule a board meeting in mid-February to make a decision.

Acting Director Mike Cloughesy reviewed a proposal to update OFRI’s May, 2020 report, *Carbon in Oregon’s Managed Forests Science Review*, to include information from the Oregon Department of Forestry’s Harvest Wood Products Inventory Report.

Motion: Gordon Culbertson moved to approve \$10,000 from the Fiscal Year 2021-22 New Opportunities budget to update OFRI’s *Carbon in Oregon Managed Forests Science Review* report. The motion was seconded by Eric Schooler. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Eric Schooler and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

Acting Director Cloughesy and Manager Storm walked board members through the Fiscal Year 2022-23 draft budget, including one-time add-on items related primarily to Private Forest Accord education. There was consensus among board members.

Manager Benner and Public Outreach Manager Inka Bajandas provided publication updates:

- **Oregon’s Climate-Friendly Wood Products Special Report:** Building with wood products has always been viewed as renewable and environmentally-friendly. There is a new realization that these products are also climate-friendly, not only because they store massive amounts of carbon for many decades, but because they have much less embodied carbon in their production than steel, concrete and other alternative building materials do. This new OFRI special report will discuss carbon storage in wood products, with particular emphasis on products produced in Oregon including lumber, plywood and engineered wood products. Profiles will put a human face on our manufacturing workforce. Development and production will begin Fiscal Year 2021-22 and continue into Fiscal Year 2022-23, with expected publication in July/August, 2022.
- **Private Forest Accord Special Report:** With the signing of the Private Forest Accord and the ensuing legislative decisions and regulatory changes, there’s plenty to understand about the future of private working forests in Oregon. This new OFRI special report will explore the lead-up to the monumental accord and the specific changes that will affect forest practices (to date), as well as look at how landowners, rural economies, wildlife and others are projected to be affected by these changes. Development and production will begin in early FY 2022-23 with expected publication in Spring/Summer, 2023.

- **Oregon Forest Facts 2023-24 Edition:** This update to the *Oregon Forest Facts, 2021-22 Edition* would include the latest facts and statistics about Oregon’s forestland area, forestland ownership, timber harvest levels, wood product production, acres burned in recent fire seasons, and forest sector employment and wages. With the recent release of the OFRI-commissioned *2020 Labor Day Fires* study, it could also include stats outlining the economic impact of the 2020 wildfires on Oregon’s forest sector. Another new section could outline major changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act related to the Private Forest Accord. Development and production in FY 2022-23 with expected publication in January/February 2023.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Public Education

- Advertising creative testing was completed and initial filming of the approved create media campaign was completed. Secondary filming and editing took place, primarily in the last quarter, with continued efforts into this quarter.
- The forest management video series got underway with four stops around Oregon. Cawood and our video contractors visited:
 - Wallowa County, to profile forestland grazing. Forestland owner Pete Schreder, Alyssa Cudmore of Wallowa Resources, and J. Johansen of NRCS were our representatives.
 - Deschutes County, to visit a multi-resource forestland owner focused on overall forest healthy improvements. Martha Meeker and Darleen Snider are the forestland owners, with Nicole Strong of OSU Extension and Boon Zimmerlee of ODF joining in.
 - Washington County, where Michael Jamieson, a forestland owner with property in three counties, talked about certified wood production (Oregon Tree Farm System). John Krause of ODF to join production.
 - City of Astoria’s Bear Creek Watershed, to talk about managing for carbon credits. Ben Hayes and David Ford were our primary representatives for that project.

Editing of existing videos is currently underway with plans to complete the remaining videos in late Winter/Spring 2022.

- Taylor Lowe, a marketing major and senior at OSU, was recently hired as a social media intern. Taylor will help create content for and manage OFRI’s social media accounts. Before joining OFRI earlier this month, she was a social media intern for the Portland Pickles baseball team.
- We’re moving ahead with the development of an illustrated pamphlet offering high-level information on managed forests, tentatively titled “Welcome to Oregon’s Working Forests.” The idea is that forest landowners who allow recreational access to their lands can share the pamphlet with recreational users to explain the basics of timber harvest, reforestation, and protections for drinking water sources and wildlife habitat, etc. A working group of potential end users for the publication was formed, including public and private forest landowners who actively manage their forests and allow recreational access. Members of this group will help develop the publication and ensure that we’re including the most pertinent information for the public about Oregon’s working forests. We’re also working with our graphic design contractor to hire an illustrator who can make the pamphlet eye-catching and engaging.

K-12 Education

- **Envirothon:** This year's Envirothon will be held on May 6. Teachers usually begin teaching Envirothon concepts in January; Environmental Educator Rikki Heath is readying the teacher notebook and website for this year's competition. This year, the current issue is "Waste to Resources." Heath has been meeting with a group of content experts from Metro and DEQ to develop the requirements for the current issue test and student oral presentation.
- **High School Natural Resource Educators Conference:** The conference took place virtually on January 12 with 70 teachers participating. There were presentations on fire, virtual reality, workforce and Enviorthon topics.
- **Oregon Forest Literacy Plan:** Advisory group edits have been compiled and staff are working to develop a survey and timeline for presenting the plan for public review.
- **Outdoor School Forestry Lessons:** Currently working on a design for outdoor school lessons around forestry topics that can be used by teachers or outdoor school providers before, during or after outdoor school.
- **Oregon Coast Aquarium Signage:** The Aquarium is working on designing the signage for the coastal forest area. Staff has been working with them to provide content from OFRI materials whenever possible.

Landowner Education

- **2020 Labor Day Fires: Economic Impact on the Oregon Forest Sector:** Over 100 people registered for the webinar. The full report, summary report, megafire fact sheets and webinar are all available on OFRI site: <https://oregonforests.org/2020-labor-day-fires>.
- **Wildlife in Managed Forest Program:** A new publication, *Forest Amphibians*, is available for download and distribution. The next project will be working with NCASI on a "how-to" publication on current research around managing leave trees and retaining structures through timber harvest.
- **Tree School Online:** In partnership with OSU and ODF, webinars are being held the second Tuesday of each month. January featured the Wildlife in Managed Forests new publication, *Forest Amphibians*, and its three authors. There are a wide variety of topics archived on knowyourforest.org website with over 16,000 viewers of live or recorded sessions to date.
- **Partnership for Forestry Education:** OFRI will take the lead on updating the *Resource Guide for Family Forest Landowners* in 2022.
- **Starker Lecture Series:** The 2022 Series, *Women of Forestry: Inspiring Leadership*, begins January 26 with Robin Wall Kimmerer. All of the speakers, registration materials and an overview can be found at: <https://www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/starker-lectures>
- **OSWA-Neighbor to Neighbor Tours:** OWSA hosted a tour at the Defrees Ranch in Northeast Oregon on October 30. OFRI is working with Rick Zenn, the new OSWA Executive Director, on plans for 2022.
- **Trees to Tap:** OSU Communications released the full *Trees to Tap* publication. OSU Extension has chapters available online: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9295-0>. OSU sent press release announcements out to media.
- **Outreach:** Acting Director of Forestry Julie Woodward attended the Council of Forest Engineering (COFE) and provided an OFRI display with materials for 200 participants. She also attended the PNW Forest Vegetation Management Conference, where she provided a display, moderated a session and promoted OFRI resources to in-person and virtual attendees. Woodward is planning to provide an OFRI display for the AOL Convention and the Oregon Logging Conference.

Acting Executive Director Mike Cloughesy

- Began serving in this capacity on November 12, working remotely from Omaha, Nebraska, approximately 16 to 20 hours per week, mostly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. He shared these goals for his temporary appointment:
 - Support the great OFRI staff and board in continuing our forest education programs;
 - Implement OFRI's response to the Secretary of State's performance audit;
 - Develop a budget for the next fiscal year;
 - Assist in recruiting the next OFRI Executive Director.
- Regarding the implementation of OFRI's response to the SOS performance audit, he called attention to the work plan developed by Pregame following the October 2021 board work session. This work plan establishes five workgroups, each to address one of the audit recommendations:
 - Legislative Workgroup, led by Jerry Anderson;
 - Activities and Ethics Policy Workgroup, led by Kathy Storm;
 - Mission, Strategic Planning and Documentation Workgroup, led by Inka Bajandas;
 - Transparency Improvement Workgroup, led by Julie Woodward
 - Statutory Review Workgroup, led by Kathy Storm.
- Developing the formal OFRI board orientation as a result of the Pregame work plan.
- Select staff met with State Forester Cal Mukumoto to acquaint him with OFRI and our unique relationship with the State Forester. We agreed to set up regular meetings between OFRI and ODF staff to further the work on education regarding the Private Forest Accord and upcoming changes to the OFPA. We have also invited Cal to attend the July OFRI Board Meeting in Corvallis.

Chair Anderson

- Looking forward to 2022 with a great board and working more with stakeholders.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Storm

Recorder