



Oregon Forest  
Resources Institute

OREGON FOREST RESOURCES INSTITUTE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Independence Hotel  
201 Osprey Lane, Independence

October 20, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Jerry Anderson, Manulife Investment Management  
Jennifer Beathe, Starker Forests, Inc.  
Paul Betts, Miami Alternatives, LLC  
Gordon Culbertson, Whitewater Forests, LLC  
Tom DeLuca, Oregon State University  
David Hampton, Hampton Lumber  
Matt Hegerberg, Heron Timber  
Mike Hicks, IAM-AW District W24  
Garren Hitner, Century Forest Management  
Dan Newton, Newton Timber  
Brian Trenholm, Weyerhaeuser Company

Staff:

Inka Bajandas  
Jordan Benner  
Norie Dimeo-Ediger  
Rikki Heath  
Jim Paul  
Kathy Storm  
Julie Woodward

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Guests:

Sara Duncan, Oregon Forest Industries Council  
Fran Cafferata, Cafferata Consulting

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jerry Anderson at 12:46 p.m. Chair Anderson welcomed new OFRI Executive Director Jim Paul. In addition, Chair Anderson recognized board members David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg and Eric Schooler for their six years of service on the board (Schooler was not present). Chair Anderson reported that the nominations working group is seeking candidates to fill the three open positions vacated by Hampton, Hegerberg and Schooler.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion: Paul Betts moved to approve the following meeting minutes:**

- July 18, 2022 executive session;
- July 19, 2022 executive session;
- July 21, 2022 board meeting;
- August 12, 2022 executive sessions; and
- August 15, 2022 executive session.

The motion was seconded by David Hampton. Voting for the motion: Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Paul Betts, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Mike Hicks, Garren Hitner, Dan Newton and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.

## STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

### Landowner Education

- **Tree School field program:** OSU offered a Tree School Field Program at Hopkins Demonstration Forest with 140 people in attendance. OFRI sponsored and attended.
- **Partnership for Forestry Education (PFA):**
  - *The Resource Guide for Family Forestland Owners* is available and being distributed. <https://oregonforests.org/publications>
  - The partnership is meeting in November to discuss PFA-focused outreach and workshops.
- **PFA communications update:** One of the primary projects related to the PFA will be revising the *Illustrated Manual*. Staff will be sending out a request for proposals soon to identify and choose an author and project advisor. Director of Forestry Julie Woodward is currently putting together a steering committee for the project. Please let Woodward know if you or someone from your organization would like to be involved.
- **National woodland owner survey:** OFRI uses data from the Forest Inventory and Analysis program, which is administered by the USDA Forest Service. They also administer the National Woodland Owner Survey. The survey is currently up for review. Woodward represented OFRI and Oregon users at a recent national conference to share how we use the data in Oregon and provide input on the upcoming survey.

- **Oregon Garden Foundation:** The Foundation recently celebrated The Oregon Garden's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. OFRI has been a long-standing partner of over 20 years. OFRI looks forward to this continued partnership, and to bringing on a new OFRI staff member to step into the role of managing the Rediscovery Forest; please help spread the word about the recruitment.

#### K-12 Education

- **Home School Day:** In early September OFRI held Home School Day at The Oregon Garden, with 735 home-school students and their families participating in educational stations set up around the garden. The stations were hosted by OFRI partners including Salem Environmental Education, OSU 4-H Extension-Marion County, Oregon Dairy Women, Oregon Department of Forestry, State Fire Marshal, Marion Soil and Water Conservation District, and Talk about Trees.
- **Oregon Garden Natural Resources Education program:** OFRI, in partnership with The Oregon Garden, offers this field program in the fall and spring for fourth- to sixth-grade students. The topics taught are related to forests and natural resources, and align with the Oregon Science Standards. This is the first season since the start of the pandemic where we are back to full participation. The fall calendar filled early, and teachers are already signing up for spring season. Every year 4,000 to 5,000 students participate in the program.
- **Outdoor School:** OFRI is a part of an Outdoor School coalition that serves students from the Salem-Keizer School District. Every fall and spring the coalition runs one week of outdoor school. Students rotate sites in the four-day nonresidential program. During the first week in October, 220 students participated in the program at The Oregon Garden. Students learn about forests, soil, water and wildlife from natural resource professionals and educators at each site.
- **Publications:** The *Oregon Forest Literacy Plan* and *K-12 Forest Education Opportunities* publications have been updated and printed.
- **Classroom forestry program:** The contract OFRI had with Oregon Women in Timber to deliver the Talk About Trees program for PreK- to eighth-grade students expired in July of this year. OFRI staff have been going through the evaluation process to award a new contract, and expect to have a program in place within the next month.
- **CTE conference:** The Natural Resources CTE teacher conference will be held December 14 at The Oregon Garden. Staff are working with a committee and are now setting up the agenda and marketing the conference.
- **Fire prevention website, Fire Among Us:** The website for fourth- to sixth-grade students is finished: <https://oregonforests.org/fire>. With fire season ending soon, staff are waiting until May to heavily publicize the site; in the meantime, staff are sharing it with partners.

#### Public Education

- **Adventure Awaits publication:** OFRI recently published *Adventure Awaits*, a new public education publication geared to recreational visitors to Oregon's working forests, and has already distributed thousands of copies to forestland owners and managers to give to recreationists visiting their forests. OFRI received so much initial demand for *Adventure Awaits*, including a large number of preorders, that staff have already had to print more copies. Staff will continue marketing this publication to forestland owners who allow recreational access to their forests through the fall, and likely again in the spring when outdoor recreation season picks up again.
- **Oregon Forest Facts 2023-24 Edition:** An updated edition of *Oregon Forest Facts* is on track for publishing in early 2023. The booklet has already been designed, and we are just waiting on

some updated data related to the 2022 fire season and forest sector employment, which should be compiled by the end of this year.

- **PFA special report:** Staff held a kickoff meeting in September with the project steering committee members for OFRI's new special report about the PFA, and committee members have since had a chance to review a draft report outline and offer feedback. Staff are now working to finalize the outline and reaching out to subject matter experts to learn more about the Accord and associated changes to Oregon's forest practice regulations, as research for writing the report. The goal is for the report to publish in early 2023.
- **Time-lapse forest recovery project:** OFRI has awarded a contract for a time-lapse camera operator, and talked with Freres Lumber to find a location on some of their timberland that was affected by the Beachie Creek Fire. The goal is to show recovery after salvage and replanting. Staff will also explore the opportunity to install a second time-lapse unit on U.S. Forest Service land in the same general area, for comparison.
- **Website updates:** OFRI has been doing back-end updates to bring websites up to date and improve security. Little will change as seen by the outside user, but the periodic maintenance is important.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

- Appointed Julie Woodward to the Director of Forestry position. Staff will work to get the manager of landowner education and administrative assistant positions opened in early 2023.
- Programs are strong, and OFRI has dedicated staff that have been doing great work.
- Secretary of State audit update:
  - Strategic planning solicitation is going out to preapproved vendors, which will shorten the process; and
  - DAS and DOJ have agreed on what policies and procedures apply to OFRI.
- The nominations working group is actively recruiting candidates for open board positions.
- The board meeting agenda outline is different, with staff and board updates at the beginning, and "action items" rather than "old business" and "new business." Executive director Paul welcomes feedback from the board on this change.

#### **Chair's Report**

- Chair Anderson reflected on his time as board chair, and said he's looking forward to stability in the future.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Senior Manager, Business Operations Kathy Storm reported that the Department of Administrative Services has eliminated the reports she previously used to prepare financial reports. Manager Storm is working with the Oregon Department of Forestry to develop new expenditure reports.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Public Outreach Manager Inka Bajandas presented a proposal to fund the social media intern position for the remainder of the fiscal year. The position was inadvertently left out of the proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 budget.

**Motion: Jennifer Beathe moved to approve \$16,000 from the Fiscal Year 2022-23 New Opportunities budget for the social media intern position. The motion was seconded by David Hampton. Voting for the motion Jerry Anderson, Jennifer Beathe, Paul Betts, Gordon Culbertson, David Hampton, Matt Hegerberg, Mike Hicks, Garren Hitner, Dan Newton and Brian Trenholm. Voting against the motion: none. Motion passed.**

## **REPORTS**

Senior Manager, Public Outreach Jordan Benner reported that two educational media spots were filmed in August. One spot is running for an eight-week digital-only campaign. So far, impressions are higher than expected. The second spot will run in the spring for 10 to 12 weeks, and then a post-ad test will be conducted.

Manager Benner updated the board on the fall campaign focusing on the new rule changes stemming from the PFA.

Manager Bajandas referred board members to OFRI's Performance Measurements for Fiscal Year 2021-22, which are summarized in the 2021-22 Annual Report. Bajandas reviewed highlights from the Annual Report.

Director Woodward reviewed the agenda for the board tour focusing on the PFA.

Fran Cafferata, OFRI's wildlife biologist, provided an update on 2021-22 accomplishments in the *Wildlife in Managed Forests* program and what is planned for the new fiscal year, including a proposed publication summarizing research about the importance of pollinators in the forest.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Storm  
Board Administrator