



**WASHINGTON  
HARDWOODS  
COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 12, 2016  
WSU, Puyallup, WA

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**Next Meetings:** 11/9/16 (*Teleconference*); 12/7/16 (*DNR Olympia*)

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**Commissioners Present**

Michael Johnson, Chairman  
Joe Monks, Vice Chairman  
Randy Bartelt  
Ed Orcutt

**Commissioners Absent**

Tom Fox  
Alex Dobkowski  
Steve Witherspoon

**Attendees:**

Bob Arnold, Matt Comisky, Keith Thunstedt, Dave Sweitzer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnson at 10:00 am. The Commissioners were reminded of the legal limitations of the anti-trust laws in Commission meetings.

**MINUTES**

It was MSP to recommend approval. (no quorum, approve at next meeting)

**FINANCIAL REPORT** - Thunstedt reported as of September 30, 2016 total assets of \$21,239.57, and with no liabilities, the net worth is \$21,239.57. Actual income over expenses to date is a negative \$1,776.93. Estimated reserve at June 30, 2017 is projected to be \$17,005.57. Logs processed summary seemed in line with previous reports. It was MSP to recommend approval. (no quorum, approve at next meeting) Thunstedt presented a seven-year Income Statement/Cash Flow analysis which indicated fluctuating end of year cash balance with projected FY17 being the lowest in the seven year period.

**AFRC** – Comisky announced the special October 17<sup>th</sup> BNR meeting to discuss riparian management. Monks and Bartelt will attend. OESP has been signed and will be implemented after Oct 27<sup>th</sup>. Draft Marbled Murrelet EIS and the Sustainable Harvest Calculations due November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NRCS** - Johnson contacted DNR to see if they would like to resubmit its proposal with WHC as a co-submitter. No response to date.

**ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM** - Scheduled for June 15, 2017 at the USFS building in Olympia. Bartelt and Monks will co-chair the event. Morning will be classroom with afternoon in the field. Topic will be Forest Management to include DNR, Forest Service, Tribes, Urban Forestry, Military, DOE with a legislative update at lunch. Field trip possibilities include Capital Forest and Fort Lewis.

**ALDER FACT SHEET** – Johnson outlined an accordion-folded, 8-panel, pocket-sized (slightly larger than a business card) fact sheet and received much good input. He will reduce the contents to paper and email to the commissioners prior to the teleconference on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Panels could include title page, WA income and jobs from hardwoods, harvest vs consumption vs sustainable, trends, workability characteristics, finishes, uses, county production.

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LANDS COMMISSIONER MEETING - Call after election for a February 2017 meeting

HSC DATA ANALYSIS – Need to find someone to do this.

THEORY OF CONSTRAINTS – Need to find someone to do this.

WHC PURPOSE AND ADDITIONAL PROJECTS – Skipped.

BRIAN HATFIELD AGENDA – Round table discussion about the commission and the hardwood industry, and Brian's job and how he can help the industry.

PROCESSOR FEES – This discussion was tied back to the finance report and our decreasing income from processor fees. Two alternatives were discussed: 1) lower the minimum tons to trigger a fee; 2) charge a fee per ton. Both would impact those who do not pay because they currently fall under the 5,000 ton minimum. Any change would need to go before the legislature. Now is the time to approach potential bill sponsors. We would need to demonstrate what we have accomplished and where the increase in income would be invested. For example: A shorter rotation with superior seedlings would motivate landowners and land managers to plant and manage alder.

FOREST PRODUCTS LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION – It was agreed to participate in this reception on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Arnold and Sweitzer will pay WHC participation fee.

HSC REMEASUREMENT – Quoted price from J & M is \$2,500 for winter 2016-17.

ALDER SEEDLINGS – Toured WSU nursery of alder seedlings. Things are looking better for the future supply of seedlings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Sweitzer.