



**WASHINGTON  
HARDWOODS  
COMMISSION**

## **COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

March 21, 2008

Natural Resources Bldg #432  
Olympia, Washington

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**Next Meetings:** June 4, 2008 Annual Meeting  
Olympia, WA

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### **Commissioners Present:**

Steve Pottle  
Brian Stanton  
Tal Edman  
Del Fisher  
Steve Pedersen  
Steve Sabalaska

### **Attendees:**

Yolanda Wilson, Diann Lewallen, Mike Ardington, Merlin Smith, Jed Herman, Dave Marshall, Dave Sweitzer

Chairman Pottle called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and made introductions.

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2007 meeting as mailed.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Lewallen presented the financial report dated February 29, 2008 showing cash and CD's of \$30,938.35. with no accounts payable. The cash flow spreadsheet shows a projected estimated reserve of \$20,109.35 and a projected estimated available reserve of \$6,109.35, both through February 29, 2008. (copy enclosed) Sweitzer reported that a few companies have not reported or paid fourth quarter assessments, but they would not make up the decrease from the third quarter dollars and tons. (copy enclosed) The Commission discussed planning for \$50,000 income for '08 and '09 and reverting back to \$62,000 annual income for 2010. It was also discussed that the budgeted item of \$5,000 for Hardwood Resource Assessment be deleted from this fiscal year budget. Pottle, Stanton, and Sweitzer will redo the three-year plan for presentation at the annual meeting. It was MSP to approve the finance report.

### **NOMINATION FOR COMMISSIONERS**

Stanton was nominated for an additional four-year term. Sabalaska is retiring within the next two years and will not be available to serve another term. The Commissioners will search for Sabalaska's replacement and to fill the vacancy from the retirement of Merlin Smith. Each affected processor will be mailed a letter with the Commission nominations in April and calling for additional nominations. The ballot will be sent out in May with the announcement of the new Commissioners at the annual meeting on June 4th.

### **GROWTH AND YIELD**

The beta test continues. Jed Herman was asked if someone from DNR could do a test (subsequent to

the meeting, Jed let us know that Fred Martin would test). In preparation for the CMER presentation on April 22nd, the importance of a good working model was emphasized. A teleconference will be scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th, at 3:00 p.m., which would include Gary Dixon's office, Connie Harrington, Andy Bluhm, Fisher, Stanton, and Sweitzer. The purpose of the conference would be to determine who would attend and be responsible for presenting the background; data including natural vs. plantation and RMZ; and the working model. (subsequent to the meeting, Dixon confirmed that his office would be represented, Harrington confirmed that she will test a second time and be on the call, and Dixon, Harrington, and Bluhm have committed to April 22nd)

## RESEARCH

Stanton distributed a draft white paper on the "Extension Of Rotation Length For Short Rotation Hardwood Silviculture". (copy enclosed) After discussion with the Commissioners, Stanton asked for comments so he could prepare a final draft to be presented at the annual meeting. Stanton also handed out alder production numbers from Webster nursery for sales to the public and to DNR. (copy enclosed) Particular emphasis should be noted on the projected 2009 sales to the public vs. sales to DNR.

## EDUCATION

Pedersen and Stanton presented a proposal for "Hardwood Write-ups for *Northwest Woodlands* and *Western Forester*". (copy enclosed) They requested suggestions for additional topics and authors. It was MSP to present an expanded version at the June 4th annual meeting. Pedersen presented a rough draft of a 3-panel brochure entitled "Managing for Hardwoods in Washington and Oregon". After his presentation and subsequent discussion, the Commission agreed to give feedback to Pedersen by April 10th. He will get estimates for graphic design and printing.

## DNR

Marshall presented an example of stress fractures in finished lumber from blowdown timber. Such stress fractures are estimated to be in ten percent of the lumber. Herman reported that blowdown is estimated at thirty to thirty-five percent going to chips. DNR reports 100 million board feet of blowdown, with 23 sales being offered to date. This footage will be in addition to the 665 million board feet projected annual cut. DNR is on schedule for 45 million board feet of hardwood in 2008. It was suggested by the Commission that DNR investigate increased hardwood research in the OESF.

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Sweitzer reported that federal lands are at least giving us lip service that they will be offering more hardwood sales. Time will tell. AFRC works very hard for the industry, which includes hardwoods, primarily in resource procurement and litigation. We are wise to maintain our membership in the AFRC and on the AFRC board. Sweitzer will be meeting with Lenny Young, Chuck Turley, and Mary McDonald to discuss developing information on Hardwood Conversion and Alternate Plans. The Small Landowner Advisory Committee has welcomed Sweitzer as an ad hoc member. The Commission's emphasis at the SLOAC will be on a Hardwood Conversion template. A report to the Board of Natural Resources and Natural Resource Committees of the Senate and House will be prepared.

## 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting is scheduled for June 4th, 2008 at the USFS District Supervisor's Office in Olympia. Sweitzer will submit a second draft agenda with speakers and investigate tour stops.

## OTHER BUSINESS

The WFFA has requested WHC to participate in it's Annual Meeting, April 24-26th. Sweitzer will try to attend the April 25th session in Mt. Vernon, WA.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dave Sweitzer