



**WASHINGTON
HARDWOODS
COMMISSION**

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 2010
Cascade Pacific Region DNR
601 Bond Road
Castle Rock, WA

Next Meeting: September 2010
Date, Time and Place TBD

Commissioners Present:

Brian Stanton, Chairman
Jeff Madsen, Vice Chairman
Tal Edman
Del Fisher
Tom Fox
Rob Janicki
Erik Metcalf
Steve Witherspoon

Attendees:

Over 50 attended. Roster in the WHC office.

Chairman Stanton called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m., made introductions, and advised the legal limitations on discussions at meetings to maintain compliance with anti-trust laws.

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2010 meeting as mailed.

FINANCE REPORT

Lewallen presented the financial report dated May 31, 2010 showing cash and of \$18,687.58, with no accounts payable. The cash flow spreadsheet shows a projected estimated reserve of \$16,416.54 through June 30, 2010. (copy attached) The Logs Processed Summary, Dollar Summary, and Volume Summary were also presented. (copy attached) It was MSP to approve the finance report, but verify the log export numbers.

It was further MSP to approve the FY 2010-2011 budget after deleting the HSC contribution, resulting in a projected estimated reserve of \$18,794.00 on June 30, 2011. (copy attached)

ELECTIONS

Elected to 4 year terms by unanimous vote were Steve Witherspoon, Georgia Pacific Corp, and Rob Janicki, Janicki Logging and Construction. Stanton was reelected chairman for the coming year with Jeff Madsen as vice chairman. Tal Edman was awarded a certificate signifying his contribution to the Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(See attached).

Stanton introduced the new subcommittee, "Farm to Timberlands". (See attached).

Business meeting was adjourned at 8:10 a.m. and reconvened with the speaker presentations.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman Stanton outlined the subcommittee structure and chairmen (see attached), and major accomplishments (see attached committee reports).

SPEAKER PROGRAM – HOW ABOUT THOSE HARDWOODS

Glenn Ahrens: Let's Talk About Return On Investment

Ahrens, OSU Extension Forester for Clatsop and Tillamook Counties, discussed the return on investment for growing alder. He told the group of small landowners that they will be pivotal to the sustainable harvest of alder in the future. Merchantable alder can be grown in 25-35 years and has been selling for more than Douglas fir for ten years. He was encouraged by the imminent ORGANON growth and yield model. This information is vital to small landowners in planning and for planting and managing of alder.

Mark Barford: What About The Demand For Hardwoods?

Barford, Executive Director of the National Hardwood Lumber Association, said the hardwood market has been devastated in the last two years. The housing disaster is now creating a pent up demand when things turn around. In the United States, there are one trillion board feet of growing stock. We are only harvesting ten billion board feet per year. He noted that we are growing hardwoods at two times the rate of harvest. Alder is similarly going through rough times, but because of its disease resistance, fast growing, and favorable workability characteristics, it will rebound.

Erik Metcalf: What Are Purchasers Seeking In Hardwoods?

Metcalf, log buyer for Cascade Hardwood LLC, showed examples of what purchasers are seeking in hardwoods. They need at least an eight-foot segment that is reasonably straight and without growing defects. He cited mechanical defects that can downgrade the logs as well as the growing defects. With a little bit of care, growers and harvesters can provide top quality logs to the mills.

Jeff Marthaller: How About The Hardwood Chip Market?

Marthaller, senior fiber buyer at Longview Fibre & Packaging, Inc., mapped out locations throughout the Northwest that were accepting both clean and dirty chips. Both hardwood and softwood chips are being used in a variety of recipes for paper and packaging products. Biomass, not his favorite subject, has the potential of usurping great quantities of chips. The export softwood market is somewhat responsible for driving the logging of softwoods up, resulting in increased hardwood availability.

Chris Razor: What About The Future Of Hardwoods?

Razor, Washington DNR forester, discussed the future of hardwoods as bright. This would be especially true if the supply can be increased through the small landowner. These non-industrial, private foresters (NIPF) control a greater percentage of hardwood resource than other ownerships. The demand will be accelerating in the near future and with the NIPF increasing its growing and managing, the hardwood future looks very good.

Alex Dobkowski and Rod Meade: Weyerhaeuser Field Trip

In the afternoon, Dobkowski, Weyerhaeuser's principal investigator for red alder silviculture research, and Meade, Weyerhaeuser's silviculture and management specialist, took the group to the field to demonstrate variations in management prescriptions. The group was treated to various alder stands demonstrating differences in site preparation, densities, pre-commercial, and commercial thinning. The use of applied technology was apparent by using different prescriptions.

The annual meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dave Sweitzer