



**WASHINGTON
HARDWOODS
COMMISSION**

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2012
DNR Pacific Cascade Region Office
Castle Rock, Washington

Next Meetings: *December 29, 2012, DNR Pacific Cascade Region Office, Castle Rock, WA*

Commissioners Present:

Tom Fox, Chairman
Tim Halme
Michael Johnson
Steve Witherspoon
Nick Wheeler

Commissioners Absent:

Erik Metcalf, Vice Chairman
Joe Monks

Attendees:

Diann Lewallen, James Freed, Paul Bialkowsky, and Dave Sweitzer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Fox at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were made and the Commission was reminded of the legal limitations of the anti-trust laws in Commission meetings.

It was MSP to approve the minutes of the May 30, 2012 meeting as mailed.

FINANCE REPORT

Lewallen presented the financial report dated August 31, 2012 showing cash and CD's of \$32,623.59 with no accounts payable. The cash flow spreadsheet shows a projected estimated reserve and estimated available reserve of \$37,450.20, through June, 2013. Sweitzer presented the Logs Process Summary, Dollar and Volume reports. It was MSP to approve the financial report. (copy attached).

2012 ANNUAL MEETING

The Commission reviewed the results of the survey completed by those attending the 2012 annual meeting. Overall, the subject matter and presenters received high marks. Many made suggestions for the 2013 annual meeting, which were discussed in detail. The Commission made up the shortfall of \$660.81 between meeting income and expenses.

2013 ANNUAL MEETING

Witherspoon volunteered to chair the 2013 annual meeting and will develop a draft program by the end of October.

HARDWOOD CONVERSION FPAs

The Commissioners thoroughly discussed the report on Hardwood Conversion FPAs and unanimously agreed not to accept the report as written. At this juncture, there was no proposal to edit or suggest a rewrite. However, the perceived data shortcomings in the DNR process will be addressed with the Forest Practices Division. It was recommended that Fox's subcommittee on Policy and Government Affairs be modified to include coordination with DNR to assure mutual compliance with RCWs and WACs.

DNR STATE LANDS DIVISION

Bialkowsky discussed the DNR Timber and Log Sales Program. Fiscal year 2012 harvest was 625 mmbf, 6% of which represents the hardwood component. Fiscal year 2013 projects sales offerings of 560 mmbf. He was urged to encourage more hardwood sales to not only utilize mature hardwoods, but also fill the supply shortage of lumber and finances to the state. He reported that the long term marbled murrelet strategy will be published the end of 2014.

SUBCOMMITTEES REPORTS

Committee reports follow these minutes and financial statements.

UW INSTITUTE OF FOREST RESOURCES

It was MSP to accept the proposal from the UW Institute of Forest Resources (IFR) to assess the Washington State hardwood inventory. The study will answer a) how much hardwood growing stock currently exists in Washington state; b) what is the age (or size), class structure, and location of the inventory; c) what ownerships currently manage the growing stock; and d) how much volume is under riparian management regulations. The IFR will be asked to write a contract. UW IFR will fund half of the \$50,000 price tag. WHC will seek participants to fund the other half.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sweitzer reported on the current state of the US House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands. After the hearing held in June in Longview, WA, with Representatives Doc Hastings and Jaime Herrera-Beutler, the agencies have been pushing for more land set-asides for spotted owl. However, our Washington representatives, in concert with many others, are working hard to hold the current set-asides without an increase. This might be the first step to eventually reducing such set-asides.

It was MSP to not pay the OSU Hardwood Silviculture Coop invoice for \$8,500. Although the Commission acknowledges the value of the work, it does not have the resources.

It was MSP that WHC be a co-sponsor of the Western Hardwood Association's International Convention and Exposition to be held in May 2013.

Next meeting dates – December 19, 2012, DNR, Castle Rock, WA

March 20, 2013, DNR Castle Rock, WA

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dave Sweitzer