

 Meeting minutes of

January 9th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM at St. Mary’s 107 Spencer Rd. Located near Toledo, WA.

**In attendance:** Pete Krabbe, Anjolene Price**,** Fred Norman, Taylor Aalvik, David Owen, John O’Brien, Nikita Hernandez, Bill Little, Bob Guenther, Amy Boyd, John Squires, Sean Tran, Elizabeth Robinson, Molly Whitney & Tiffini Alexander.

Via phone: Sharon Hannah, Lucy Brookham, Ray Yurkewycz & Amy Ramsey.

Review of today’s agenda, Fred Norman would like to add an agenda item to have a discussion on board members.

Bob Guenther recommends adding “executive session” to each monthly agenda under business meeting in the event it is needed.

**MOTION: Bob Guenther moves to adopt the amended agenda seconded by John O’Brien-Motion Carried**

Amendment of the 12/12/2019 notes. The motion should include Paula Hopkins (for clarity), as the resigned Director. The thank you for your services letter (referencing the above) can be provided upon request.

**MOTION: Fred Norman moves to amend the minutes of 12/12/2019 and adopt as amended seconded by Bill Little and an abstention by John Squires--Motion Carried**

Bob Guenther suggests that we go over the ground rules to all participants in the event someone resigns. Amy will add this topic to the annual meeting agenda. Fred Norman would like to see an annual commitment for board members so that board members remain committed. Fred Norman will draft a form that can be signed at the annual meeting.

**Treasurers Report/David Owen**

We have a balance of $7,077 in our checking account. We rec’d a confirmation from the IRS confirming the extension has been granted. The state payee documentation was submitted we have not heard back on this as of yet. David Owen will start pushing on this matter. We also received an invoice from Jamie Tolfree, who is also one invoice behind.

**MOTION: Bob Guenther moves to approve the Treasurers Report seconded by Pete Krabbe-Motion Carried**

**Forest Service Updates/Nikita Hernandez, Acting Ranger**

Ben4 was going to be offered – We had no offers on this stewardship sale. We are moving this to a scale bid. There was a helicopter in this one and they will keep that in.

Retained Receipts- Last year 100k was designated across the whole forest. There currently is no plan for any dollars this year.

Loan to Willamette-The Gifford Pinchot loaned money to the Willamette. They did well last year and will start paying the Gifford Pinchot back this coming year (around 400K). John Squires states that the stewardship money needs to be consulted with the Pinchot Partners. Elizabeth Robinson states that they were not spending the money and it was a loan to Willamette. They were able to act as a bank. A payment plan was in place and they are very pleased to be getting this back. This will come back as retained receipts and we will be able to help determined how it is spent. It may not come back this fiscal year per Nikita Hernandez.

New Recreation Manager -There is a new Rec Program Manager in place of Robin Rhodes. She is coming from Region 3. She is in the regional office now as a recreation planner. We do not have a start date, but it is generally a few weeks out. She has been selected for some time. Looking at four weeks for her arrival.

Secure Rural Schools- This was re-authorized. There is 1.2 million in the pot of funds. The FS will be forming one RAC committee. Part of that money must be obligated this fiscal year. They will probably look at what has the most support.

Gar Abbas Detail/ Nikita-Gar Abbas came out to the district last month and informed us that his detail is being extended. Due to his family situation he does not believe he will be coming back. He will be trying to stay in the Portland area. He has every intention to come and talk with the group in person. Pinchot Partners 100% understandable the situation. We need to address the underlying problem with the FS, if you want to move up you must move.

USFS/Jessica Hudec - Presentation by Jessica Hudec, Forest Ecologist. Updating 10 year veg strategy. What is it and why are we talking about it? This sets the stage for Vegetation management for the next 10 years. Historically having a 10 year management plan helps to address forest management and health issues. NEPA is a big investment, the FS invests about a million a year so we want to make sure we are using it to the best of its ability. The FS wants to consider that some things have changes since 2014. The presentation was derived from “*Climate Change Vulnerability an Application in SW Washington”. General PNW-GGR-977*

DNR/Amy Ramsey -We now have a different forest then we had historically. Amy Ramsey asks if we would you be interested in her reaching out to Derrick Churchill about presenting some of the work he has done to the Pinchot Partners? Fred Norman states this would not be ideal as Derrick Churchill is located on the eastside. Jessica Hudec is interested in knowing if there is any feedback. Is there anything else you may want to comment on as far as involvement? FS priorities may come into play and we need to be mindful of the DNR. Jessica states this is not your only opportunity for feedback. If you think of things, please offer that information to Jessica Hudec. Taylor Aalvik states that we need to find some ways to identify our history and some of our ideals of prioritizing economic help from the region. We prioritized some of these stewardships retained receipt dollars. He doesn’t know if this differs in the future.

Amy Ramsey mentions that an intern from University of Washington studying environmental science will be working for DNR and the Pinchot Partners for the next few months. -

John Squires would like to look at more innovative ways to treat LSR timber, such as thinning down to 40 trees per acre and replanting with Alder. Are we going to write off half the forest for producing timber? Pete Krabbe states that road maintenance, management and recreation need to be mentioned.

 Lucy Brookham, Lead representative for CFC states that we are lacking late seral habitat as well. Highlight areas to let them develop is a priority. We need to find a balance. We do not know what that is now but work towards Identify. Amy Boyd encourages sending those ideas to Jessica Hudec and the group. Elizabeth Robinson states that we will be getting more info on this in Feb/March. You will see another meeting topic that provides an opportunity to see where everyone’s priorities are. Bob Guenther suggested blow down salvage not clear cutting but a balance. John Squires states we need to start long term planning.

Yellow Jacket Startup/ Elizabeth- We are running behind on Kraus ridge it may be a couple more weeks before the draft decision and EA come out. We have had to do a couple revisions to due to comments. Kraus Ridge-What is the fall down volume percent Fred Norman asks. Elizabeth Robinson will get that information for Fred Norman. Fred Norman is fearful that due to the spacing between the units it may wack another unit out. 55-60 Million board feet is what she expects from Krause Ridge could be more like 45 MBF. Fred Norman confirms that you are taking 3 years to make 50MBF?

Programmatic-Jamie Tolfree will be submitting a grant invoice to FS for CFC activities last summer that we have already paid out to CFC. We the PP plan to submit a new invoice to DNR once we get the new coordinator.

Grants-Innovative grant opportunity with UDUB- They are submitting a request- We do not have a lot of work put into this one so we will see how it develops. We have DNR funding coming in that we billed last June. We will be getting around 7k in the door at the end of month. The PP were awarded $40,000 by DNR for Collaboration work. Amy Boyd is very excited for a Policy type group to meet. As we move into the spring hopeful that we will move back into what we were working on previously.

We are scheduled to have four interviews today. The interview scheduled for 1/10/20 has asked if she could call rather than meet in person. That will allow us to do a conference call. We can then discuss our next steps after the call with her. Fred Norman and John Squires volunteered in the absence of Matt Comisky.

Input on the annual meeting agenda:

* Operations Manual (Make changes and see where we are at)
* Vegetation Management goals –
* General housekeeping stuff (Amy Boyd will work on this and speak with Jamie Tolfree to confirm we are not missing anything) Day 1 (10AM-5PM) Day 2 (8AM-12PM).
* Packwood trails presentation will be moved to the end of day
* Budget for grants \
* Goals -we have money to set up our financial goals

Pete Krabbe and Amy Boyd met with Amy Ramsey and Julie Sacket to talk about our group works with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ) component. Julie Sacket is interested in increasing youth participation in STEM. She was very interested in what Bob Guenther was doing and wants to hear more from him on this. Education service district, Centralia college, Community foundation and Community Lab We are hoping to get this lab on the east end to see what is out in the world for employment.

What Amy Boyd heard is that we are doing a good job and people have heard a lot about us. We talk to people who talk to people and things happen! We spoke about the DNR Fire Prescription team- We suggested that they come to an IDT meeting rather then coming here. They are going to get there people in contact with FS.

Round Table Updates-We have four applicants to interview today. We had several people that scored well for us. Sally Bernstein will come in at 12:30. She is a Sustainable NW employee and they would be willing to offer her benefits. Jenna Mendenhall, Lives in Eugene has allot of history with Collaboratives and works with OSU. Heather Patt will be interviewed tomorrow via phone due to weather. She has a strong education background. Jeanine Ritchie is coming from Vancouver and a strong background and is a PHD Applicant and has a lot of different experiences.

The phone interview with Heather Patt will be on January 10th . Amy Boyd has printed the interview questions and has trimmed them down. Amy Boyd will not be scoring due to a conflict of interest. The interview panel will have a discussion. If there is a clear-cut decision, then the recommendation to the board will be to move forward with that person. Amy Boyd recommends moving forward with a second round of interviews if we do not have a clear-cut decision. Since this is a personnel issue it can be taken care of via email and we can vote over email. Questions we should ask is if they would be interested in a full-time position and how much they are willing to commit. We could not make this contractual but just in good faith. How do we ask how long are they willing to stay with us? Bob Guenther states that we should have a pretty good idea after interviews on the level of commitment. We will be setting up an email account so that if the coordinator leaves this is not all lost information. Taylor Aalvik states we will eventually have our own stand-alone cloud platform. We need to get something set up that is Pinchot Partners.org so that we all have access. John Squires asks how are we going do we know something is not being dropped? Consistent check in? Staff meetings? Having the email being open to other people would be a good idea. Bill Little suggests that the new coordinator have a Pinchot Partner issued laptop.

The Annual Meeting is February 19th & 20th

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 PM

Minutes certified by,

Fred Norman, Pinchot Partners Secretary