

KFSC MEETING
LIBBY, MT
June 14, 2007

Call to order

VP Bob Clark called the first annual meeting to order and explained the procedures for electing one member to the Executive Committee. Paul Rumelhart explained the ground rules for electing members to the Executive Committee. Jeff Juel declined the position so new nominations were made and Bill Martin was duly elected. Bill pointed out that he did not have e-mail but would rely on phone and mail service as a member of the board.

The executive board includes the following:

- John Konzen, Bob Clark, Ed Levert, Tracy McIntyre, Robyn King, Chuck Roady, & Bill Martin.

Officers for the ensuing year are:

- John Konzen, President
- Bob Clark, Vice President
- Ed Levert, Secretary/Treasurer

The annual meeting of the executive committee was closed and the general membership meeting opened.

The general membership meeting was facilitated by Kevin Chamberlain who reviewed the Mission and rules of conduct.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted with the following corrections:

1. Page 4, Committee to identify additional topics that might be included for future programs. Motion to conduct a first meeting of this committee, Sarah will initiate an e-mail conference to build some parameters around this. Motion Carried.
2. Page 2 (bullet 7) Tracy pointed out that there are more than two members on this committee (regeneration harvest). (The minutes reflect Tracy and Mike Peterson)

Motion to accept minutes as amended, seconded and passed

Paul gave a brief update on the financial status indicating there is approximately \$11,000 plus remaining in the account to support KFSC programs and activities.

Financial report accepted

Additional items

Media outreach

1. Bob Clark gave a progress report on acres treated and Timber volume
Approximately 3400 acres of proposed treatments have been approved by KFSC to date.
Bob Clark will send out via e-mail the up-dated project list and project endorsement list.
This is on file with KFSC.

2. Meadows report (Tracy, Betty, Mike)
 - 2365 acres, tractor logged, four units, within ½ mile of private land. Original site was approximately 1300 + acres
 - Hope to advertise perhaps this fall.
 - There seems to be similar circumstance in areas adjacent to the proposed project.
 - Field trips are valuable.

- Scoping included all lands adjacent to private ownership.
 - There will be under burning
 - This will be a stewardship contract. Would like to see monitoring included in the contract.
 - Based on the current information, there is not a problem with voting now.
 - Motion was made that we provide **Conditional*** support to the agency based on the current information generated by the project committee. Seconded (May revisit this project if there is new or different information when the EA is completed). EA will show impacts
 - Are we voting on concepts?
 - On site visits with project team have addressed many of the concerns
 - Question called for: (Consensus without reservation) Motion passed.
- Preliminary--pending project committee review of EA by July 1st..**

3. Three rivers report on Rocky Pine project

- Scoping letter is scheduled to be out by June 18th.
- This is a fuels reduction treatment in the interface. No old growth. Estimated 908 acres of intermediate harvest and thinning. Some may have openings of two acres. Major focus is fuel reduction to protect private property and dwellings. Some regeneration plans. There are various stands in 58 acres of proposed treatments. There are off-site P/pine stands. 24 acres of mechanical piling pre-commercial thin.
There is commercial harvest included in the project. Plans include some prescribed burning in the IRA. Burning on Buck Horn ridge was in an earlier decision and is not being considered in this project. Regeneration involves small tracts managing aggregate stands (species) Looking for ground cover for wildlife. (Bears moving across the tracks and highway 2)
- How far is the commercial treatment away from private land or adjacent roads? Very little outside the area. Almost all is within 1/2 mile of private land. They also considered the power line that runs through the area. (3-5 Mil board feet) This area is being sub-divided and Plum Creek also has land in the area. They need to define "local" between Montana and Idaho. There is a lot of treatment in the access points. The team is still trying to get more local involvement. There is an additional issue with weeds, especially in the power line corridor. The team needs to stay involved and make input into the forest plan. The team has been helpful for the district has sought input from them and consider there input as quite helpful. The team has been involved in getting more landowner input.

4. Cabinet District project

Green Mountain (see written report)*

Little Beaver moving up in priorities

Need to select a team leader. Will there be opportunities to visit the site? Schedule via e-mail

Some of the units harvested earlier may need to be re-treated

The mortality is in lodge pole pine. There is concern to keep the legacy stands.

Group will become more involved

***The written report was scanned into the computer and there were some modifications made to clean up some of the glitches.**

5. Young Dodge project
 - Discussions, original scoping, field trips, public meetings West Kootenai, final scoping closed in May. There may be additional scoping.
 - The project team needs to do more homework before coming back to the group.
 - New stakeholders have to be brought up to speed.
 - It was agreed that the project team is not ready to make specific recommendations.
 - Should this project look outside the WUI?
 - This whole area endangers the West Kootenai.
 - We are going to be working on areas outside the WUI that may not be in our comfort zone. We do have four levels of approval.
 - The project teams are working with the same ground rules as the coalition.
 - There is support from Fish Wildlife and Parks to get involved in this project.

6. Kootenai River North
 - The team has not re-visited the project site. (See written report)
 - They now have the assessment. (Mailed out)
 - This is authorized under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act.
 - This has one action alternative. 2500 acres of fuels reduction, road re-conditioning, temporary roads, burn various locations, and cooperating with Bonneville power.
 - There will be 3-4 mil board feet.
 - Bob tail watershed has some TMDL issues. FS has developed TMDL standards
 - Proposed treatments consider the various slopes.
 - Fuels reduction will be conducted with stewardship contracts
 - This is an important project to Libby.
 - If we are serious about community, we should be considering more timber harvest.
 - The team focused on fuels reduction. We don't want community vitality to be a by-product for this group. We are concentrating on the urban interface and most of this area has been logged.
 - There will be a ROD (Record of Decision) made in the very near future.
 - This is the first HFRA project on the forest.
 - The objections that may be identified after assessing the EA will be addressed by the regional forest. All comments will be addressed by the FS. There is discretion in how the Region responds to EA comments and objections.
 - The project committee wants to review the EA and get back to Ed by July 1.
 - The general membership committee will make a decision concerning the project team's recommendations. The team will develop those recommendations before the next meeting and will monitor the Regional FS decision-making. (Quinn Carver)

7. Forest Management, Restoration, Recreation & Wilderness Committee. (Robyn)
 - The committee met this afternoon to discuss a host of topics. Where are we going? Ed, Tracy, Tim D, Bob C Rita, Mike P, Roger, Cesar, and Bill were present. Robyn King is Chair and Bob Clark note taker. Committee notes on file. Kootenai is a large abundant landscape with a great many diverse interests.
 - Everyone understands the role of the committee.
 - Committee brings recommendations back to larger group. The committee needs more balance. Want more representatives from timber, and recreational interests.
 - Will have representatives from Colville make a presentation to this group. Committee will meet before the next general meeting.

- Tim will provide layered maps showing different uses and resources.
- The committee is very transparent about the process.
- Need media outreach, specifically a person assigned to the task to keep abreast of the projects and processes. Ensure that all media sources are covered. (Colville FS plan has been abandoned and now going with a collaborative process. Executive committee will address this issue.
- Bob Clark will draft a think piece for future consideration. It should be generated from someone within the group to ensure credibility and accuracy. Should the minutes become public and published on various web sites?
- We are concerned about forest health, stewardship for restoration, etc. we are sitting here worrying about infrastructure, community vitality, timber volume to support community sustainability.
- Is the committee addressing the ability to manage the forest over the long haul?
- Colville addressed the needs of the timber companies related to community needs.
- Headwaters will be coming here to address timber economics in Lincoln County. There are so many variables that affect the industry. We need to look at the local infrastructure to determine local needs. What is going to be left when we finish fuels reduction? Colville had a goal and worked to satisfy it. Colville looked at existing mills and about three counties in the Colville Forest. The committee was reminded that the Colville coalition was up and running several years before passage of the HFRA of 2003 so their focus was different and consequently the planning process addressed the infrastructure needs.

Next meeting
September, 20, 2007 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned 9:20 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jim DeBree

Jim DeBree
Recording secretary