

OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AND GAC MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2006
SALEM, OREGON

Attendees: Mike Barnes, Mike Gaudern, John Foster, Al Thayer, John Poppino, Frank Pender, Roy Hendrick III, Nancy Hathaway, Mike Barsotti, Gary Springer, Chris Jarmer, Ken Faulk, Kristina McNitt, Paul Bell.

December minutes were approved with one correction: OSWA has not been licensed to sell insurance, but will soon be.

GAC Committee Report:

Kristina McNitt reports that there are 142 initiative petitions in various stages right now. Petitioners are ballot title shopping. Two big issues are statewide health care and a fix for Measure 37 issues. Kristina outlined some candidate races that would be interesting for OSWA members to watch. Filing deadlines are in early March. No Board of Forestry candidates have been put forth yet. Three positions will ultimately be open on the Board of Forestry.

GAC set their yearly meeting calendar as follows (pending approval from Ron Larson): March, May, July, and October on the 3rd Tuesday at 10 AM.

Frank Pender reported regarding the AgPac meeting. After lengthy discussion, no motion was made on “first vote.” However, awareness has been raised. Kristina recommends that we continue with AgPac so we have a more powerful political voice. We won’t have to make any final decision until June when payment is due.

Board of Forestry Riparian Rules Alternatives Update:

(History: Gary Springer and Bill Arsenault served on the FPAC committee and recommendations were delivered to the Board of Forestry in 2000.)

Chris Jarmer, Oregon Forests Industries Council, explained that the Board of Forestry asked ODF to come up with a scenario of alternatives. Alternative #8 (coarse woody debris) comes before the Bd. again on March 8. Although the Board wants to move the issue forward, they may be trying to hit a target that’s wrong. If the target were clearly identified, then we’ll hit it. The Board does realize that to be implementable the new rule can’t be too complex. Might require more FPFs to assist landowners. However, the proposed solution could put management back into the riparian zone (which this Board favors.) Gary Springer noted that the Board has come a long way since 2000 with the recognition that not all streams are alike. The science on large wood is good. Not true for the science on riparian areas. Also, there needs to be consideration for broader landscape issues.

If the proposed Rule #8 does not go forward, the original more restrictive Rule #8 is still on the table although most Board members went on record against it.

Gary Springer reported on Special Resource Sites. These include Threatened and Endangered Species as well as ecosystems (wetlands, etc.) The Board of Forestry asked ODF to give recommendations on the formation of a committee to study special resource sites.

OSWA Annual Meeting Update:

Very good slate of speakers including 2 Board of Forestry members. We need to include and open GAC meeting with a scheduled room. Mike Barnes’ Mount Richmond will be the featured tour.

Budget and Work Plan Update:

As of today we have received \$78,000 in membership dues.

10,000 recruitment brochures are in the OSWA office. Mike Gaudern said it may be necessary to ask chapters for money to help with this expense. All work plan targets have been met by Mike Gaudern. He is meeting with and reviewing annual work of contractors over the next two months.

Office help:

The training required to bring a new assistant up to speed is beginning to be seen as a wash. It's cheaper and more effective for us to have Mike G. do the data entry at this point. Mike G. will check with Willamette Univ. for potential data entry workers. He, with assistance from Mike Barnes and Janet Lien, will review previous position descriptions for Executive Director and Office admin, due to changes in his contract and OSWA history of staff retention. Mike will also work with Elizabeth Lien who is now trained in basic membership renewals and new membership application data entry.

Retreat, 5 Year, Annual Work Plans

Columbia Co. questionnaire:

Ask Paul Nys to revise for general membership, add question about PACs. This would give us needed direction for a 5 Year Plan.

Schedule Exec. Board Retreat in May: Nancy will check on OSU Club Cabin. May 10th would be our first choice.

Update:

Arlene Whalen is concerned about the printing quality and delivery of the update. We checked on the quality of the print and could find no difference between the current copy and one from a year ago.

Oregon Tree Farm System:

Mike Barsotti reported that OTFS is in the process of budgeting for 2006. Aiming for more coordination with landowners. SFI is not internationally accredited. Tree Farm is following them. The new office is set up now with several volunteers to enter data. A GIS layer shows where all the OTFS certified tree farms are. OSWA and OTFS need a formal agreement regarding Tree Farmer of the Year.

OSWA suggested that we have a list of district chairs at our next Board meeting.

Oregon Forests Resources Institute:

Sara Leiman has suggested that the idea of videotaping the Tree Farmers of the Year might be a project presented to OFRI at their Strategic Planning meetings.

Women Owning Woodlands net has been set up by OSU and some OSWA members. OSWA leadership is somewhat confused as the prioritization of this effort over current networks.

It would seem that the whale in the pond is the lack of engagement with all types of woodland owners not just women.

Nominating Committee:

Need to appoint an OSWA Nominating Committee.