

OREGON TREE FARM SYSTEM

Our Values: Connectivity; Collaboration; Stewardship; Inclusivity; Gratitude
Our Mission: Empowering private landowners to manage their forests sustainably
Our Purpose: Impacting the world by making Oregon a better place one acre at a time

OTFS BOARD MEETING MINUTES: January 12, 2023

Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call:

Present: Tom Agens, Mike Barsotti, Dick Beers, Dave Bugni, Steve Cafferata, Wylda Cafferata, Mary Chamness, Gordon Culberson, Ed Easterling, Dave Ehlers, Lauren Grand, Scott Hayes, Kate McMichael, Norm Michaels, Rex Storm, Steve Vaught, Jeremy Norby, Sue Zeni, Austin Reimer, Parks Brigman, Julie Woodward, Rick Zenn

Absent: Clint Bentz, Dick Courter, Joe Holmberg, Seth Barns, Carrie Spradlin, Nichole Wood

Reading Values, Mission, Purpose Statement: Lauren Grand

No additions made to the agenda

December, 2022 minutes approved by consensus

Review of the Strategic Plan: Wylda Cafferata

- In each of the following meetings we'll go over the Strategic Plan goals a few at a time and check in on our progress.

Discussion and Approval of Tree Farmer of the Year Signs: Dave Bugni

- The board voted by majority to have one standard Tree Farmer of the Year sign.
- The Tree Farmer of the Year will be awarded a sign.
- If the Tree Farmer of the Year has multiple tree farms, they will have the option of purchasing additional signs for their properties.
- If the Tree Farmer of the Year would like to customize their own sign(s) they may do so at their own expense.
- The subcommittee will continue working on the design options for the Tree Farmer of the Year sign and bring the final sign choices to the March meeting for approval.

Partner Report: Tom Agens reported early because he had to leave the meeting early.

- The new logger training program was approved to adopt, approve, and endorse the Oregon Professional Loggers new 2023 training program.
- When you hire a qualified professional logger that is certified through the program you know they will be knowledgeable and trained in sustainable forestry and the Oregon Forest Practices Act.
- Tom also already finished two inspections for OTFS this year- thank you Tom.

ATFS Comments: Parks Brigman

- NLC is in 3 weeks. Dick Courter, David Hibbs and Norm Michaels are coming from Oregon this year. Panels include discussions on inspector engagement, Regional Inspectors of the Year, and ways to promote the tree farm program in their respective states. We will look forward to hearing from the attendees in the March meeting.
- Annual reports are due mid March. Parks will get information to Wylda on the format to use.

Treasurer's Report: Dick Beers/Sue Zeni

- Current balance is \$140,425.48.
- The board voted unanimously to approve the resolution to remove Dick Beers and Rex Storm and add Sue Zeni to OTFS signature authority. Steve Cafferata will keep his signing authority as well.
- Sue, Dick, Steve, Wylda, and Cascade Tax Professionals will meet with the bank this afternoon with the amended OTFS resolution.
- Multiple board members thanked Dick Beers for over 20 years of work as the bookkeeper and treasurer for OTFS.

Governance: Wylda Cafferata

- The discussion and approval of the service agreement with OSWA has been postponed. There were some inconsistencies in the details of the drafts between the two agencies including; handling and forwarding phone calls, OTFS input in planning the forest convention, and the cost share and details on development of the Family Forest Newsletter. Mike Barsotti can help with the language of the agreement.

- OTFS now has their own Zoom account. \$149 a year for unlimited meetings. Working groups can contact Wylda if they would like to have Zoom meetings scheduled.
- Registration with the Oregon Secretary of State had lapsed. A penalty fee was paid and OTFS is now back in full compliance. We are still waiting for the information with the Department of Justice to be updated. The licensing fee with the Secretary of State comes due on February 2 and it would be good to stay on top of things so it does not lapse again.
- Goals for 2023
 - Find a vice chair or chair elect. This is the responsibility of the board.
 - 6 board meetings this year, 2 in person.
 - 195 parcels were inspected in 2022. In 2023 the goal will be 400 parcels. This is approximately 30% of all the parcels OTFS has: 1,331 current parcels.
 - Recruit more inspectors. Ideally there would be 75 inspectors. Currently in the 60's.
 - Treasurer transition. We spoke of this earlier in the meeting.
 - Encourage active participation within all working groups.
 - Review strategic plan at all meetings.
 - Set up OTFS Zoom account- accomplished.
 - Summary of membership crossover with OSWA. Austin Reimer may be able to help with this.
 - Service Agreement with OSWA.
 - Monitoring grants. Continuing past grants and receiving new ones.
 - Fundraising letter- extremely successful in 2022, up to \$16,000.
 - Attend ATFS seminars.
 - Wylda is going to represent OTFS again in the OSU Starker Chair search.
 - Sending delegates to the National Leadership Conference.

Plans for 2023 Members' Meeting: Wylda Cafferata

- Julie, Wylda, Lauren, and Mary will meet later this month. Any additional program items are welcome. Suggested items: the Private Forest Accord and wildlife trainings.

Working Group Reports on 2022 Achievements and 2023 Plans: Steve Cafferata

- Certification: Norm Michaels/Steve Cafferata
 - Reorganizing district coordinators and assigning inspectors to district coordinators. Splitting Benton from Polk and Marion from Linn because they were too big. Steve Vaught is the coordinator for Marion County and Dave Hibbs is for Benton County. Inspectors will also be assigned to each district coordinator.
 - Mileage reimbursement will be \$.40/mile and \$200 will be awarded to inspectors who do four inspections.
- Governance: Wylda Cafferata
 - Worked on revising bylaws and standing rules in 2022
 - Working on revising the operations manual in 2023 + ATFS MOU.
- Landowner Journey: Lauren Grand
 - Ambassador Kits were created last year and very successful. This year they are working on a video of how to use the kit.
 - Professional commercial video on the benefits of tree farms.
 - Acquiring high ticket items for raffles.
 - Oregon specific brochure.
 - Inspector engagement at events.
 - Working on ways to lower tuition rates.
 - Working on ways to continue to work with decertified tree farms.
- Communication: Mike Barsotti
 - Web page- working with Kate McMichael to choose a host. The working group is continuing to investigate options.

- Newsletter- OTFS continues to work with OSWA. The next step will be a meeting between the communication groups of both committees.
- Finance: Steve Cafferata
 - Working on getting chart of accounts to match up with the budget, this will make it easier to get reports.

Partners comments/ questions:

- Carrie Spradlin could not attend this meeting but had informed Wylda that her focus will be on the infrastructure legislation and the inflation reduction legislation and how it will affect Oregon.
- Austin Reimer: There are still a lot of positions under recruitment. Recently filled a couple of GI positions. SFO forester recruitment now closed. Hoping to have new inspectors out of the 12 forester recruitments.
- Rick Zenn: The new Forest Fact book from OFRI will be available starting on Monday. In January the registration will open for the convention and in February information will be available online on the new website. Flyers will be mailed out as well. The event will be held at the Estacada High School June 22, 23, and 24th. Many volunteer positions will be available including silent auction, store, registration, first aid, parking, and many more spots.

Adjourn: 10:27 am