

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: June 22, 2023

Meeting Called to Order 3:00

Location: In-Person meeting at the 2023 Family Forest Convention in Estacada

Roll Call:

Present: Dick Beers, David Bugni, Steve Cafferata, Wylda Cafferata, Mary Chamness, Dick Courter, Gordon Culberson, Ed Easterling, Kate McMichael, Steve Vaught, Sue Zeni, Darren Goodding, Julie Woodward, Rick Zenn, Mike Barsotti, Norm Michaels, Dave Ehlers, Nicole Wood, Parks Brigman,

Absent: Clint Bentz, Lauren Grand, Jeremy Norby, Austin Reimer, Seth Barns, Nate Agalzoff, Rex Storm, Tom Agens, Joe Holmberg, Carrie Spradlin, Kathryn Charlton,

Reading Values, Mission, Purpose Statement: Norm Michaels

No additions were made to the agenda.

May 16, 2023 minutes were approved by consensus.

Strategic Plan Moment: Dave Ehlers

- Goal 3: Increase Oregon Tree Farm System Membership
 - The Landowner Journey Committee is trying to help small landowners join.
 - Wylda commented on how the new Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year signs are now available for Oregon State Tree Farmers of the Year.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Zeni

- Oregon Tree Farm System, Inc. Budget vs. Actuals: 2023 Budget-FY23 P&L June 16, 2023, was passed out and reviewed.
 - Income:
 - OTFS has not received donations from ATF yet.
 - Money that has been placed in the Vanguard Account is currently earning around 4%.
 - Expenses:
 - OSWA line items reflect the refund from OSWA from last year.
 - Overall, the budget is in good shape.

Memorial Fund Up-Date: Dick Courter.

- Memorial Fund Report was passed out and reviewed.
- Dick reviewed the history of the Memorial Fund, it's current value of \$168,040.09, and the importance of making sure that the accounts are not commingled.

Comments from the Co-Chairs

- Introduction of Darren Goodding, the new board member who was voted in last month.
- Thank you to OSWA for their help with membership applications this year. So far we have already received 90 requests for information.
- Steve and Wylde have purchased sturdy sign holders that can be used in the future during tours and events.
- OTFS donation requests have been sent out. OTFS secretary will send out thank you letters to donors.
- Scott Hayes has resigned from the board. He is moving to Arizona. We will miss you- thank you for your years of serving on the board!

Discussion: Revisit PEFC Verification vs. ATFS Recognition

- The next National Leadership Conference will be held in Vancouver Washington.
- There will be changes in the way the audit committee does PEFC Verification.
 - Starting in 2023, audits will be done through a new auditor: NSF.
 - Multiple audits will take place at the same time with multiple teams.
 - Tree farms chosen for audits will not be able to update their plan prior to inspection for the purpose of the audit. If they do update it, they must note and date any changes made after the January selection date.
 - OTFS will no longer have the opportunity to work with the selected tree farm and help them update their plans after the audit selection date.
 - Discussed option of sending letters to all certified tree farms that includes a copy of the new addendum. Tree farms would be asked to make sure their plans were up to date and include the filled-out addendum.
 - All forest management plans will need to address whether or not they have a FORI (Forest of Recognized Importance), and if they do have one, how they are managing it. Very few tree farms have a FORI. A FORI policy is being prepared for Board approval
 - Time spent on tree farm inspections may vary based upon how complicated the tree farms are.
 - We will learn more as we see how tree farm inspections are handled this year.

- Parks again raised the issue- do we want to continue with the 3rd party verifications?
- Steve discussed seeing how next year goes before deciding. We have some large land holders who are grandfathered in that have more than 10,000 contiguous acres. If we go away from 3rd party verification, we will move from Certified status to Recognition status. Recognition status holds landowners to the same PEFC standards but the certification is not third-party validated.
- Gordon asked that someone follow up for verification of how landholders would be affected if the decision is made to go from Certified status to Recognized status. Would it affect the ability to sell logs to mills? The Certification Working Group will continue to study the issue.

Governance Report: Wylda Cafferata

- Board members- please let Wylda know if you would like to change working groups before the November meeting.
- We still need nominations for Chair and Chair-Elect.

Landowner Journey Report: Dave Ehlers

- There are 90 new landowners to connect with and help on their journey.

Certification Up-date: Norm Michaels/ Steve Cafferata

- Comparing numbers:

	12/31/22	5/31/23
Active Tree Farms	1334	1318
Acreage	728,533	728,022
Inspected YTD	182	92
Last Inspected > 10 years	207	161
Last Inspected 6-10 years	314	281
Last 5 years	801	867
Inspectors	72	87
Trained this year	14	15
Decertification's	25	28

Recognition Report: Dick Courter

- 2022 Dave Bugni was named the candidate for the regional Tree Farmer of the Year.
- 2023 Tree Farmer of the Year name will be announced tomorrow (June 23, 2023)
- 2024 OTFY- There are 5 candidates. The 2024 OTFY will be announced November 4th.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Communication Report Mike Barsotti/ Kate McMichael

- The Communication work group is happy to help local chapters get news releases out for the 5 OTFY candidates.
- Everyone is encouraged to check out the new OTFS website and video.
Congratulations- we have even received a new inspector through the website.
- Copies of the new addendum for Forest Management Plans are available online, on the website, and in the meeting hall.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:04