

IDAHO TREE FARM PROGRAM
Committee Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2013
Idaho Department of Lands – *Coeur d’Alene Office*

I. Call to Order

Chair Doug Bradetich called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. Those present were:
Gina Davis, ITFC Forest Stewardship Program Representative, Idaho Department of Lands
David Brummer, ITFC Forest Products Industry Representative, Stimson Lumber Co.
Doug Bradetich, ITFC Chair
Janet Funk, ITFC Tree Farmer
John Lillehaug, ITFC District 3 Chair (Via-Conference Call)
Robert Barkley (ITFC District 2 Chair)
Madeline David, ITFC Tree Farmer
Frank Gariglio, ITFC NRCS Representative
Jennifer Childers, ITFC Program Administrator
Ray Getchius, ITFC Tree Farmer
Steve Funk, ITFC Vice-Chair
Kirk David, ITFC Tree Farmer
Tom Davis
Steve Cuvala, ITFC Treasurer

II. Antitrust Statement

Chair Doug Bradetich reviewed the policy statement on compliance with anti-trust laws.

III. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Upon review of the January 17, 2013 meeting minutes and upon motion made by Gina Davis and second by Kirk David the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Steve Cuvala gave an overview of the 2013 first quarter financial statement. A new format has been developed to help with the summary of the six (6) grants as well as the program operations income and expenses. Doug Bradetich, Steve Cuvala and Jennifer Childers will continue to work on the formatting as needed.

Chairman Doug Bradetich reviewed the ITFP’s budget to-date and expenditures related to the 2013 Capacity Building Grant - *National Leadership Conference (NLC) travel grant* with a remaining balance of \$1,085.96. Doug Bradetich will contact ATFS to request the remaining balance go towards travel expenses to the AFF Fly-in that Steve and Janet Funk will be participating in May in Washington, D.C.

Tom Davis touched on the 2013 Capacity Building Grant – *Leadership Manual/Strategic Plan*. Tom requested and was sent North Carolina’s Orientation Manual that was completed in 2011. North Carolina received a Capacity Building Grant to develop the manual. The manual will be a useful tool for Idaho as its manual is being developed. The manual was sent in a pdf format and Gina Davis offered to transfer the file into a word document for revision ease. Gina Davis also offered to work with Tom Davis and Madeline David with this project.

Chairman Doug Bradetich offered two dates to host a coffee social under the 2013 Capacity Building Grant – *Hosting District Socials* in May to be held in Sandpoint. The North Idaho coffee social is tentatively held, based on the availability of Holiday Inn Express, on Thursday, May 30th from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

District 3 Chair John Lillehaug expressed an interest to hold a coffee social and a tour in the McCall/New Meadows area in late summer or early fall. A social and tour to be held in this area would allow current tree farm members and interested landowners the opportunity to learn more about forest management from landowners and to get acquainted with the Idaho Tree Farm Program. John Lillehaug will work with Tim Kennedy on setting a date and location and will get back with Doug.

Upon motion by Gina Davis and second by Frank Gariglio the Treasurer's first quarter report was unanimously approved as presented.

V. Idaho Forest Group (IFG) Monetary Support for State Tree Farm Program's through the American Tree Farm System

Chairman Doug Bradetich reviewed the new company policy of IFG to implement a bonus above their printed prices for sawlogs from certified Tree Farms. At this time approximately 90% of the bonus will go to the landowner and the remainder accrued for the state Tree Farm program where the logs originate. Monies donated to the program could be used as the each committee deems most appropriate and should help with things such as tours, tree farm signs, meetings, outreach, admin, etc.)

VI. 2013 National Leadership Conference Re-cap

Chairman Doug Bradetich, Vice-Chair Steve Funk and Janet Funk reviewed the National Leadership Conference (NLC). They, along with District 1 Chair Andy Eckberg, attended the February meeting in Philadelphia. The main item discussed was the results of the Landowner Engagement Strategy (LES) test states. A large majority of members in the test states had expressed opposition to the proposed dues structure. Consequently, the recommendation to National was to not go forward with this proposal. Also brought forth at the NLC was a proposal regarding certification. Some states are seeing a value and wish to continue, while others do not. Consequently, states will be given the choice to either opt in or out of certification by 12-31-15. Should they choose to stay certified, they will have until 12-31-18 to devise a sound financial model with National to cover costs. Beyond these issues, Doug, Steve, and Janet reported the conference was well attended and offered many opportunities to network with both state and national ATFS staff and members.

VII. 2013 ITFP Annual Meeting & FFLOC Re-cap

60 people were in attendance for the ITFP's annual meeting that was held on Monday, March 25th that was held in conjunction with the Family Forest Landowner's Conference in Moscow. Jim and Jane Thornes were very grateful for the recognition as the 2013 Idaho's *Outstanding Tree Farmer's*. Jim and Jane Thornes have expressed an interest in moving forward with the application process for Regional. Steve and Janet Funk have offered to work with the Thornes' on this process.

Furthermore, Janet Funk would like to have Tree Farm as an afternoon session at the FFLOC. The Steering Committee will meet in September to begin developing the agenda and Doug Bradetich will bring it up as a possible session at that time. With the six (6) grants being administered by the Committee it would be good to give an overview of the grants and relay to the audience who the Idaho Tree Farm Program is.

VIII. Optional Reinspection Backlog

Jennifer Childers had been in contact with Justin Lindenberg, Certification Coordinator with the ATFS, to find out if all tree farms in Idaho are current or if there is an overlap. Since the ATFS database was launched in 2003 60+ certified tree farms need to be reinspected. This backlog is a good opportunity for new inspectors to get acquainted with the ATFS standards under the mentorship of an active tree farm inspector.

IX. MOU with Stewardship and NRCS

With the help of Gina Davis, Idaho is taking the lead to enter into its own MOU between the Idaho Tree Farm Program, Idaho Department of Lands and the Natural Resources Conservation Service an agreement to use one forest management plan for all three (3) programs. Doug Bradetich had been in contact with Mike Burns for guidance from AFF and he was encouraged that the Committee should have an MOU on the state level.

Upon a motion made by Kirk David and second by Robert Barkley it was unanimously approved to enter into an MOU between the three parties as presented.

X. Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council

As the Tree Farm representative, Janet Funk reviewed the ILRCC Committee's business to date. Janet Funk has a conflict in June when the next IRLCC meeting will be held in Idaho Falls. Tom Davis had been named as an alternate but he has suggested that Madeline David take the alternate position since she is a Tree Farm member. Madeline David expressed her interest to sit as an alternate and Doug Bradetich appointed her to the position. Gina Davis asked that a formal letter be sent to DL with the change.

XI. 2013 ITFC Task & Event Schedule

Jennifer Childers will request a "Certificate of Liability" from ATFS for the upcoming Tree Farm related events.

July 13th – Latah County Field Day. Steve Funk and Doug Bradetich will man the Tree Farm display and participate as a station to answer questions about Certification and why it's important.

September 7th – Fall Field Tour at Jim and Jane Thornes'.

The AFF Fly-in will be held May 7 -8 in Washington, D.C. This year's Fly-in will focus on educating state delegates on pests and noxious weeds. Steve and Janet Funk will be participating in the fly-in and have been tasked with setting up meetings with Idaho State Representatives and Senators. Janet Funk requested support of the Committee to travel to Washington, D.C. by covering a one-night room reservation. Upon motion made by Kirk David and second by Frank Gariglio it was unanimously approved to reimburse Steve and Janet Funk the one-night room reservation. Doug Bradetich will follow-up with ATFS on requested the remaining balance of the 2013 Capacity Building Grant - *National Leadership Conference (NLC) travel grant* to go towards their travel expenses.

The next Idaho Tree Farm Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 18th at the Idaho Department of Lands – Coeur d'Alene Office from 9 a.m. to noon.

XII. Other Business

Janet Funk distributed a draft design of the Tree Farm sign for the *Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year*, which is similar to Gale and Pat Akers sign. A cost was not made available with the

design. The Committee was reminded that \$500 was approved in the budget to go towards the sign, but no more. Cedar would be donated by Kirk and Madeline David and Steve Funk would build the sign. The Tree Farmer would have to supply the footings to hold the sign.

XIII. Adjournment

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Childers