

NEWFC Board Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2011
Stevens County Conservation District

Next meeting: December 15, 2011

Attending board: Russ Vaagen (president), Ron Gray (vice president), David Heflick, Steve West (treasurer), Derrick Knowles, Maurice Williamson, and Steve West -- a quorum was not present

Absent Board Members: Lloyd McGee, Tim Coleman, Mike Petersen, Jeff Juel, Bart George, Bob Playfair, Dick Dunton

Technical Advisory Members: none

Minutes / Treasurer's Report

October minutes or treasurer's were not reviewed report. A quorum was not present.

1. AMA re-mapping based on proposed NCA boundary:

Board reviewed the boundary/acreage changes to the AMA conservation proposed back in April 2011 to accommodate the proposed NCA, which included approx 18,000 acres of AMA acres. The new proposed AMA zone includes new acres (21,000 acres) of former RMA lands to replace what is being proposed for NCA and would no longer be available as active management but would be managed for restoration. A decision on these proposed changes is timely due to the exploration of beetle project area acres and possibly other projects within an agreed upon and revised AMA that would go more smoothly if they were based on our current agreements on proposed management zones.

Board agreed to not bring the NCA concept into the discussion on this with the FS, but instead refer to it as a change in our restoration and AMA acres and boundaries.

Motion:

Heflick moved and Maurice seconded to adopt new map as the revised AMA and RMA boundaries to present to the FS with the understanding being that areas along Boulder and Sherman passes would be ideal areas for areas to demonstrate active restoration. All voted in favor but motion failed due to lack of quorum.

2. NFF Grant and collaboration training

Maurice brought up the need for us to move forward on finding a facilitator to lead the collaboration workshop we are funded to hold in February or March 2012. Maurice suggested that we try to make the process help deal with some of the cultural issues/barriers that are keeping some community leaders/commissioners from understanding/accepting collaboration as a potentially successful model for meeting community needs.

Russ will find out from Dick what the requirements of the grant are. Then we need to recruit RFPs from potential facilitators, decide on someone and set a date and begin planning the workshop. Need to identify someone to lead this process.

3. Meeting with Laura Jo on Forest Plan:

David and Maurice met with LJW to talk about next steps with the collaborative forest plan alternative and to discuss differences between the summit agreements and the blueprint, and possibilities for having a collaborative alternative that included not only the summit agreements, but also some elements of the blueprint agreements. LJ agreed this is something they can probably do and is looking into possibilities. Dave is helping her by pulling together some of the history behind both collaborative processes. Next discussion will occur in mid December.

Russ Vaagen, Vice President

Tim Coleman, Secretary