

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
January 27, 2012
Approved February 24, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Debra Warren, Bill Funk, John Marker, Phil Hirl, Wendall Jones, Bev Pratt, Bob Tokarczyk, Susan Triplett, Roger Brandt.

Introduction: Roger Brandt, representing the Siskiyou Smoke Jumper Museum, joined us for our meeting today. He will give a presentation about how our grant funds are being used at our luncheon meeting.

Correspondence: We have received Thank You letters from all three organizations that received our 2011 grants: Siskiyou Smoke Jumper Museum, Hopkins Demonstration Forest, and Friends of Fish Lake.

General Announcement: Lynn Vancil has agreed to take on our Data Base Manager duties and responsibilities. He won't be at today's meeting, but will be here next month, and is actively involved in the transition. **Welcome Aboard, Lynn!**

1. Minutes of the December Meeting -- Susan Triplett
 - Moved** by Mike Ash: Accept the minutes as submitted.
 - Seconded** by John Marker.
 - Vote:** Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett
 - o Reviewed - Looks good.

3. Treasurer's Report -Bill Funk
 - o Bill passed out the January Financial Statement (Attachment A).
 - o We did not make our annual donation to the Elks in 2011, so Bill wrote the check and presented it to Rob Nathan (the Elks Chef). This is our 2011 donation.
 - o Lifetime Membership Costs. Bill passed out his analysis of the costs of each member, and added some actuarial computations to determine how much money we need to keep in our Lifetime Membership Fund (Attachment B).
 - We currently have 908 members; 535 are Lifetimers, 373 are annual renewing members.
 - Our average cost per member is \$13.
 - Our average member age is 74.
 - We should keep approximately \$100,000 in our Lifetime Account.

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4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren

- Bev and Deb made the transition effective on January 9.
- We have received \$400 more donations to our Emergency Relief Fund.

5. NAFSR Report: John Marker

- The New Planning Rule is the major change this month. In spite of all the comments received, it shifts the National Forest mission away from sustainable forest resources toward conservation and recreation.
- The NAFSR Fire Committee will be a meeting in Sacramento on February 14. They will discuss the Forest Service Fire Policy. The main issues will be:
 - Lack of aggressive, initial attack, and
 - When to allow fires to burn.

6. Community Outreach: Bev Pratt

This is a new position for Bev, and for the Board, so we're trying to figure out what's involved. Some of Bev's initial ideas include:

- Field Trips. Let's get the Board and our members out to see the good we're doing.
- Could we get supportive politicians to come talk with us?
- Is there interest in a Bus to the Reunion in Vail, Colorado?

Follow-up: Bev will work with John Marker to develop a proposal for this position.

7. Old Business:

a. Late Member Dues List and Reminders

- Vern Clapp is helping Lynn Vancil in starting to update the database.
- We need to update our list of late-paying members.
- The late-payment reminder cards will be mailed in late February.

b. Database Management Policy and Task List

- This will be addressed at our March meeting.

c. Wrong Addresses

- Several newsletters rejected, either because of wrong e-mail or snail-mail addresses.
- Mike Ash will work with John Berry, Bill Funk, Bev Pratt, and John Marker to contact these folks, and get the correct information.

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8. New Business:

a. President's 2012 Budget: John Berry (Attachment C)

- The proposed budget is the product of the meeting of John Berry, Bill Shenk, Mike Ash, and Bill Funk.
- With the restructuring of some of our funds, we'll have about \$5,500 available for grants in 2012.
- A new project for this year is to print additional copies of our book "We Had an Objective in Mind," and to take copies to the Reunion.

Moved by Bev Pratt: Approve the budget as presented.

Seconded by Phil Hirl.

Vote: Unanimous.

b. Financial Review Items:

i) Threshold amount for BOD approval: What expenses need Board approval?

- Recurring items that are already in the budget, such as the newsletter, directory, and insurance payments should not require Board approval.
- Reimbursements for supplies, postage, and backup service are valid reimbursable expenses.

Moved by Bill Funk: The Treasurer is authorized to write a check for items that are in the budget and customary reimbursable expenses.

New items must be approved by the Board of Directors.

Seconded: John Marker

Vote: Unanimous.

ii) 2-signature requirements

Meeting adjourned: 11:15 am.

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Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – January 27, 2012 -- Attachment A
Statement of Financial Position

Attached to E-mail

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Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – January 27, 2012 -- Attachment B
Cost Per Member

Attached to E-mail.

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Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – January 27, 2012 -- Attachment C
2012 Budget

Attached to E-mail.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
February 24, 2012
Approved March 30, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Debra Warren, John Marker, Bob Devlin, Wendall Jones, Bev Pratt, Susan Triplett.

Introductory Items:

- Bill Shenk has been diagnosed with lung cancer. We're all sending positive thoughts for his recovery.
- Doug McDonald has been diagnosed with embryosis. We're also sending positive thoughts for his recovery.
- Lynn Vancil feels the DataBase Manager position is more responsibility than he feels comfortable handling right now, and has decided to not take on the job.

1. Minutes of the January Meeting -- Susan Triplett

Moved by Bob Devlin: Accept the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Bev Pratt.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett

- Reviewed - Looks good.

3. Treasurer's Report

Bill is in South America for the next few weeks. He e-mailed a "mid-month" report (Attachment A), and noted an increase in our Emergency Relief Fund and Lifetime Funds (from dividends and market gains). He also divided our Operating Funds into 2012 and Future Years, to account for members who make multiple year dues payments.

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren

- a. Election Results: Linda Goodman has received 68 votes. She will be our President-Elect!

Continued - - - - >

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4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren (Continued)
 - b. Paul Brady Family Membership - The Brady Family submitted their lifetime membership application for 3 family members, and enclosed an additional \$50. Should the money go into the Emergency Relief Fund or Lifetime Membership Funds?
 - Moved** by Mike Ash: Move the additional \$50 into the Lifetime Membership Funds.
 - Seconded** by Deb Warren.
 - Vote:** Passed Unanimously.
 - c. Spring Banquet: Sunday, May 20, 2012.
 - o Bev will negotiate the price with Dave Dalton.
 - o John Berry will coordinate the speaker(s).
 - o Mary Moyer will accept gifts to raffle.
 - o Mike Ash will contribute a wooden bowl.
 - d. Summer Picnic: Friday, August 10.
 - o Same price as last year.
 - e. Late Member Dues List and Reminders - Bob Devlin/Deb Warren
 - o Vern Clapp will send e-mail reminders to the late members who have e-mail addresses.
 - o Deb will get the reminder postcards in the mail to those who don't.
 - o There have been problems with the DataBase, which has resulted in addresses and dues payments not being up-to-date. Hopefully, these problems have been resolved.
 - o Bob Devlin will keep coordinating communication with members who haven't paid yet.
5. NAFSR Report: John Marker (Attachment B)
 - o During the recent NAFSR Fire Committee one of the major discussion topics was the status of the Forest Service Heavy Airtanker Fleet (3000 gallon plus). At one time the national fleet had 44 aircraft. Currently the fleet is below 20 airworthy aircraft. While a couple of newer aircraft may be added, the fleet is woefully short of identified needs. Replacement aircraft such as the C-130's are probably more expensive than the FS can afford to purchase or maintain. The other topic of significant discussion was the continuing issue of fire policy and need for faster, more aggressive initial attack on unplanned ignitions. While the FS supports this concept, it is difficult to carry out with the decrease in firefighting resources.

Continued - - - - >

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5. NAFSR Report: John Marker (Continued)

- A non fire issue that is of concern to NAFSR is an apparent "shopping list" of public lands for new national parks. Many of the proposals for park expansions involve national forest lands.

6. Community Outreach: Bev Pratt

- Bev and John Marker are working on an article for our Newsletter about this new position, and opportunities for our members to get involved in both internal and external public relations.
- Bev and John are continuing to work on developing a description of what this position involves.

7. Old Business: Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum.

- Lloyd Musser sent a letter to PNWFSA, inviting us to visit the museum.
- The objectives of this event include a social outing, tour of the Museum, donations of artifacts to the Museum, a tour of Timberline Lodge, and fund-raising for the Museum and our Emergency Relief Fund.
- The proposed date is May 24. However, that is close to Memorial Day, and may not be workable for many of our members. Bev will ask Lloyd if we could change the date to June 7. We will not have our membership meeting on Friday, May 25. We will move the Board Meeting up to the Museum in Government Camp on Thursday, June 7, at 9:30am, to be followed by a membership luncheon.

8. New Business:

a. RF and Station Director Briefing: John Berry & Mike Ash

- John and Mike met with Kent and Bov on February 15 to investigate how the Region and Station can use PNWFSA to help them meet their goals and requirements. Included in the discussion:
 - Networking opportunities
 - Archiving projects
 - Costs
 - Volunteer contribution costs
- It was a good meeting, and ended with John and Mike thanking Kent and Bov for their support of our participating agreement. They asked if we could expect them to continue their support, and they indicated "probably." They also asked if there might be a possibility to increase their support, and their answer was "possibly."

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8. New Business: (Continued)

b. DataBase Manager Vacancy: John Berry

- The term "DataBase Manager" is a misnomer: It requires a lot of detailed minutia work, and lots of software and computer skills.
- It's not easy to learn, therefore, it's difficult to find someone who is already "up-to-speed."
- Can we find someone who would be willing to work with Vern as an "understudy?"
- An article needs to go into the Spring Newsletter

c. PNW Representative on Nominating Committee: Bob Devlin

- The Committee was looking for a PNW representative. Marlin Plank agreed to be on the Committee.
- Current Nominating Committee members:
 - Bob Devlin
 - Marlin Plank
 - Doug Porter
 - Bob Tokarczyk

Meeting adjourned: 10:45 am.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – February 24, 2012 -- Attachment A
Approved March 30, 2012

Statement of Financial Position

Attached to E-mail

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – February 24, 2012 – Attachment B

Approved March 30, 2012

NAFSR February 2012 Report

NAFSR Fire Committee Meeting 2/14/12

20 association members met with Jim Hubbard and Tom Harbour at the Forest Service Fire Training Center in Sacramento for a one day discussion of FS fires issues. Topping the agenda were budget outlook and continuing fire policy issue of allowing fires to burn without aggressive suppression efforts.

While the FS is not being hit by budget cuts as severely as some Department of Agriculture agencies, it is seeing a continuing erosion of base budgets, including fire preparedness and fuels management funding. The Department is looking at consolidation of support services similar to the infamous Albuquerque service center. And Secretary Salazar has mentioned the idea of Interior taking over federal fire management as a cost saving move. This suggestion has not been greeted with enthusiasm.

Based upon the discussions there are indications that the lack of wildfire knowledge, skills and experience is a major problem to the FS fire management program in the organization, the Administration and Congress. This lack of wildfire understanding will continue to plague the Forest Service for the foreseeable future, and contribute to the decline of fire fighting expertise, staffing and equipment. An example is air tankers: During the coming season there will fewer than 25 heavy air tankers nation wide, and the chances of the FS finding funds to increase the fleet with newer aircraft are slim to none.

The outlook for fire losses is grim as state fire agencies also experience an erosion of forces from budget cuts. Cal Fire, the largest state fire organization in the nation. is taking a 10-15% reduction.

Jim and Tom, in my opinion, are doing the best they can to stop program losses, but for the reasons I mentioned earlier, it is a hard and frustrating challenge.

National Park Shopping List

Wednesday I forwarded an information packet to you from NAFSR that was developed by Lyle Laverty, George Leonard and Hank Kasdan concerning the National Park Service's interest in expanding the park system with many of the new parks coming from national forest lands. I suggest it is important to share this information with members, and urge them to seriously consider the implications of the proposal and understand the importance of voicing their thoughts.

National Institute for the Prevention of Catastrophic Fire

This newly formed institute, in conjunction with College of the Siskiyous in Weed, CA and the Northern California Resource Center in Fort Jones, CA, is embarking on a national initiative to revitalize the national forests. It is working to build support for a Congressional Government Accountability Office review of the National Forest System and how well the system is meeting the intent of the Congressional passed Organic Act and subsequent laws directing management priorities. This initiative is the work of several NAFSR members and is encouraged by the Western Governor's Association staff, several congressional staffs and a growing number of rural western counties. When the package of papers supporting the initiative is completed they will be shared with our members.

Sustainable Northwest

Jim Golden and I will be representing NAFSR at the Sustainable Northwest's annual Rural Voices for Conservation and Communities Policy Conference in Vancouver, WA, March 7-9. Four western Regional Foresters will be taking part in the conference.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes

March 30, 2012

Approved April 27, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Debra Warren, Bob Devlin, Don Nearhood, Wendall Jones, Bev Pratt, Vern Clapp, Jim Tierney, Susan Triplett.

Introductory Items:

- Bill and Vicki Shenk are having a tough time. Bill had surgery for his lung cancer, but has been besieged by several other medical problems. We're all sending them lots of positive thoughts.
- Jim Tierney has been recruited as our Data Base Manager Trainee. He will understudy Vern Clapp over the next several months.

Welcome aboard, Jim!

1. Minutes of the February Meeting -- Susan Triplett

Moved by Bob Devlin: Accept the minutes with the one change as submitted.

Seconded by Vern Clapp.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett

- Reviewed - Looks good.

3. Treasurer's Report

Bill is not able to be at today's meeting, due to his wife's medical problems.

He sent reports - They are attached (Attachment A). From his e-mail:

- The Financial Position Report – shows the current amounts in our funds and assets. Note that our Lifetime Fund is now close to the \$100,000 that the board decided we should maintain in the fund.
- I've split the income & expense report into two separate reports – the first is the "Operating" Income & Expense report – shows operating income & expenses that have occurred during the first quarter of the year – I don't expect any changes to this on the last two days of March. As you are probably aware, we receive dues from some for out years (such as 2013, 2014, etc.). This report shows the income (dues received) for each of the out years during the quarter. Also, you'll note that \$3,000 was transferred in from our Lifetime Fund – as budgeted.
- The second income & expense report, the "Special Funds" report, shows income & expenses for the quarter that occurred in our special funds (such as the Emergency Fund). Note that the Grant Fund received fund transfers of a total of \$5,309 – this included \$2,309 that was uncovered from the 2005 Reunion funds and \$3,000 from our Lifetime Fund. The Lifetime Fund shows a transfer out of \$6,000 - \$3,000 was to the Grant fund and \$3,000 was to our 2012 Operating Fund – as budgeted. Also note that we received \$785 in donations for the ERF.

Approved April 27, 2012

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren

- a. Late Member Dues List and Reminders - Deb Warren/Bob Devlin/Vern Clapp
 - o Bob Devlin and his team of John Berry, Mike Ash, and Phil Hirl have done a wonderful job of bringing the number of late-paying members down to 8!
 - o Deb has done a wonderful job of collecting the mail on a more frequent basis, and keeping us up-to-date on the status!
- b. Officer Expenses - Bev Pratt
 - o PNWFSA Officers have expenses related to their duties. These include printers, other computer equipment, software, and supplies.
 - o Robbie Robertson is our representative for software updates at a reasonable cost.

5. NAFSR Report:

John Marker's wife has a bad cold, and doesn't want to share it with any of us, so he isn't at today's meeting, and did not send a report.

Get Well, Mary!

6. Community Outreach: Bev Pratt

- o Oregon's Senator Ron Wyden has been very critical of the Forest Service, and its inability to buy airplanes to fight Forest Fires. How can we get Ron to listen to some of the people who understand what's going on, and why we've had to make these difficult decisions?
- o Many Forest Service Leadership Team members are in communication with Senator Wyden's staff, many on a daily or weekly basis.

Follow-up:

- Get Linda Goodman into this conversation.
- Let Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, and Bev Pratt discuss if it would be appropriate and advantageous to invite Wyden's staff to our June meeting in Government Camp.

Approved April 27, 2012

7. Membership: Bob Devlin

a. Dues Payment Deadline.

- We have had a difficult year, with the database problems, and the misunderstanding of two items in our By-Laws:
 - The By-Laws were changed a few years ago to remove the \$30 "Reinstatement Fee" for members who paid late.
 - Members who turn 90 years old are granted Lifetime Membership, and no longer have to pay dues.
- The pre-printed post cards that went out have incorrect information on them.

Moved by Mike Ash: Make a one-time extension of the dues to April 30, 2012.

Seconded: Don Nearhood

Vote: For: 6 Against: 2 Motion Passed.

b. Communication Improvement - Vern Clapp

- Lifetime membership is automatic for members who have provided birth dates; Those who have not provided birth dates must request lifetime status.
- Many of our 90+ members became members before we asked for their birth date.
- We don't have birth dates for 200 of our 900 members.
- Our average member's age is 75, and many of them are life-time members.
- Let's put an article in the newsletter, explaining what our current membership rules are, and request the members for whom we don't have birth dates to provide the information to us.
- Let's use this information to "celebrate" 90th Birthdays and new Life-Time Members.

Follow-up: Ask Les Joslin to write the article for the Summer Newsletter.

Follow-up: Bob Devlin and Deb Warren will work together to update the membership renewal postcards.

Approved April 27, 2012

8. Old Business:

a. Spring Banquet Update - Bev Pratt

- Date: Sunday, May 20, 2012. Price: \$25
- Speaker: Kent Connaughton
- Table Decorations: John & Glenda Berry.

Moved by Bev Pratt: We will pay for the meals for both Kent Connaughton and his wife, Susan Little.

Seconded by Bob Devlin.

Vote: Unanimous

b. Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum Luncheon Update - Bev Pratt

- Date: June 7, 2012 Board Meeting starts at 9:30am
- Cost: \$8 at the door, reservations requested.
- Members who return any Forest Service property will be granted amnesty.
- There will not be a meeting at the Elks in May.

Follow-up: Bev will send information to Vern Clapp to send out to membership in an E-Note.

c. Participating Agreement with the Region and Station - John Berry

- Both the Region and Station increased our agreement from \$1500 to \$2000, so this year we received \$4,000 to help with our costs of doing business!

9. New Business:

a. We Had An Objective In Mind - Don Nearhood

- We would like to print 100 more copies of this book, and take it to the FS Reunion in Colorado to sell.
- Don has been researching ways to reprint this book, and has found a couple on-line publishers.

Follow-up:

- Don will work with John Berry to continue this project.
- We need to arrange for a booth at the Reunion for sale of the books and hats.

Approved April 27, 2012

9. New Business (Continued):

b. Database Manager Vacancy - John Berry

- Jim Tierney has agreed to undertake the Database Manager Trainee position.
- If he needs training on the Access DataBase, we'll pay the tuition.

c. Request to Add a Web Link - John Berry

- We received a request to add a link on our website to a wildlife/fish habitat/horticulture website.
- The Board Members agreed that we should not add this site.

Follow-up: Let Don Nearhood deal with this.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:15am

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – March 30, 2012 -- Attachment A

Treasurer Statements

Attached to E-mail:

A-1: Financial Position – as of March 29, 2012

A-2: Operating Income & Expense – through March 29, 2012

A-3: Special Funds Income & Expense – through March 29, 2012

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes

April 27, 2012

Approved June 7, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Bill Funk, Debra Warren, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Phil Hirl, Susan Triplett.

Introductory Items:

- Bill and Vicki Shenk have had a rough month, but things are finally looking up. After Bill's surgery and multiple medical problems, he is up and walking around in a rehabilitation center. He is breathing on his own, but still has to wear a food-tube. Bill and Vicki are looking at the multiple options they need for his care as he continues to recover.
- Bob Devlin has a cold, and won't be here today.
- Sue Funk had to have some of her toes amputated. She got her boot off a few days ago, and is learning how to walk again.

1. Minutes of the March Meeting -- Susan Triplett

- There were many comments about the Lifetime membership for members over 90 years of age.
- The PNWFSA ByLaws, last updated October 31, 2008, state the following:

H. DUES: 3. Golden Membership:

"Members or the surviving spouse who are 90 or more years of age and in good standing shall be granted a complimentary Golden Lifetime membership."

- The minutes are correct as submitted.

Moved by Mike Ash: Accept the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by John Marker.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

Follow-up: John Berry will work with Les Joslin to make sure the membership article in the next newsletter is accurately worded.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett

- Reviewed - Looks good.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk

- Bill passed out copies of the Financial Position (Attachment A)
- Bill has added Banquet Fund and Picnic Fund line items.

Continued - - - - - >

Approved June 7, 2012

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk (Continued)

- The Raffle/Auction Fund offsets the expenses of the banquet and picnic that aren't covered by members' payments. We discussed moving this money to other funds, but decided it should remain where it is, for the purpose it was established.
- There is money in the Raffle/Auction fund that was generated by our FS Reunion several years ago.

Follow-up: The Board agreed that the remaining Reunion funds should be moved out of the Raffle/Auction Fund, and into the Grant Fund.

- The Grant Fund was previously called the Book Fund. The purpose of the Book Fund was to provide grants for projects that support our objectives.

Follow-up: The Board agreed to rename the Grant Fund the "Grant/Project Fund."

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren

a. Book Order: Deb received a request and payment for our "We Had an Objective in Mind" book. With more copies of the book being published for the September FS Reunion in Vail, CO, we have a copy that can be sent.

Follow-up: John Berry will send the book.

b. Late-Paying Member Postcards:

- The reminder postcards have updated messages and corrected editing.
- Thinking forward to next year: Some of our "paperless" members do not read or acknowledge the e-mails that were sent to them.

Follow-up: The Board agreed that in addition to the E-mail reminders, all late-paying members will have postcards mailed to them.

c. Old Smokey's Cards and Flowers: Under what situations should cards and/or flowers be sent to people who are ill or to families of those who have died?

- Do we send cards/flowers to all members who we are aware of that have serious health issues, or have died?

Follow-up: The Board will initiate the request to Deb.

Approved June 7, 2012

5. NAFSR Report: John Marker

John's full report is attached as Attachment B. Highlights:

- This is a critical time, politically, for the Forest Service. The biggest issues include:

- Fire Policy: 1/3 of heavy and medium helicopters will not be available because of budget reductions for the coming season. The FS initial attack ground forces also have been reduced to minimum or below levels in some parts of the West.
- Reforesting Burns
- Travel Management

- The Forest Service needs political support for forest management.

- NAFSR is trying to build coalitions to emphasize the importance of National Forests, and trying to figure out how to get more retirees involved in the process.

One project attracting retiree interest is the National Forest Revitalization Initiative sponsored by the Institute for Elimination of Catastrophic Wildfires at the Northern California Resource Center in Fort Jones, CA. NAFSR members are involved in the support of this initiative.

- In spite of all the problems, there is a lot of good work going on at the Ranger District level.

6. Membership: Reported by Mike Ash for Bob Devlin

a. Unpaid renewals

- We're down to 2 members who haven't renewed.
- Bob Devlin will send them letter notifying them of their inactive status.

b. Directory Publication

- One of the benefits of Old Smokey membership is the membership directory that is published each January, and mailed with the Winter Newsletter.
- Members might be more willing to renew their membership on a timely basis if the directory didn't come until after they've renewed.

Moved by Mike Ash: Move the printing and mailing of the Directory to go out with the Spring Newsletter.

Seconded by Don Nearhood.

Vote: Unanimous

Follow-up: Will this cause any problem for the printer?

Approved June 7, 2012

8. Old Business:

- a. May 20 Banquet Update - Deb Warren
 - o 28 Reservations so far.
- b. Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum Luncheon Update - Mike Ash
 - o Date: June 7, 2012 Board Meeting starts at 9:30am
 - o Cost: \$8 at the door, reservations requested.
 - o Members who return any Forest Service property will be granted amnesty.
 - o There will not be a meeting at the Elks in May.
- c. We Had An Objective In Mind - Don Nearhood
 - o It will cost us \$1287.49 to print 100 self-published copies of this book.
 - o If we had the book published, it would cost \$14.12 per book, and shipping would be \$3.99 per book.
 - o How much should we sell the books for at the Reunion, and to other who would like to purchase a copy?

Moved by Phil Hirl: Charge \$20.00 per book.

Seconded by Mike Ash.

Vote: Unanimous

- o The book will also be available as a downloadable version.
- o How much should we charge for the downloads?

Moved by Bill Funk: Charge \$10.00 per book.

Seconded by Mike Ash.

Vote: Unanimous

- o Should we publish a card copy of the book with a coversheet?

Follow-up: The Board decided not to pursue this option.

9. New Business: Reunion Plans: John Berry

- o Our books and hats will be marketed and sold by the **Western Heritage Company**, so we won't have to have a booth at the Reunion.
- o A Hospitality Room is available for 4 days - for about \$300.
 - We really only need the room for 2 nights. Tuesday night will be the Regional Breakout Rooms, Wednesday night will be the Dinner at the Top of the Mountain. Thursday and Friday are the only nights we need it. Is it worth that much money?

Follow-up: Table until the June meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 11:15am.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – April 27, 2012 -- Attachment A

Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of April 26, 2012

Attached to E-mail

NAFSR Report to "Oldsmokeys" BOD April 2012 - Attachment B

This is an unusually long report, but the national forests and Forest Service are facing critical times, and I think it is important that retirees, NAFSR members or not, are aware of some of the major problems the land and the "Outfit" face.

Before plunging into the latest FS issues I need to offer some perspective on the "Outfit" "Recently I had coffee with a congressional staff member to discuss Forest Service and national forest issues. He mentioned at the beginning of the conversation most of the FS people are doing great work under trying conditions. Maybe 20% of the units in his area are involved in activities and/or issues requiring his Congressman's attention.

As retirees discuss issues, frustrations and concern it is important to remember the good work being done. NAFSR tries to do this with the John R. McGuire Award given to FS people who are doing outstanding work and represent by their performance the values retirees think important. I now have a sticky note on my monitor to remind me, that in spite of the constant flow of negative information, good work is being done and superb FS people are doing it.

However, in this era of 24 hour news cycles, political micro management, ideological debates, controversy is a growth industry. There are also many people, some inside, but most outside the FS, involved in natural resource decisions who do not have adequate training, experience or understanding of the importance of natural resources to the well being of citizens. The members of NAFSR, now almost at 1,000 strong, are committed to the national forests and Forest Service and helping to make things better.

Current Major Issues:

Fire Policy and Fire Management: Debate about fire suppression policy continues to be an unresolved problem. To most retirees the concept of aggressive initial attack with the objective of fast control of wildfires still makes sense unless there is a good reason and well thought out plan for an accidental fire to be allowed to burn. The fuzziness about wildfire policy makes it difficult to have an effective and efficient fire protection program, and is contributing to the increasing damage to both national forest and private land damage and property destruction

Budget cut backs are being felt throughout the service including fire. National resources such as aviation are greatly diminished. Heavy air tankers are now at a count of 13 or 14 nationally from 44 a decade ago. We have been told heavy lift helicopter and medium helicopter are being cut by up to one third. We have no reliable figures on initial attack smokejumpers, crews or engines, but see no reason to be optimistic. And the erosion of experienced fire leaders by retirement continues.

Travel Management and Law Enforcement: In 2005 national forests were directed to develop plans that would reduce the miles of Forest Service roads while still maintaining a transportation system that would serve resource protection, forest management and public use. Many forests have developed plans with little public controversy. However, in the West there are forests number of forests having difficulties getting public acceptance of plans. Public involvement and work with local governments may be part of the issue, but in several cases the enforcement of travel plans by FS law enforcement is a factor.

The public and county Sheriffs in most of the problem areas object to what they see as agency law enforcement over stepping its authority and infringing on county Sheriff's constitutional authority and responsibilities as well as infringing on the rights of people to use their land. This is a complicated issue involving more than travel restriction and law enforcement, It has created some serious legal, political, social and FS management concerns. NAFSR people are informally working to understand the complications and issues to see if there is an appropriate problem solving role for retirees.

National Forest Revitalization Initiative:

The following summary introduces you to a project that has been developed and is being managed by two organizations in Northern California, the Institute for Elimination of Catastrophic Fires and its associate, the Northern California Resource Center, both located in Fort Jones, California. This is not a NAFSR project, but a number of NAFSR members are invoked. For more about the project, the two organizational sponsors and why the people involved see the project as vital, go to their websites by typing their names into your search engine.

The National Institute for the Elimination of Catastrophic Wildfire 11236 N. Highway 3, Fort Jones, California 96032 – (530) 468-2888 – bcourtright@sisqtel.net *"The mission of the National Institute for the Elimination of Catastrophic Wildfire is to educate, collaborate and motivate decision makers at all levels to take the necessary steps to eliminate catastrophic wildfire."*

Something of Value: The National Forest System

Congressional Action is Needed for the Revitalization of the National Forest System.

March 12, 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

America's 193 million-acre National Forest System is in serious decline. The United States Forest Service (USFS) was created to be the congressional designated manager of the forests and to be the leader of professional forestry in the United States. As much through designed neglect as benign neglect, the national forests are being allowed to change from productive forests to fire-prone, insect-infested, and disease-wracked lands of declining value to the public, and the USFS that manages them for their citizen-owners is declining in its ability to carry out its mission of "caring for the land and serving people." Congress must act immediately to save the National Forest System and its invaluable commodity and amenity resources, and to restore and revitalize the beleaguered USFS charged with their management.

During the past decade, the natural resources on over 12 million acres (an area larger than the State of Maryland) of National Forest System lands have been damaged or destroyed by catastrophic wildfires, insects, and disease. This devastation is a consequence primarily of improper and inadequate management in a time of rapidly changing environmental conditions caused by climate change. Science-based resource management by Forest Service professionals has been preempted by those with ideological agendas and the political power to impose them. Congress's statutory direction for management of the national forests on a sustained yield-multiple use basis has been subverted by special interest groups. This situation will only get worse without immediate congressional intervention.

Congress must act now to charter a comprehensive review of the legislated mission and physical status of the forests and their resources, and then reverse and remedy the situations in those forests and their administration that threaten the nation's economical and ecological well-being. If it does not, and current trends continues, the nation's needs for vital economic goods and ecosystem services provided by the National Forest System will not be met (such as water), and Forest Service capabilities to manage the national forests will decline with the decline of its corps of professional resource managers and other specialists.

We believe the necessary review would best be led by a new public land law review commission, or Congress's investigative arm, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), with input by members of the Forest Service along with representatives of state and local governments directly concerned with national forest issues, citizen dependent on the forests, resource management experts, and user group members. This review should focus on: (1) the biological and physical condition of the National Forest System; (2) the management needs and challenges which must be met to restore those lands and resources through active management, as well as restore public confidence in the process; and (3) The indicators of needed service and products being delivered to American citizens. As a result of this review, Congress should: (1) revise the often-conflicting statutes governing National Forest System management and stewardship; and (2) revise, restore and reaffirm the mission of the Forest Service to manage those lands to produce "the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run" that was its original charge, as well as provide for accomplishment of that mission.

Report from Jim Golden, Chair of NAFSR

In late February I presented our paper on the Reforestation Issue to the annual meeting of the **Inland Empire Reforestation Council** (IERC) in Coeur d'Alene Idaho, at their invitation. Their event was well attended with approximately 200 people present. The make-up of the meeting attendees was 40% state agencies, 40% private industry, and 20% USFS. There were also quite a few students and faculty from Idaho and Montana.

Most of the day's presentations were technical papers on reforestation topics.

I used a PowerPoint slide show to aid my presentation of "Reforestation Needs in the National Forest System". I covered the goals, method, results, conclusions, commendations and recommendations from the report. I also discussed the response from the Chief's office as well as some continuing concerns.

For instance, when I discussed the situation cited in our report where large burned areas were made off-limits to FS employees by well-meaning line officers (for reasons of safety), preventing any on the ground assessment of reforestation needs for many years, I asked the room if anyone thought that was a rational policy. Not one hand went up!

Questions from the floor centered on capacity and policy. Some were concerned about nursery capacity should an increase in FS reforestation come about. There were concerns about the fire size and impacts to adjacent landowners. There were also quite a few questions about our organization and our top issues.

I also attended the annual policy meeting of **Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition** in Vancouver WA in March. Also in attendance from NAFSR was John Marker, our regional representative from the Pacific Northwest Region. We took an active role in the policy discussions that centered around forest restoration, budget, community collaboration. Discussions also centered around the emerging topics of stewardship reauthorization, the Farm Bill, the Energy Bill, reauthorization of Payments to Counties, and other issues that are important to all of us.

Regional Foresters (and 1 Acting RF) from 5 regions attended and held a panel discussion on forest restoration and other pressing issues in the Forest Service.

I asked them what their most pressing issues were related to the budget outlook. All mentioned the coming fire season in some way. Harv Forsgren (R4) mentioned the likelihood of the resumption of fire transfer this coming year should we have a significant fire season. Kent Connaughton (R6) spoke to the difficulty of reducing the size of the workforce and the immediate impact on FS capacity to get work done. Randy Moore (R5) also added that budget reduction would strain some well-established partnerships that were succeeding in getting important work done. Beth Pendleton (R10) was most concerned about the viability of rural communities and how the presence of well-educated FS employees was such an asset to small towns. But also that FS programs are an important part of local economies generally. Gene DeGayner (Acting RF for R-) was concerned about fewer dollars getting to important timber projects that were critical to restoration efforts.

There were some outstanding presentations on the use of stewardship contracting as well on the current focus on landscape level restoration. Local collaborative members also presented some of their projects to the group for discussion.

RVCC has become one of the leading advocates for common sense community driven forest management in the West, and NAFSR and RVCC have joined together many times to endorse legislative proposals in Congress. This was an impressive gathering of people concerned about both rural communities and the condition of their forests!

On a different note, I noticed that there is about to be another survey of federal agencies regarding morale and the best places to work. It also has come to my attention that there have been widespread instances of disciplinary letters issued to Regional Foresters and Forest Supervisors for not getting all of their performance reviews filed by the due date! (Why no disciplinary letters for not improving the condition of our National Forests!) And, astonishingly, it was only mid-March when USDA finally allowed temporary hiring to proceed without the personal approval of Regional Foresters. Yes, even Forest Supervisors did not have the authority to hire (or re-hire) temporary employees! Wonder what kind of grade the FS will get on this latest morale survey. I hope the USDA Secretary's office is prepared to take a bow when the results appear.

It would be nice to write an update saying, "There is nothing to report." But old people dream too much.

John

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
June 7, 2012
*Meeting held at the Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum,
Government Camp, Oregon*
Approved June 29, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Bill Funk, Debra Warren, Les Joslin, Vern Clapp, John Marker, Lloyd Musser, Dave Scott, Ray Steiger, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the March Meeting -- Susan Triplett

- The only changes made to the original minutes were the correction of the name of the Western Heritage Company, and the corrected Treasurer's Report (Attachment A).

Moved by John Marker: Accept the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by John Berry.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett

- Susan has reviewed the withdrawals, and they look fine. She has not yet reviewed the deposits, and will send an e-mail out to the Board when she reviews them, and will follow-up at the June Board Meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk

- Bill passed out copies of the Financial Position (Attachment A)
- Bill also shared our Spring Banquet Financial Report (Attachment B).
 - We had a \$130 loss from the Banquet. Bill transferred money from the Raffle/Auction Fund to balance.
 - We paid Dave Dalton for the number of people who had paid for tickets. We had 4 no-shows. Should we have reduced what we paid him by 4 x \$25?
 - We decided that Dave had based his food preparation on the numbers he was given, so that was the number he prepared for. He is always generous, and leaves food and carry-home boxes for all left-overs. What we paid was appropriate.
 - While we had a raffle this year, we do the silent auction every other year. It usually is a good-fund-raiser, and helps balance out the Banquet and Picnic expenses that aren't covered by income from tickets.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 7, 2012 -- Page 2

Approved June 29, 2012

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren
 - Bill covered the Banquet.
 - Now, we're on to the Picnic!

5. NAFSR Report: John Marker
 - John will e-mail his report.
 - Follow-up:** John will combine the May report with the June report, and will pass them out at the June Board Meeting.
 - John passed out a map of fires in the Pacific Northwest since 2001. The fires have been getting bigger, and our suppression has not been as effective.
 - The old Forest Supervisor's Office on the Angeles National Forest burned last week. It appears to have been started by a spark from a cutting torch that was being used to disassemble trailers. Fortunately, no one was injured, and no in-use property was destroyed.

6. Old Business: Vail Reunion
 - Bev Pratt has offered her hotel suite as our Hospitality Room. Beverages will be provided by Bev, John Marker, and Bob Williams.
 - Moved** by Vern Clapp: Old Smokeys should reimburse Bev for two nights of the extra cost of our Hospitality Room.
 - Seconded** by John Berry.
 - Vote:** Unanimous

7. New Business:
 - a. Banquet Wrap-up:
 - We had 74 members pay for tickets, and 70 came to the Banquet.
 - The Social Hour was way-too-long. Next year, start the social hour at 2:00 and eat at 3:30.
 - Next year we'll add the Silent Auction as an additional fund-raiser.

Continued - - - - ->

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 7, 2012 -- Page 3
Approved June 29, 2012

7. New Business (Continued):

b. We Had an Objective in Mind - John Berry:

- There are now 3 different ways to get our republished book:
 - Buy the electronic version on the Web.
 - Buy a hard-copy on the Web.
 - Buy a hard-copy at the FS Reunion in Vail.
- Let's put our Old Smokey Membership brochures in the books that go to the Reunion.
- We have ordered 6 cartons of books. The following have graciously volunteered to take cartons over to the Reunion:
 - Bob Williams - 2 cartons
 - John Berry - 2 cartons
 - Les Joslin - 1 carton
 - John Marker - 1 carton

c. Newsletter - Les Joslin

- Les will contact Bev Pratt to see what the current numbers are for a bus or van over to the FS Reunion in Vail, and will write the article accordingly. At last count, she had about 8 "maybe's."

d. Dave Mohla - Mike Ash

- Dave's widow, Marilyn, has asked that contributions in Dave's memory be given to our Emergency Fund.

e. Emergency Fund - John Marker

- We haven't had any recent calls for our Emergency Fund, but we should make sure the Forests are aware it exists.
- John suggested that we contact our Forest Representatives to see if there is any opportunity for our Emergency Fund to help Forest Service folks.
- John will develop a proposal - making sure it is discrete and sensitive.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 7, 2012 -- Page 4
Approved June 29, 2012

8. Other Business:

a. WFC Hall of Fame - Dave Scott

- Bob Tokarczyk and Jim Rombach will receive special recognition and be added to the World Forestry Center Hall of Fame. The Ceremony will be in the Fall.
- The WFC is asking for donations. Should PNWFSA make a contribution?
 - The Board felt this is not part of our organization's mission, and decided not to pursue this. Individual PNWFSA members may make contributions if they choose to, but we will not publicize this part of the special recognition of our member.

Follow-up: Dave will compose a note for Vern to post, letting people know about Bob Tokarczyk being recognized in the WFC Hall of Fame.

b. Grants - Linda Goodman

- Grant requests are due July 1. We need to get some publicity out to remind people of the upcoming deadline.
- The two requests Linda is aware of are the Gold Beach Ranger District and our exhibit at the High Desert Museum.

c. Archives - Ray Steiger

- Our PNWFSA archives are being stored at the Gifford Pinchot NF. This use of the Forest Service facility has been authorized by the Forest Service.
- Ray reviewed the contents of the archives, and found 20 duplicate copies of national directories. These have been donated to the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum.
- The contents of the PNWFSA President's Briefcase need to be reviewed.

Follow-up: Mike Ash and Ray Steiger will go through the President's Briefcase, and will decide what needs to remain in the briefcase, and what should be done with the rest of its contents.

d. Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum - Lloyd Musser

- Welcome to Government Camp!
- This is a wonderful place for our Forest Service memorabilia.
- PNWFSA ("Old Smokeys") helped build the FS Exhibit.
- We're currently looking for old pictures of Mt. Hood Lookouts.
- Enjoy the tour of Timberline Lodge this afternoon!

Continued - - - - ->

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 7, 2012 -- Page 5
Approved June 29, 2012

8. Other Business (Continued):
 - f. DataBase Manager Transition - Vern Clapp:
 - Vern hasn't had much communication with Jim Tierney, and is hoping he'll be here today to discuss.
 - g. June Board Meeting - Mike Ash:
 - It will be Friday, June 29, at the Beaverton Elks.
 - h. THANK YOU, JOHN BERRY!
 - For all your good work as President! Mike Presented John with a Thank You card!

Meeting adjourned: ~10:30am.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 7, 2012 -- Attachments

Attachment A:

Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of June 1, 2012 -
Attached to E-mail

Attachment B:

2012 Banquet Financial Report - Attached to E-mail

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes

June 29, 2012

Approved July 27, 2012

In attendance: John Berry, Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Bev Pratt, Wendall Jones, Bob Devlin, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the June 6 Meeting -- Susan Triplett
 - Other Business/Archives: Ray found 20 duplicate copies of *national directories*.
 - Other Business/Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum: PNWFSA helped build the *FS Exhibit*.
Moved by John Berry: Accept the minutes with the above changes.
Seconded by Linda Goodman.
Vote: Passed Unanimously.
2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett
 - Susan reviewed the deposits from April's reconciliation. Everything agrees.
 - The May reconciliation looks fine.
3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk
 - Bill is not at today's meeting. He sent out copies of the Financial Position (Attachment A).
4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren
 - Debra passed copies of a grant proposal to Wendall Jones.
 - Marilyn Mohla (Dave Mohla's widow) has identified in Dave's obituary in the summer newsletter that contributions in Dave's memory be made to our Emergency Fund.
 - Bev Pratt will work with Les Joslin to ensure the article in the newsletter covers this contribution issue and acknowledges the contributions we have to-date (one from Ted Lewis, so far).

Approved July 27, 2012

5. NAFSR Report - John Marker

The highlights of the current items are described in Attachment B.

6. Old Business:

a. Vail Reunion PNWFSA Update - Bev Pratt

- Hospitality: How many evenings will we need an extra hospitality room? One or two evenings. Bev's son will probably provide a case of wine; John Berry has offered to transport the wine.
- It looks like Monday night is the only night we'll need a separate suite.
- Tuesday night there will be rooms for each Region and Station. Will we be permitted to bring food/wine into the rooms? And will we be able to stay in the rooms past the 6:30 hour?

Follow-up: Linda Goodman will research the availability of rooms, and their allowed usage, and what Western Heritage is charging us to sell our caps and books.

b. Picnic Update - Bev Pratt

- The picnic is Friday. August 10.
- We currently have 25 people signed up.
- We used to have a 25-foot long banner. Who has it?

c. Newsletter Print Copy Numbers - Mike Ash

- We normally have 25 extra copies printed.
- This time, we'll have an additional 50 copies printed, which we'll take to the Reunion.
- Total extra printed copies this time: 75.

Approved July 27, 2012

7. New Business:

a. Visits to Fish Lake and Cave Junction - John Berry

- John shared pictures of the Fish Lake wall that we helped build.
- Over 200 people attended the opening of the Smokejumper Base Museum at Cave Junction. They thanked PNWFSA for our support.

b. Grant Process - Wendall Jones

- We have 5 grant proposals:
 - Fish Lake
 - High Desert Museum (interactive video interpreter)
 - Siskiyou Mountain Trail
 - Siskiyou Wild Horse Lookout
 - Forests Forever

Follow-up: Wendall Jones and Bob Tokarczyk will work with Phil Hirl to see if they can give us a status report at our July Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned: ~10:30am.

Attachments

Attachment A:

Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of June 26, 2012 -
Attached to E-mail

Attachment B:

NAFSR Report

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 29, 2012 – Attachment B

PNWFSA's NAFSR Report for June 2012

The NAFSR organization is not directly involved in the following issues. However, many retirees who are NAFSR members are active in the issues as individuals. It is likely NAFSR will become involved in some of the issues as they develop and NAFSR resources are available.

Fire Policy:

Fires in Regions 2 and 3 during the last six weeks have brought both the USFS's ability to fight fire and its policy of continuing to allow some lightning fires to burn in Wilderness areas into public and political focus again. The High Park Fire in R-2 near Fort Collins, Waldo Fire in Colorado Springs, the Whitewater-Baldy Fire Northwest of Albuquerque, NM and Little Bear Fire on the edge of Ruidoso are the major attention getters. The four fires have burned close to 600,000 acres, killed one person, destroyed some 600 homes and other structures since mid May. The Little Bear Fire has attracted the most negative political attention so far.

Congressman Steven Pearce (R-NM) has confronted the Secretary of Agriculture and the Chief about fire policy issues and fire attack for major fires in New Mexico. At a press conference in Ruidoso the Chief and Secretary added to the controversy with some poorly chosen words about too much fire suppression and the need to introduce fire to the land. These remarks were made against the back drop of pictures of the fire burning into the edge of Ruidoso where 242 homes had burned. Protests in the community over "letting fires burn" and lack of aggressive firefighting have lead Congressman Pearce to have several meetings with the Chief and consider an investigation of Forest Service fire control efforts. The FS did not allow the Little Bear Fire to burn, and it did attack the fire when it was discovered, but the community perception was the fire was allowed to burn.. Drought conditions, high winds and possibly shortage of fire resources contributed to the fire escaping. The handling of the Whitewater-Baldy Fire was different. It did start in Wilderness by lightning and was monitored for several days before suppression began.

The High Park and Waldo fires were attack quickly after discovery, but wind and dry fuels created more fire than the fire forces could handle with available resources. So far there has been little concern expressed by the public or community leaders about the firefighting effort. One woman was trapped in her home and killed by the High Park fire. Resource and economic damage from the fires is heavy.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – June 29, 2012 – Attachment B Page 2

Serious fires are also burning in Utah, Montana, California, Nevada and Arizona. While we may still be wearing fleece and rain gear in the NW, the rest of the West is hot, dry.

We have heard from a R-4 retiree, Glann Bradley, that in R-4 a memo has come out telling forests not to mess with fires, put them out.

Travel Management:

The unhappiness over many of the national forests travel management plans is not attracting national media attention, but the issue is far from resolved. Several forests have backed off their plans and are doing reviews with more intense public involvement, which is helping calm some public concerns. But there are still forests where the issue remains raw and the controversy has not slackened. County sheriffs are major players in the debate because of their responsibilities for both law enforcement and public safety. This issue is not going to go away in the foreseeable future.

Air Tankers:

This issue is complex, confusing and far from resolution. Senator Wyden was the leader in surfacing the serious problem of shortage of heavy air tankers, and his lobbying the Senate plus the loss of two P2Vs in one day got media and Congressional attention. Upshot is the Forest Service will add 4 tankers in 2012 and 3 in 2013. However, depending upon the time it takes to get the aircraft through certification processes, it may be Fall of the year before more than two of the planes can join the fleet. In the meantime, the FS is working to add on a loan basis several heavy airtankers coming from other agencies. It is also counting on the military C-130's for help, and adding several heavy lift helicopters from US contractors. There may be up to 16 heavy air tankers flying during all out fire fights along with the additional helicopters. A called when needed DC-10 will also be available. One issue not resolved is where is the money coming from and what happens in 2013 when budgets become even tighter.

Revitalizing the National Forests:

The Institute for the Elimination of Catastrophic Fires is sponsoring a national workshop to begin building a program aimed at convincing Congress it is time to take a hard look at the condition of the national forests, reaffirm the mission of the forests and take action to correct management problems which includes rebuilding the Forest Service. The workshop will be held July 17-18 at Mather Business Park in Sacramento, CA and is open to all interested people. See: www.stopwildfire.org. Retired FS leaders Jack Ward Thomas and Lyle Laverty will be among the workshop leaders.

John

Old Smokeys Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2012

Approved August 31, 2012

In attendance: Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, Bill Funk, John Marker, Bev Pratt, Bob Devlin, Phil Hirl, Bob Tokarczyk, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the June Meeting - - Susan Triplett
 - Moved** by Bob Devlin: Accept the minutes as submitted.
 - Seconded** by Linda Goodman.
 - Vote:** Passed unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Reconciliation - - Susan Triplett
 - The June reconciliation looks fine.
3. Treasurer's Report - - Bill Funk
 - Bill passed out the July 26 Financial Position (Attachment A)
 - The Grant/Project Fund was the old Book Fund from our last 2 books plus excess lifetime member funds.
 - The current Book Fund reflects the expenses (and hopefully income) from the republication of the We Had An Objective In Mind book.
4. Secretary's Report - - Deb Warren
 - We currently have 87 folks signed up for the picnic, but expect more in the next week.
 - Bev Pratt will ask Vern Clapp to send a picnic reminder out in an E-Note.
5. NAFSR Report - - John Marker
 - John passed out a report (Attachment B), and commented on the items.
6. Old Business:
 - a. Vail Reunion PNWFSA Update - - Bev Pratt
 - Bev has reserved an executive suite for Monday for us to use as our Region 6 Hospitality Room.
 - The cost is \$200.
 - She will provide drinks and snacks.
 - We'll need to publicize this room.
 - b. Picnic - - Bev Pratt
 - Let's bring a box of We Had an Objective in Mind books to the picnic, to sell.

Approved August 31, 2012

7. New Business:

a. Database Manager Transition - - Mike Ash

- This transition is getting more critical.
- Vern Clapp has done an excellent (and exhausting) job for many years, but he needs to transfer these responsibilities to someone else.
- Jim Tierney is up to the task, but needs quite a bit of support as he takes this on.
- Mike Ash and Jim went down to see Vern a couple weeks ago, and this facilitated the transition.
- Jim will work with Vern to get the database ready for the next newsletter.
- He's climbing up a "big slope," and we all need to do what we can to support him.
- Keeping Jim in the loop on updates is a good way to do this.

b. Grant Proposal Projects - - Phil Hirl and Bob Tokarczyk

- We received 4 proposals on time. They are:
 - 1) High Desert Museum - \$1,000 to supply materials for interactive Wildfire Station exhibit.
 - 2) Siskiyou Mountain Club - \$1,000 to help restore a trail in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness
 - 3) Forests Forever - \$1,000 to support Youth Engagement and Enrichment Program at Hopkins Demonstration Forest
 - 4) Gold Beach RD Wild Horse Lookout - \$2,680 for vault toilet installation
- The committee recommends the first three projects.
- Their concern with the Gold Beach project is that the funds don't go to a partner; they would go directly to the Ranger District. Our goals for our funds are to encourage partnerships with other organizations. If the Sand Mountain Society (a partner in this project) had submitted the proposal, the committee would have recommended our accepting it as well.

Moved by Bob Devlin: Accept the committee's recommendation of Proposals 1, 2, and 3.

Seconded by Bill Funk.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

--- Continued ----->

Approved August 31, 2012

7. New Business - - Grant Proposal Projects - - Continued

Follow-up: Mike Ash will send out acceptance letters to 1, 2, and 3. He will send a letter to Gold Beach, suggesting an alternative.

And, we will open another "window" for proposals in the Fall Newsletter, to allow the Wild Horse Lookout, Fish Lake, and other proposals that didn't make it in on time an opportunity.

Phil Hirl will bring our Grant Criteria list to the August meeting.

8. Other Business:

a. Elmer Moyer - - John Marker

- Elmer Moyer was an unrecognized, yet very effective member of the PNWFSA leadership team. He helped shape it into the organization it is today.
- His contributions would be remembered if we named our Emergency Relief Fund in his name.

Moved by Susan Triplett: Rename the Emergency Relief Fund the "Elmer Moyer Memorial Fund."

Seconded by Bev Pratt.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

b. Participating Agreement - - Phil Hirl

- Our Participating Agreement for \$4,000 has been approved by Region 6 and PNW Station!

Meeting Adjourned 11:15am

Attachments

Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of July 26, 2012

Attachment B: NAFSR Report

Old Smokeys Meeting Minutes - July 27, 2012 - Attachment A
Approved August 31, 2012

Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association
2012 Statement of Financial Position
As of July 26, 2012

	July 26, 2012	Jan 1, 2012	Difference
ASSETS			
Wells Fargo Business Checking	2,932.37	4,293.95	-1,361.58
Vanguard Account			
Treasury Money Market	2,313.01	2,312.89	0.12
Inflation Protected Fund	9,635.72	9,270.50	365.22
GNMA Fund	79,762.34	78,523.09	1,239.25
Wellesley Fund	26,561.23	25,250.72	1,310.51
Total Vanguard Account	118,272.30	115,357.20	2,915.10
Total Assets	121,204.67	119,651.15	1,553.52
EQUITY			
Operating Funds			
Operating Fund - 2012	2,531.59		
Operating Funds - Future Years	1,260.00		
Total Operating Funds	3,791.59	4,293.95	-1,762.36
Banquet Fund	0.00	-300.00 *	300.00
Raffle/Auction Fund	3,089.28	3,219.28	-130.00
Picnic Fund	1,400.00	0.00	1,400.00
Grant/Project Fund	7,092.97	4,783.97	2,309.00
Emergency Relief Fund	4,647.00	3,712.00	935.00
Book Fund	-1,213.22	0.00	-1,213.22
Lifetime Trust Fund	102,397.05	103,641.95	-1,244.90
Total Equity	121,204.67	119,651.15	1,553.52

*Charbonneau Deposit (expense) made in 2011

Old Smokeys Meeting Minutes - July 27, 2012 - Attachment B
NAFSR's July 2012 Report to Oldsmokeys
Approved August 31, 2012

In past weeks NAFSR members have been involved with a Revitalization of the National Forests Conference, testimony at a House hearing, reviewing Forest Service suppression actions in Region 3, and rebuttal to anti forest management propaganda in the media in Bonner's Ferry, Idaho and Missoula, Montana.

Revitalizing the National Forests:

Organized by the Institute for the Elimination of Catastrophic Fires, a branch of the Northern California Resource Center, a 501c 3 organization, located in Fort Jones, CA, the two day strategic planning meeting launched a national project to encourage Congress's active involvement in determining the future of the national forests and the Forest Service. The meeting was held at the McClellan Business Park in Sacramento, CA and attended by over 50 people, primarily from western county governments and natural resource organizations, including NAFSR members. Jack Ward Thomas and Hal Salwasser opened the conference with their views of the national forest situation and challenges faced by the Forest Service. Frank Gladics, staff member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee added his perspective as did county commissioners from counties in California, Oregon and Arizona.

The participants used this overview in their deliberations of how to tackle the issue. The strategic plan will be released in draft form within the next few days and will focus on the importance of county governments dependent on national forest resources being leaders of the effort to revitalize forest management through direct action by Congress. Three critical issues included in the plan are fire control, national forest road management and the need for jobs.

NAFSR Testifies at House Hearing:

Hank Kashdan recently gave testimony supporting aggressive professional forest management at a House Resource Committee hearing chaired by Congressman Doc Hastings in DC. He was part of a group of conservation organizations, county government and state leaders invited to appear at the hearing.

Retiree to review FS fire suppression actions on major 2012 wildfires in New Mexico:

Bill Derr, former head of law enforcement in Region 5 has been asked by Congressman Steve Pearce (R-AZ) to review firefighting and fire management actions of the Forest Service for the Whitewater-Baldy and Little Bear fires that recently burned in New Mexico destroying almost 300 hundred homes and damaging several hundred thousand acres of public and private land. Derr, a member of NAFSR, was a fire prevention and suppression specialist in Southern California before moving into the law enforcement field. He is working with the FS to design his review.

Challenging the Nay-Sayers:

Barry Wynsma, recent retiree in Region 1 and NAFSR member has been writing op-eds for Evergreen on line magazine and papers in Bonner's Ferry, his home, and Missoula. The anti management crowd tried trashing his comments in the Missoula paper, and Barry decided not to be silent. His responses are factual and have generated other letters supporting his comments.
Yea for Barry /s/ JFM

Old Smokeys Meeting Minutes
August 31, 2012
Approved September 28, 2012

In attendance: Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, John Marker, Bev Pratt, Bob Devlin, Phil Hirl, John Berry, Vern Clapp, Les Joslin, Wendall Jones

1. Minutes of the July Meeting - - Linda Goodman
 - Moved** by John Marker: Accept the minutes as submitted.
 - Seconded** by Bev Pratt.
 - Vote:** Passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Reconciliation - - Susan Triplett (through Linda Goodman)
 - The July reconciliation looks fine.

3. Treasurer's Report - Mike Ash for Bill Funk
 - Mike reviewed the August Financial Position (Attachment A)
 - The Vanguard account is the market value as of July 31.
 - Bill transferred \$3,000 from the Vanguard account to our checking account - as the latter's balance was getting pretty low from recent payments - especially the picnic catering bill.
 - Recall that we approved three grants this last BOD meeting - and he wrote one of the three checks (to the Siskiyou Mountain Club). He delayed the remaining two to allow time for the transfer of "cash" from Vanguard to our checking to be completed. They'll be written very soon.
 - With regard to the PA, Phil and Bill will have the invoice submitted early next month. We are required to include expense information with the invoice - and that will include expenses through August.

4. Secretary's Report - - Deb Warren
 - Nothing to report except we had a very successful picnic with 135 adults and 2 children attending.

5. NAFSR Report - - John Marker
 - John passed out a report (Attachment B), and commented on the items.

Approved September 28, 2012

6. Old Business:

a. Vail Reunion PNWFSA Update - - Bev Pratt

Bev has reserved an executive suite for Monday for us to use as our Old Smokeys' Hospitality Room. Bob Williams will be bringing the coffee fixings; John Berry, the wine, and Les Joslin, goodies! Bev will pick up more goodies in Denver before arriving in Vail. Linda will check to see if there is a bulletin where we can get the word out about the Old Smokeys Hospitality Suite (Linda got word that the message will go out in the next update from the Reunion.)

b. Book Sales Plan - John Berry

Since Western Heritage wanted 20% of book sales and that would be our entire profit, John went back to them and negotiated a lower rate. Western Heritage agreed to 10% so we will still make a small profit. We will also donate one book for the auction. We will only take 50 books to the reunion.

7. New Business -

- a. Database Manager Status - As mentioned last month, Jim Tierney resigned as database manager. Bill Funk has agreed to review a couple of different options for database programs to see if there are any that might be easier to keep up. Bill will report out next month on the results. Vern recommended the vetting process for a new data manager this time needs to be a little more thorough to make sure the new manager has the skills necessary to do the job. Vern indicated the access program is a mainstream Microsoft program that works. He suggested we need to get the word out to the 900 members to see if this is any interest. It doesn't have to be someone in the Portland area. We will follow up at the September meeting. We also will reach out to the local representatives and Mike will highlight the vacancy in his President's message for the fall newsletter. He will also check with Al Matecko to see if there are any people that retired recently that might be willing to fill this key vacancy.

Approved September 28, 2012

7. New Business - Continued

b. Grant Criteria - Phil Hirl

Phil proposed we add wording to make sure it was clear we would not grant funds directly to the Forest Service. After some discussion, the criteria was edited and would be used for the Fall newsletter. The new wording is highlighted in yellow and is attached (Attachment C). The next round of applications will be due January 1, 2013.

The new criteria was **Moved** by Linda Goodman

Seconded by Bob Devlin

Passed unanimously.

c. Fall Newsletter - Les Joslin reviewed the timeline and what needs to be done to make the deadline.

d. Elmer Moyer Memorial Fund - Mike Ash

The question was raised whether we should put the "emergency" back into the Elmer Moyer Memorial Fund to make sure everyone knows the purpose of the fund.

Les Joslin **moved** that the title should be: Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund.

Bev Pratt **seconded** it.

Vote: Passed unanimously

e. New business for next month would be a discussion about getting the word out that the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund is available and keep an eye out for folks who may need help.

Meeting Adjourned 11:15am

Attachments

Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of July 30, 2012
(Attached to e-mail)

Attachment B: NAFSR Report

Attachment C: Grant Criteria

August 2012 NAFSR Report to PNWFSA – Attachment B

The following topics dominate NAFSR time and energy currently: Fire Activity, Fire Budget Problems, Land Management Planning Rule and Travel Management Planning.

Fire Activity:

Currently some 500,000 acres in Region 4, 5, and 6 are on fire. Region 4 has two fires on the Salmon Challis over 100,000 acres in size, both partially in wilderness areas. One FS firefighter has been killed by a falling tree on a fire in Northern Idaho, several injuries reported and one fire truck in California destroyed. For more updated information including maps and photos go to InciWeb.org. This year, as of this date, 43,104 fires have burned 7,106,319 acres compared to near 54,000 fires in 2011 burning 5,510,332 acres.

Retiree Bill Derr, (R-5 Director of Law Enforcement) has completed his assignment with Congressman Steve Pearce to review suppression activity on major fires in Arizona this season. He is currently drafting his report. When it is released by Congressman Pearce I'll share it with you. Bill is a member of NAFSR, but was not representing the Association when working for the Congressman.

The heavy air tanker situation hasn't changed in spite of all the media attention to the proposal to move some military C-27J aircraft to the Forest Service. There are about 20 heavies available at this time through short term contracts and cooperative agreements with other fire agencies. The NAFSR Fire Committee chaired by Al West is working on an analysis of Forest Service aviation situation to develop recommendations for improving the aerial fire program.

Fire Budget:

During the recent Congressional budget process the reserve funds the agencies had accumulated for fire fighting expenses in bad years were taken away by the budget committee as part of the budget reduction process. Removal of these FLAME Act established funds has left the federal agencies, especially the Forest Service, in a world of budget hurt with core programs in danger of being cut back to pay the bills. NAFSR is working with many original FLAME sponsors to get help from Congress to pay the fire tab.

Land Management Planning Rule:

Recently a number of organizations and businesses depending upon national forests for resources or providing visitor services filed suit against the recently announced forest planning rule. NAFSR is also unhappy with the announced rule, but has not joined in the suit at this time. The intent is to give the Chief an opportunity to talk with members as the annual meeting about the rule, and also understand why major recommendations from the association were ignored. After the meeting NAFSR will make a decision about future actions on the planning rule.

Travel Management:

The unhappiness with the implementation of travel management plans on national forests is still festering. While some steps to resolve issues have been taken, so far the actions have not healed the wounds. Even forests where everything seemed to be resolved are starting to hear increased unhappiness from local people. NAFSR members are attempting to help resolve some of the travel issues in areas where they live, but it is a slow process. In many cases, members report, where once the Forest Service was seen as part of the community, it is now seen as a part from the community.

Grant Criteria, Attachment C:

The Pacific Northwest Forest Service Association (PNWFSA) will accept applications to help fund projects that further PNWFSA goals **within the Pacific Northwest.**

Applications are invited from private, non-profit, or **non-governmental** organizations pursuing such goals.

Grant policy

Grants are awarded to organizations that satisfy the donation policy adopted by the PNWFSA Board of Directors on February 27, 2009. This policy specifies "Grants or gift proposals will be judged on the following criteria:

Does it further the OldSmokeys mission?

Will the project/program have a lasting influence on national forest management, natural resource management, and help sell the public on the importance of these resources?

Will it reach large numbers of people?

Can OldSmokey funds be leveraged with other funds?

Will a restoration or improvement project help sustain our Forest Service legacy?

It is a project that 'feels good' to us and reminds us of our history and why we chose to throw in with the Outfit for our careers?"

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
September 28, 2012
Approved October 26, 2012

In attendance: Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, Bill Funk, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Bev Pratt, Phil Hirl, Bob Tokarczyk, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the August Meeting -- Susan Triplett
 - Moved** by Don Nearhood: Accept the minutes as submitted.
 - Seconded** by John Marker.
 - Vote:** Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett
 - The August reconciliation looks fine.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk
 - The September 26 Financial Position is attached (Attachment A).
 - This has been a quiet month. Everything looks good.

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren
 - It's been a slow month since the picnic! One new member.

5. NAFSR Report - John Marker
 - John passed out the highlights of the current items in Attachment B.
 - Two additional items:
 - The National Smokejumpers at Cave Junctions are planning on inviting us to a weekend event to thank Old Smokeys for our support.
 - The Saratoga, WY sawmill will reopen in December, and will hire 80 people. This is an effect of Forest Service restoration projects.

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – September 28, 2012 -- Page 2
Approved October 26, 2012

6. Old Business:

a. Status of ZOHO Data Base Program Evaluation - Bill Funk

- To see if there is a database service that could be somewhat more user friendly to potential database managers, Bill zeroed in on one called Zoho Creator. For the last few weeks, he has been evaluating it with regard to its ability to meet our needs. As part of the process he has enlisted Vern and Linda to try it out and give him their take on the system. Vern especially can apply his years of experience while trying it out.
- A question came up about its compatibility with other systems - and Zoho Creator can export the information into those standard formats - which would enable us to transfer to other systems if the need is there.
- Another question arose regarding its security - and whether the information could be easily "messed up". Things could be messed up if precautions aren't taken, but the service does provide the ability to set up very secure processes. The service provides a way to limit access to only those who need access.
- The service would cost us \$25 per month. The plan now is to bring recommendations to the BOD in October.

Follow-up: Put database decision on the agenda for the October meeting.

b. Fall Newsletter Publication - Ready to go to Print.

c. Book sales and Newsletter Distribution at Reunion - Linda Goodman

- We didn't sell any of the "We Had An Objective in Mind" books.
- Our Newsletters were quite popular!

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes – September 28, 2012 -- Page 3
Approved October 26, 2012

7. New Business:

- a. Summary of Vail Reunion - Bev Pratt and Bob Tokarczyk
 - Our Hospitality Suite was so popular on Monday night that Region 2 took the room for the next 2 nights, and brought in cases of beer. Marriott gave us the room at no charge!
 - As an aside: The father of the current head of Marriott was a Forester in Colorado State Forestry. That may be why they gave us such a good deal. Room prices during ski season are 10 times what they charged us. Some of the costs were covered by sponsors.
 - There were over 700 people at the reunion. The panels were excellent, and quite diverse - from the Chief's Panel (moderated by "Teddy Roosevelt"!) to the Young People's Panel. We were able to see a wide range of political scenarios from various views.
 - b. Upcoming Events - Bev Pratt
 - Timberline Lodge is celebrating its 75th anniversary.
 - Our next Banquet will be May 19, 2013.
 - How can we involve Old Smokeys in getting folks in urban areas and schools out in the Forests?
 - c. Future Lunch Sites - Bev Pratt
 - We've been meeting at this location (Beaverton Elks) since 1945 - that's over 65 years! That means over 800 meetings with food service.
 - Some Board members feel the location quality has significantly diminished, and that a new location is needed.
 - Most Board members agreed the current chef is doing an excellent job for us.
 - Bev and some of the other Board members have been researching alternative meeting locations.
 - Bev passed out sample menus from The Old Spaghetti Factory on Macadam Blvd. This location is more central, and would be more accessible to people on the East side.
- Follow-up:** Put this topic on the agenda for discussion at the October meeting.

Meeting adjourned: ~11:05am.

Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of 09/26/12

Attachment B: NAFSR Report

NAFSR Report to Oldsmokey's September 2012 - Attachment B

NAFSR held its annual meeting at the 2012 Forest Service Reunion in Vail, CO. Here is a short summary of key issues on the meeting agenda;

The 2012 Fire Season in the West is the most intense since 2008, and may stay active into November in most of the West. Something close to a million acres has burned in Montana and Idaho so far. Washington, Oregon and California are also experiencing large fires. While it is not politically correct to mention the lack of firefighting resources, it is a major issue to people fighting the fires. Aviation resources are in short supply, and there is a shortage of local crews, which means it is often difficult to mount an aggressive attack in the early stages of a fire.

Adding to the challenges of the fire season has been a shortage of fire funds for the Forest Service. The Congress in the 2012 Budget Cycle removed the FLAME reserve account as part of the Congressional deficit reduction effort. The reserve account was established to help federal agencies through exceptional fire years. By early July the Forest Service knew it was going to run out of firefighting funds and would have to use funds from core programs to pay the fire costs. However, some 97 conservation groups led by the Nature Conservancy, National Association of State Foresters,, NAFSR, Society of American Foresters and American Forests mounted a successful campaign to get Congress to provide needed funds. In a last minute action before Congress adjourned for the election campaign, \$400 million was restored to the Forest Service fire fund. NAFSR was pleased to be able to play a leadership role in this effort thanks to its members making contacts with key federal legislators.

Disposition of national forest lands either through transfer to another federal agency or sale was of concern at the meeting. Several of our members who follow the political scene closely reported that both transfer of lands and sale are subjects of discussion in Congress by members of both parties. While it is hoped the possibility of either action will go away, there is the federal deficit issue and disposal of federal lands is a tempting "quick fix." Some members of Congress also are expressing the opinion the national forests are a liability.

On a more positive note, NAFSR is increasing its coalition building with an expanding network of other conservation organizations, and more contacts with members of Congress, state governments and counties in the West. During the reunion NAFSR also added to its membership with between 35 and 40 new members, bringing the total membership close to 600.

One of our members, Bill Hurst, former Regional Forester in Region 3, turns 97 in October. Bill is still active with NAFSR and not hesitant to voice his opinions and observations.

In a separate meeting Dr. Hal Salwasser mentioned he had recently attended a US Fish and Wildlife meeting where Fish and Wildlife staff reported they had 1,000 species of plants and animals waiting in the Wings for review as potential endangered species.

John

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes

October 26, 2012

Approved November 30, 2012

In attendance: Mike Ash, John Berry, Debra Warren, Bill Funk, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Phil Hirl, Bev Pratt, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the September Meeting -- Susan Triplett
 - Moved** by John Marker: Accept the minutes as submitted.
 - Seconded** by Deb Warren.
 - Vote:** Passed Unanimously.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett
 - The September reconciliation looks fine.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk
 - The October 26 Financial Position is attached (Attachment A).
 - We did not award all the grants that were proposed, and we have requested additional grant proposals for this year.
 - This announcement is in our Fall Newsletter; grant proposals are due January 1, 2013.

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren
 - It's been another slow month! Bob Williams sent us \$100 for hats he's sold; Ken Snell is a new member, and Patricia Jones at age 90 asked for a complimentary lifetime membership, and thanked us for what we do.

5. NAFSR Report - John Marker

John passed out the highlights of the current items in Attachment B.

6. Old Business:
 - a. Data Base Manager Update - Bill Funk
 - We have had several people express interest in this responsibility, but they have backed out when they realized what all is involved. Bill Funk has volunteered to take on this responsibility.
THANK YOU, BILL!!
 - We need to start looking for a new Treasurer since Bill will have his hands full with the Data Base Manager responsibilities.
 - Vern and Jessie Clapp have put in a terrific effort in keeping the database accurate over the past 19 years.
THANK YOU, VERN AND JESSIE!!

Approved November 30, 2012

6. Old Business (Continued):

b. Future Meeting Site - Bev Pratt

- We've been at the Beaverton Elks since 1945.
- This change will be very difficult for some folks.
- Our current chef has been very sensitive to our members' dietary restraints.
- The Old Spaghetti Factory will want to know an approximate number of people we expect for each monthly meeting so they can provide the proper number of servers. If we don't meet our estimate, or if we have more people show up than expected, we'll have to pay extra.
- We will be required to collect the money, and pay them.

Moved by Deb Warren: Move our meetings to the Old Spaghetti Factory on Macadam Avenue in Portland.

Seconded by John Berry.

Vote: For: 6

Against: 2

Abstained: 1

Passed.

Follow-up: An Implementation Planning Team, consisting of Linda Goodman, Bev Pratt, and Susan Triplett will present an implementation plan at our November meeting.

7. New Business:

a. Alternate PNWFSA Membership Categories - Les Joslin

- Les suggested (via e-mail) that we develop an associate membership or non-member newsletter subscription status for people who want to be part of our organization, but don't meet the requirements.
- Other organizations, that are similar to PNWFSA, do have different membership types.
- We have 3 people to whom we've given "honorary" memberships:
 - Chuck Lundeen
 - Bob Boyd
 - Dave Dalton.

Continued - - - - - >

Approved November 30, 2012

7. New Business (Continued):

a. Alternate PNWFSA Membership Categories - Les Joslin (Continued)

- These three people have contributed greatly to our cause. Their 'Honorary' memberships are unpaid, but incur minimal costs for all they've done for our cause. The \$50 a year it takes to honor our commitment to these three people is not an issue when we remember the contributions these three have made to the mission of Oldsmokeys.
- Vern Clapp commented that additional membership types would somewhat complicate the database management.
- A Dr. Olin from Pennsylvania has expressed interest in being a member of our organization.

Follow-up: Table this discussion until Bill Funk has had some more time to work on the Data Base Manager position.

Follow-up: Send Dr. Olin a membership application.

b. President-Elect Nominations - Mike Ash

- We need to have our President-Elect nominee in the Winter Newsletter. Bob Devlin is working on this.

c. Pole Creek Fire/Pilot Situation - Mike Ash

- There has been a lot of discussion about a contracted pilot and his actions on the Pole Creek Fire
- We don't have the whole picture
- The FAA has not pulled his license.

d. Upcoming Events - Bev Pratt

- Our next Banquet will be Sunday, May 19, 2013.
- Our Picnic will be Friday, August 9, 2013
- We will have our next two meetings - November 30 and December 28.

Meeting adjourned: ~11:10am.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of 10/26/12 (attached to e-mail)
- Attachment B: NAFSR Report

NAFSR October 2012 Report for Old Smokeys

The Reunion in Vail was rewarding for NAFSR in a number of ways, a significant increase in membership, and the opportunity for NAFSR members to have face to face meetings with Forest Service leadership to discuss a variety of issues. Thanks to the new members NAFSR is about to break the 600 membership mark, and discussions with Forest Service leaders helped us better understand some of the philosophical, political and management challenges the Forest Service is facing.

For NAFSR the coming months will involve a lot of hard discussions about how to approach current issues that are influencing national forest management and the operation of the Forest Service. NAFSR continues its commitment to the professional management of the forests to meet what it still considers the fundamental mission of these lands, the sustainable production of renewable natural resources. However, many members detect a change in focus within the agency as well in Congress and the Administration to a different and in our opinion poorly defined mission. We will be spending time trying to sort out if these perceptions of changing management direction are accurate.

Along with the learning curve about issues NAFSR intends to work hard to maintain relationships with the people of the Forest Service and actively support and recognize the good work that is being done in spite of budget, administrative, regulation and diminished workforce issues.

Many of us in NAFSR are concerned the growing fiscal crisis faced by the federal government combine with unhappiness in the rural West about public land protection and management may result in serious proposals to do away with large areas of federal land through sale or transfer to the states. Max Peterson mentioned the subject of land sales was a conversation topic of some legislators from both parties.

We agree with the comments about not going back to the old days, although there were many positive aspects of the past we believe are of value and not to be discarded out of hand.

The current issue generating significant public and political unrest in the West is a perception the Forest Service is not aggressively controlling wildfires. The NAFSR fire committee is attempting to sort fact from fiction and work with the Outfit to help it reduce this unrest before it results in negative political intervention.

The increased membership, especially “younger” retirees is important to helping NAFSR build solid support programs that will help build coalitions of conservation groups with shared beliefs about the national forests and their future. We need their currency to help us not depend too much on foggy memories for reference as we work through our “work list.”

John

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
December 28, 2012
Approved January 25, 2013

In attendance: Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Phil Hirl, Bev Pratt, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the November Meeting -- Susan Triplett

Moved by John Marker: Accept the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Linda Goodman.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

The approved October meeting minutes had the wrong month's NAFSR Report attached, so Susan will resend those minutes out.

2. Monthly Review of Treasurer's Reconciliation - Susan Triplett

- The November reconciliation looks fine.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bill Funk

- Bill was not able to attend the meeting. His report is Attachment A.
- His e-mailed comments include:
 - The Emergency Fund (Elmer Moyer Memorial Fund) has been a great success - from publicity that has occurred (via announcements at our monthly meetings and the fact that it's listed as a donation option on our dues payment form as found in the Fall Newsletter on page 7).
 - The Project/Grant fund in the past has been primarily financed by the old book fund, hat sales, and with some leftover dollars from the Northwest FS Reunion that occurred a few years ago. This last year, we received one donation for the fund. Future revenue for this fund so far would be from our new effort with the WHOM book sales which currently are slow.
 - The Project/Grant Fund has been successful in funding those excellent projects that have met our criteria when asked about what our organization "does."
 - Besides the social aspects, I find I'm mainly talking about both the Moyer and Project funds with great pride - and those that asked the question seem quite surprised and impressed. It's absolutely a good thing we're doing here.
 - So, the idea of promoting donations for the Project Book fund seems a very good one to me. And adding this option to our form found in the newsletter would be a substantial help in this regard. I also suggest we replace the dues form on the website with that found in the newsletter - so that the donation options for the Moyer fund and the Project fund are included.

Approved January 25, 2013

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren
 - Not much this month. She picked up another deposit from the PO Box this morning.
 - Deb scans all the deposited checks and sends them to Bill and Vern so they can validate/update the addresses in the database.

5. NAFSR Report - John Marker
 - John passed out the highlights of the current items in Attachment B.

6. Old Business:
 - a. Membership Updates:
 - Tom Thompson is improving from his cancer treatments. He will hopefully go home from the hospital today!
 - Doug MacDonald is also in remission, and doing quite well!
 - b. Membership Donation Form options:
 - To encourage members to donate to our funds, we should add two more options to our Membership form:
 - Donations to the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund, (already added) and
 - Donations to the Project/Grant Fund.
 - Our Tax ID number should be on the form. Deb does include it in the thank you notes she sends to donors.
 - Moved** by Bev Pratt: Add the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund and the Grant/Project Fund to the donation options on the Membership form. Also add a statement that donations to the funds are tax-deductable, along with our Tax ID Number.
 - Seconded** by John Marker.
 - Vote:** Passed, unanimously.
 - Follow-up:** This should be highlighted in the next Newsletter.
 - c. New Meeting Site Issues - Bev Pratt
 - We will move to the Old Spaghetti Factory in February.
 - Mike will announce this to the members at today's luncheon.
 - We will need an approximate head-count each month. Linda Goodman will contact the RO each month to find out how many people will be coming.
 - Bev will meet with Stephanie at the Old Spaghetti Factory to finalize the menu.
 - Bev will print out maps and pass them out at the January meeting.
 - We need Vern to send out a couple E-Notes to alert and remind our members of the change.

Approved January 25, 2013

7. New Business:

a. Theresa Higgins' House Fire - Mike Ash

- Theresa Higgins was the Timber Accountant on the Chemult Ranger District on the Fremont/Winema NF. Her house burned, her husband died in the fire, and she is in the hospital in Bend. Her home was totally devastated.
- Is this an appropriate opportunity to use our Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund?

Moved by Linda Goodman: Give Mike Ash the authority to spend up to \$500 from the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund.

Seconded by Don Nearhood.

Vote: Passed, Unanimously

Follow-up: Mike will write a letter, and Bev will edit it, to communicate this donation to Theresa Higgins.

b. Participating Agreement - Phil Hirl

- We need to start negotiating our Participating Agreement from the Regional Office and Research Station.
- The face-to-face meeting last year was very effective.
- Mike Ash will set up a meeting with the R6/PNW leaders in the next month.
- We also need to get our 2013 Budget together, and we'll need to have it for the meeting.
- Mike, Linda, John, and Bill will develop the Budget, and will bring to the Board in January.
- Mike and Linda will look at the letters we've drafted in the past couple of years, and will rework it appropriately.

Meeting Adjourned ~ 11:10am

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of 12/26/12 (attached to e-mail)
- Attachment B: NAFSR Report

NAFSR REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2012

Looking to 2013, several major challenges will have NAFSR attention. Fire policy will be one of the major issues to be tackled. A NAFSR fire policy paper is in the final stages of drafting and will be presented to Leslie Weldon, Jim Hubbard and Tom Harbour at a Sacramento, CA NAFSR Fire Committee meeting in March of 2013. The major points in the paper can be characterized as a “Back to the future” with the paper strongly recommending a revitalization and motivation of the fire organization with emphasis on line officer fire training, more aggressive initial action on all wild fires, even in wilderness, during the peak burning periods of fire season.

A second major issue is public understanding of the mission of the national forests. This issue is becoming more critical as those wanting to stop management on the forests continue a strong campaign against any management that results in revenue to the public or changes the landscape. Most members of the public and political leadership see no reason to object. While there are significant money making projects on various forests, most are generally after long, complex and expensive public involvement and legal processes.

The federal budget crisis will certainly cause significant impact on the Forest Service’s ability to manage and protect the forests. In public the FS leadership keeps a stiff upper lip, but in off the record conversations the fiscal outlook is grim. The financial situation is made even more difficult by various rules and directions coming from the department tightening the centralized control noose. NAFSR is sorting fact from fiction on this department micro management issue and will likely take a public position on the subject when the issue is clarified.

There is a brief case full of other issues NAFSR is working on, including building coalitions with other conservation groups and pushing for better training of forest officers. However, more about these issues at a later date.

Good news is word from Tom Thompson his health condition is improving. He has had a stem cell transplant and it appears to have been successful. He is still in the hospital, but is hoping to be released to complete recovery in the near future.

Other good news is membership in NAFSR continues to grow

Happy New Year!

John

Old Smokeys Meeting Notes
December 28, 2012
Approved January 25, 2013

In attendance: Mike Ash, Linda Goodman, Debra Warren, John Marker, Don Nearhood, Phil Hirl, Bev Pratt, Susan Triplett.

1. Minutes of the November Meeting -- Susan Triplett

Moved by John Marker: Accept the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Linda Goodman.

Vote: Passed Unanimously.

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 - The Project/Grant fund in the past has been primarily financed by the old book fund, hat sales, and with some leftover dollars from the Northwest FS Reunion that occurred a few years ago. This last year, we received one donation for the fund. Future revenue for this fund so far would be from our new effort with the WHOM book sales which currently are slow.
 - The Project/Grant Fund has been successful in funding those excellent projects that have met our criteria when asked about what our organization "does."
 - Besides the social aspects, I find I'm mainly talking about both the Moyer and Project funds with great pride - and those that asked the question seem quite surprised and impressed. It's absolutely a good thing we're doing here.
 - So, the idea of promoting donations for the Project Book fund seems a very good one to me. And adding this option to our form found in the newsletter would be a substantial help in this regard. I also suggest we replace the dues form on the website with that found in the newsletter - so that the donation options for the Moyer fund and the Project fund are included.

Approved January 25, 2013

4. Secretary's Report - Debra Warren

- Not much this month. She picked up another deposit from the PO Box this morning.
- Deb scans all the deposited checks and sends them to Bill and Vern so they can validate/update the addresses in the database.

5. NAFSR Report - John Marker

- John passed out the highlights of the current items in Attachment B.

6. Old Business:

a. Membership Updates:

- Tom Thompson is improving from his cancer treatments. He will hopefully go home from the hospital today!
- Doug MacDonald is also in remission, and doing quite well!

b. Membership Donation Form options:

- To encourage members to donate to our funds, we should add two more options to our Membership form:
 - Donations to the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund, (already added) and
 - Donations to the Project/Grant Fund.
- Our Tax ID number should be on the form. Deb does include it in the thank you notes she sends to donors.

Moved by Bev Pratt: Add the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund and the Grant/Project Fund to the donation options on the Membership form. Also add a statement that donations to the funds are tax-deductable, along with our Tax ID Number.

Seconded by John Marker.

Vote: Passed, unanimously.

Follow-up: This should be highlighted in the next Newsletter.

c. New Meeting Site Issues - Bev Pratt

- We will move to the Old Spaghetti Factory in February.
- Mike will announce this to the members at today's luncheon.
- We will need an approximate head-count each month. Linda Goodman will contact the RO each month to find out how many people will be coming.
- Bev will meet with Stephanie at the Old Spaghetti Factory to finalize the menu.
- Bev will print out maps and pass them out at the January meeting.
- We need Vern to send out a couple E-Notes to alert and remind our members of the change.

Approved January 25, 2013

7. New Business:

a. Theresa Higgins' House Fire - Mike Ash

- Theresa Higgins was the Timber Accountant on the Chemult Ranger District on the Fremont/Winema NF. Her house burned, her husband died in the fire, and she is in the hospital in Bend. Her home was totally devastated.
- Is this an appropriate opportunity to use our Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund?

Moved by Linda Goodman: Give Mike Ash the authority to spend up to \$500 from the Elmer Moyer Memorial Emergency Fund.

Seconded by Don Nearhood.

Vote: Passed, Unanimously

Follow-up: Mike will write a letter, and Bev will edit it, to communicate this donation to Theresa Higgins.

b. Participating Agreement - Phil Hirl

- We need to start negotiating our Participating Agreement from the Regional Office and Research Station.
- The face-to-face meeting last year was very effective.
- Mike Ash will set up a meeting with the R6/PNW leaders in the next month.
- We also need to get our 2013 Budget together, and we'll need to have it for the meeting.
- Mike, Linda, John, and Bill will develop the Budget, and will bring to the Board in January.
- Mike and Linda will look at the letters we've drafted in the past couple of years, and will rework it appropriately.

Meeting Adjourned ~ 11:10am

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Treasurer Statement of Financial Position as of 12/26/12 (attached to e-mail)
- Attachment B: NAFSR Report

NAFSR REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2012

Looking to 2013, several major challenges will have NAFSR attention. Fire policy will be one of the major issues to be tackled. A NAFSR fire policy paper is in the final stages of drafting and will be presented to Leslie Weldon, Jim Hubbard and Tom Harbour at a Sacramento, CA NAFSR Fire Committee meeting in March of 2013. The major points in the paper can be characterized as a “Back to the future” with the paper strongly recommending a revitalization and motivation of the fire organization with emphasis on line officer fire training, more aggressive initial action on all wild fires, even in wilderness, during the peak burning periods of fire season.

A second major issue is public understanding of the mission of the national forests. This issue is becoming more critical as those wanting to stop management on the forests continue a strong campaign against any management that results in revenue to the public or changes the landscape. Most members of the public and political leadership see no reason to object. While there are significant money making projects on various forests, most are generally after long, complex and expensive public involvement and legal processes.

The federal budget crisis will certainly cause significant impact on the Forest Service’s ability to manage and protect the forests. In public the FS leadership keeps a stiff upper lip, but in off the record conversations the fiscal outlook is grim. The financial situation is made even more difficult by various rules and directions coming from the department tightening the centralized control noose. NAFSR is sorting fact from fiction on this department micro management issue and will likely take a public position on the subject when the issue is clarified.

There is a brief case full of other issues NAFSR is working on, including building coalitions with other conservation groups and pushing for better training of forest officers. However, more about these issues at a later date.

Good news is word from Tom Thompson his health condition is improving. He has had a stem cell transplant and it appears to have been successful. He is still in the hospital, but is hoping to be released to complete recovery in the near future.

Other good news is membership in NAFSR continues to grow

Happy New Year!

John