



## OREGON TREE FARM SYSTEM

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

### OTFS Board Meeting Minutes June 13, 2024

**Called to Order: 6:03**

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Dick Beers, Dave Bugni, Steve Cafferata, Wylda Cafferata, Mary Chamness, Dave Ehlers, Ed Easterling, Darren Goodding, Joe Holmberg, Kate McMichael, Jim Merzenich, Norm Michaels, Margaret Miller, Steve Vaught, Dave Wells, Sue Zeni, Rick Zenn

**Absent:** Tom Agens, Parks Brigman, Dick Courter, Lauren Grand, Nate Agalzoff, Seth Barns, Holly Ober, Carie Spradlin, Julie Woodward,

**Reading Values, Mission, Purpose Statement: Norm Michaels**

**There was one deletion to the meeting-** Parks Brigman is traveling and will not be present for his scheduled comments on the agenda.

**March 21, 2024 OTFS Board Meeting Minutes:**

- The March 21, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes were approved by consensus.

**Strategic Plan Point Goal 5:** Identify and recruit Leaders: What we are doing and how we can improve: Mary Chamness

- We continue to address recruitment at every board meeting we have, which helps keep it high on our radar. The Board has been doing a good job recruiting board member replacements. We can continue to use word of mouth to spread the good work OTFS does and recruit new members and volunteers at every opportunity.

**Treasurer's Report: Sue Zeni**

- Over 50 donations have already come in. We are making interest income on our money. Sue reviewed the OTFS Budget vs. Actuals: 2024 Budget- FY24 P&L. Overall, we are about breaking even for now.
- Sue reviewed the OTFS Balance Sheet.
- Please feel free to e-mail Sue with any questions.

### **Committee on Family Forestlands Report: Kate McMichael**

- The post disturbance salvage rule- making process has been a good example of how we need to continue to make sure our voices are loud enough on the committees. Small woodland owners need to continue to speak up and be heard.
- It is important that committees continue to hear that there is an economic component to the value of forests, not just the feel-good component, and the value of hearing from the people who care for the forests, not just the people who care about the forests.
- Anyone can attend meetings either in person in Salem or remotely. It's important that small woodland owners continue to speak up.

### **Compliance Monitoring Committee Report: Steve Vaught**

- The compliance monitoring committee informs and provides recommendations and input into the monitoring program. The goals are to monitor the FPA rules, implementation, and compliance rates. This committee is not involved with enforcement.
- Each year specific rules are selected for data collection and monitoring. The current focus is on reforestation. Next year the focus will be on riparian areas. In 2026 the focus will be roads and steep slopes. Lessons learned from these studies will inform the long-term program.
- The next meeting will be July 11<sup>th</sup>
- **Comments from the Co-Chairs: Steve and Wylde Cafferata**
  - Wylde is searching for volunteers to plan the November meeting. Margaret Miller has volunteered. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Wylde.

- Steve gave an update on LandMapper. The enhancement grant is now complete. The entire amount of the grant has been used. The next project will be figuring out how to maintain and fund the maintenance in the future.

### **Comments from Chair-Elect Darren Goodding**

- ATFS Leadership manual template is available on the leaders- only section of the website. We discussed the certification process and the items needed for certification.

### **Working Groups reports**

- Landowners Journey/Communication- Kate McMichael
  - The Landowner Journey and Communication working groups have joined together.
  - We have placed an ad in NW Woodlands magazine.
  - We have been getting around 1 e-mail a week through the OTFS website, requesting information. Darren has been responding to those.
  - We are working on a video to use for ambassador kits.
  - An e-mail outreach has happened to people on pioneer status.
  - Discussed the idea of exploring ways to create a self-certification program for landowners who own less than 10 acres. The board is in agreement with moving forward with exploring this option. Concern was expressed that we might be spreading ourselves too thin.
- Governance Group- Wylda Cafferata
  - Dave Bugni has agreed to fill the chair elect position. Thank you, Dave!
  - Dave Wells has agreed to join the board. Dave has been very active on our certification working group as an inspector. Darren Goodding moved that we appoint Dave to the board. Dave Ehlers seconded. The board voted unanimously to elect Dave Wells to the board. Welcome Dave!
  - Wylda asked the board to include the OFFICER AND WORKING GROUP CHAIR JOB DESCRIPTIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES in the Operations Manual. Sue Zeni made the motion that we include it as written. Kate McMichael second the motion. The board voted unanimously to include the OFFICER AND WORKING GROUP CHAIR JOB DESCRIPTIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES in the Operations Manual.

- The governance group continues to work on our strategic plan revision and the template for the operation manual.
- Certification: Steve Cafferata/ Norm Michaels
  - This year 217 tree farms have been inspected. 123 were certified, 75 have been decertified after being out of compliance for a long time, 18 have been placed on pioneer status, and there have been 8 or 10 new certifications.
  - The certification working group is over 100 strong with 32 new inspectors this year and about 25 new inspectors last year. 2 ½ years ago over 252 tree farms have been over 10 years since their last inspection. Currently there are only 55 and they will be done by the end of this year. The next goal will be to get all the way through the 2018 inspections.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:05**