

MFRP Board of Directors' Meeting
19 December 2019
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Present:

Officers/Executive Committee: Kirk Titus, Chair (*Cass County*), Craig Halla, Vice Chair (*Molpus Woodlands Group*), Kory Cease (*Itasca County*), Quintin Legler (*UPM Blandin*), James McFarland (*USFS*), Bob Milne (*DNR*), Matt Radzak, Treasurer (*MP*), Craig Schmid (*DNR*), Dennis Thompson, Secretary, (*MFA/Private Landowner*) **Board Members:** Brian Bignall (*PotlatchDeltic*), Rich Courtemanche (*Aitkin County*), Nate Eide, (*Lake County*), Craig Engwall (*Minn. Deer Hunters*), Nathan Heibel (*Koochiching County*), Ray Higgins, (*TPA*), Lisa Kerr (*Cook County*), Mark Lohmeier (*Hubbard County*), Mike Kilgore (*Univ. of Minn.*) Dick Moore (*Beltrami County*), Dave Roerick (*private landowner*), Mark Weber (*St. Louis County*)

Staff: Kathleen Preece

Guests: Lance Hill (*Bois Forte Forestry*), Keith Karnes (*Leech Lake Forestry*), Alex Mehne (*Fond du Lac Forestry*), Tim Miller (*Grand Portage Forestry*), Melissa Schmitz (*MFRC*), Patty Thielen (*DNR*),

Chair Kirk Titus called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Kathleen Preece read the Antitrust Statement. Introductions were made around the table.

The agenda was approved by consensus.

The minutes of the October 17, 2019 Board of Directors' meeting were reviewed and then approved on a motion by Dennis Thompson, second by Craig Schmid. The motion passed unanimously.

Financials

Acting Treasurer Dennis Thompson gave the financial report, as prepared by Treasurer Matt Radzak, as follows:

Dec 2019 Financial Report

- Starting Nov balance was: \$21,630.05
 - Deposits were:
 - \$3500 (UPM 2020 Assessment)
 - Expenses were:
 - \$4,267.00 to Director (salary)
 - \$819.88 Meeting expenses (Oct. Chase on the Lake)
 - Ending Nov-Starting Dec balance is \$20,043.17 (ledger matches bank statement)
 - Expenses for the remainder of 2019 are estimated to be \$6,038.
- This will leave an end of 2019 balance of \$10,505.17* which will be carried over to 2020 (*does not include the UPM assessment of \$3500 that has been received). For comparison, last year, the MFRP carried over \$14,341.85.

Misc. monthly activity to date:

- Assessments checks are starting to arrive. As of 12/12/19, a total of \$22,240.62 have been received, leaving \$33,214.99 remaining to be paid. Total Assessments are \$55,455.61. Check deposits will be made after Jan 1, 2020.

2020 budget

Starting Balance 2020	\$10,505.17
Income (assessments)	\$55,455.61
Expenses	(\$58,796.00)
Budgeted end of 2020 balance	\$7,164.78

Bob Milne informed the board that the executive committee would be working on its 2020 work plan.

New Business

Chair Kirk Titus informed the board members that officer positions were needed to be filled and that nominations were open for vice chair, secretary, and treasurer.

James McFarland was nominated to the vice chair position on a motion by Craig Schmid; second by Bob Milne. Dennis Thompson was nominated to the secretary position on a motion by Quintin Legler; second by Mark Lohmeier. Matt Radzak was nominated to the treasurer position on a motion by Bob Milne; second by Dick Moore.

All three motions passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Native American Forests and Tribal Forest Management - A discussion with members of Minnesota's tribal forestland management departments. Tribal foresters Lance Hill (Boise Forte), Tim Miller (Grand Portage), Alex Mehne (Fond du Lac), and Keith Karnes (Leech Lake) participated in a discussion with the MFRP Board members regarding the challenges and focus of management of forests on tribal lands.

Some key discussion points included:

- the need for landscape planning and management
- the challenges of managing allotment lands
- establishing linkages/pipelines students for students to attend University of Minnesota
- tribal land use plans
- strategies for linking non-tribal forest management with tribal forest management
- conduits for communications between non tribal foresters and tribal foresters
- challenges and opportunities in working with tribal councils
- how to move differing cultures and values along the same path

State Timber Harvest Analysis: Moving to Implementation *Craig Schmid, Minnesota Deputy Director – Forestry*

Craig Schmid provided a review of the development of the State Timber Harvest Analysis noting that there was consternation regarding the harvest decision and the 10-year stand exam. He reviewed the 870,000 cord harvest that the DNR Commissioner had agreed to, which is broken down by species. He said that after five years, there would be a review to see what harvesting was taking place, with an intent to redo that exercise every 10 years.

Forest to Tap (F2T): What's to come. *Ashley McFarland, Dovetail Partners*

Ashley McFarland reviewed the early development of the Forest to Tap program and how interest had spurred its growth to include training materials for brewery staff, a 'franchise package' for sharing the program with other organizations on a national scale, and funding opportunities and needs.

MDHA: Forest Habitat Project. *Craig Engwall, Executive Director Minnesota Deer Hunters Association*

Craig Engwall reviewed efforts by the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association to get lands into forest development and management, particularly for the purposes of wildlife habitat, as opposed to non-forestry interests.

Round the table: *Updates from MFRP members and guests*

Respectfully submitted 13 January 2020 by Kathleen Preece

