

TELECONFERENCE MINUTES
FINAL
3/15/12

Call commenced: 4:05 pm

Members on line:

CI – Winterberger, Burnside, Adams, Sink and Nuss
DE –Durland and Hauver
JU – Kleinhenz, Sandor, Nicolls & Reichert
SI – Sherrod and Heuer
YR – KT, Fortune & Maki
Council - John Walkowiak

Approval of last minutes:

Treasurer's Report: Nuss reported the checking account stands at \$4162.60. There is no outstanding obligation at this time.

KT discussed Lori's report. There is a need to review the Action Calendar. It is imperative that we seek advertising sponsors to help supplement funding for the Western Forester.

Position Paper: Cal reported the Paper is in draft form and wants the Alaska SAF to support. It will be brought up in the convention in Spokane this Fall.

Alaska Forests Association: Sandor brought forward a resolution asking for the Congressional delegation for support. Question: will our Paper be approved prior to the State Meeting in April? Cal will put out a short draft to be voted on. Ken said there are samples on the Website. John said to keep National SAF in the loop. The State has filed a lawsuit against the Forest Service regarding the Tongass. Have 12 or more interveners at this time. We shouldn't wait for National to approve. KT will send a draft of the Paper to Kelsey Delaney, John Barnwell and John Walkowiak. Need to address Chairs at the State Meeting. Burnside would like a draft to go to the Legislature.

Council Report: John reported that Council met in Detroit about three weeks ago. President Rockwell was there Council approved three Position Statements. They are:

1. Non-Native species (new)
2. Carbon storage (new)
3. Forest bio-mass for energy (revised/updated)

There was much discussion on SAF accreditation. There is a Committee studying terrestrial ecology and the Natural Resource Programs for possible accreditation.

The dues are currently in three tiers. There has been no loss of revenue so far. Final phase is to look at future direction. The graduate ring program provided 167 for SAF to move from being “good” to a “great” organization across the nation.

There is still consideration regarding the sale of a part of Wild Acres property in Bethesda, Maryland. Questions are still being reviewed how proceeds would be used. The Renewable Natural Resources Foundation owns half of Wild Acres.

Chapters Reports:

Sitka – members met today. They are planning a native plant sales including blueberry, huckleberry. Plants are three years old. Planning on a Forest Field Day in May.

Dixon Entrance – met last week. There are plans for Arbor Day. They will be replacing some trees that weren’t doing well. There will be an Elementary School Science Fair for the fifth graders. A plaque will be placed at some of the State Parks. \$100 was given to the City for flowers. They still plan to judge at the annual Salmon Derby.

Yukon River – the chapter had a recent meeting. There was a successful Firewood Program. Working on the Fire Prevention and Education program. Still putting the final touches on the State Meeting.

Cook Inlet – the Arbor Day Tree Sale is scheduled for _____. Forty percent of the 12,000 seedlings are spoken for. The results of elections are due March 16 th. Fifty percent of the votes are in. They discussed progress on the NWO website. They will contact other Chairs to get information for the web site. Ken is working on the web site. Roger got financial reports for the Chapters and Executive Secretary that went to National.

Investment – current balance is @29,211 (\$25,713 at the end of February). The trend is upward. He is not sure at this time if payments can be made electronically. There are two groups to help on sales. There is thirty percent for new purchases.

Juneau – they plan to meet next week. Nudleman to report on the Treadwell mine site (Sandy Beach) for some planting. Hope to expose old buildings. They are planning a Legislative Reception next year. Need support from other Chapters. Anticipated cost is \$1500. Might get a Forester’s Fund grant from the National Office.

Calendar: State meeting is 4/26-28/12. Next teleconference is scheduled for 4/19/12 at 4:00 pm. The Executive and Business Meeting are scheduled for 4/26 after the “Icebreaker”. Sandor discussed the need to support SB 159. Chris Maisch endorses this Bill. It would expand State Forests in Southeast from 25,00 to about 48,000 acres.

Forester's Raffle – the Executive Committee will determine how the proceeds, from the raffle, may be spent. Contributions of money or items to be raffled will be encouraged for contribution.

KT would like awards nominations be sent by 3/31.

Web site update – Ken is working with Sam Boggess on development of the web site. The only information on the site right now is the up-coming Arbor Day Tree Sale sponsored by the Cook Inlet Chapter. Ken hopes to emulate the old site pattern. Drop-down plans will include items on forestry in Alaska, awards, Chapter items, and education and policy articles. He will try to have contact with certain members in each Chapter - hopefully someone responsible for items to be put on the web site. Hopefully those Chapter members will meet in Fairbanks.

A vote was taken to support SB 159. Nuss made a motion to approve. Burnside Seconded. Passed. Charley will send a copy to Rep. Menard.

Sink voted to adjourn. _____ Seconded. Passed.

Teleconference concluded at 5:17 pm