

WILDLAND FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2017
Suncadia Resort
Cle Elum, WA

Committee Members Present:

Gary Berndt – Wildland Fire Liaison, Chair
Cody Desautel – Tribal Nations Representative – *conference call*
Dave Johnson – Fire Commissioner
Dave LaFave – Fire Chief (Westside) – *conference call*
J.D Marshall – Industry Landowner (Timber) – *conference call*
Jim DeTro – County Commissioner (Eastside)
Joe Gardner – County Commissioner (Westside) – *conference call*
Lee Hemmer – Industry Landowner (Range)
Randy Johnson – Fire Chief (Eastside) – *conference call*
Rodney Smoldon – Federal Fire Agency
Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt – State Land Trust Beneficiary
Tony Craven – Small Forest Landowner

Committee Members Absent:

Chuck LeBlanc – State Fire Marshal
Tom Bugert – Statewide Environmental Representative

Guests/Other Attendees:

Gerry Day, Wildfire Division Special Assistant
Loren Torgerson, Wildfire Policy Special Advisor
Tami Kellogg, Executive Assistant to Deputy Supervisor Wildfire
Melissa Gannie, WSP – *conference call*

I. Opening, Roll Call

Chair Berndt called the meeting of the Wildland Fire Advisory Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 28, 2017 in Roslyn, WA. Roll was taken, 12 members were present and 2 members were excused. Due to travel constraints, 5 members participated in the meeting by phone, constituting a quorum.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chair Berndt called for approval of the minutes of the May 24, 2017 committee meeting. Motion to approve draft minutes made by Committee member Hemmer, as corrected, seconded by Committee member Craven. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Old Business

- a. DNR Forest Health Update – Mr. Day provided an update on the 20-year Forest Health Strategic Plan, stating the plan is in final phases of review by the 20-year Forest Health Strategic Plan Committee. A final draft is expected to be submitted for review by June 30. After review and finalization, DNR will move forward to publish and implement.

Mr. Day reviewed SB 5546, which provides a target that by the year 2033, treating one million acres of land for forest health conditions, and provides funding in terms of prioritization and areas for treatment.

- b. Wildland Fire Advisory Committee Charter – Mr. Day shared that after review by the AG’s office, he is meeting with Commissioner Franz to review and get her approval of the charter.

IV. Chairman Report

Chairman Berndt provided an update for the committee on his activities over the past month and provided hard copies of his report.

V. DNR Wildfire Update – Mr. Day provided a wildfire update.

VI. New Business

- a. USFS Expectations – Committee member Smoldon informed the committee that USFS Chief meet with secretary and discussed the direction of the agency in regards to forested acres treated and board feet sold, making a target of 3.2 billion and the plan to increase target to 4 billion by 2020.
- b. Review Draft Letter to Gerry Day – The Committee reviewed the draft letter to Mr. Day on their recommendations of the 2006 Wildland Firefighting Strategic Plan. After updates, the committee will review electronically and vote through email on approval.

VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

By consensus, the committee decided to schedule the next general meeting at 10 am, on August 23, 2017, at Suncadia in Roslyn. The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:15 p.m.

Draft minutes submitted by Tami Kellogg, approved by Chairman Gary Berndt. Formal action to be taken to approve the minutes at the August 23, 2017 meeting.