



Public Lands Committee

Annual Conference | Boise, ID | September 25, 2018

Boise Centre | Room 110-AB | 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair: Wayne Butts, Com.

Vice: Mark Bair, Com.

Adams: Mike Paradis, Com.

Blaine: Jacob Greenberg, Com.

Blaine: Larry Schoen, Com.

Boise: Jim Kaczmarek, Sh.

Boundary: Dan Dinning, Com.

Caribou: Bryce Somsen, Com.

Clark: Greg Shenton, Com.

Clearwater: Rick Winkel, Com.

Clearwater: Dawn Erlewine, Tr.

Fremont: Lee Miller, Com.

Idaho: Skip Brandt, Com.

Lemhi: Mary Ann Heiser, Tr.

Shoshone: Jerry White, As.

Teton: Cindy Riegel, Com.

Twin Falls: Jack Johnson, Com.

Valley: Gordon Cruickshank, Com.

Washington: Kirk Chandler, Com.

Members Absent:

Adams: Joe Iveson, Com.

Cassia: Tim Darrington, Com.

Custer: Lura Baker, Cl.

Custer: Steve Smith, Com.

Kootenai: Marc Eberlein, Com.

Lemhi: Rick Snyder, Com.

Owyhee: Joe Merrick, Com.

Shoshone: Ellen Masterson, Tr.

Others Present:

Seth Grigg, IAC

Timothy Hibbard, IAC

Roger Morley, Jerome Com.

Larry Payne, Forest Service

Rick Houser, Kootenai As.

Judy Boyle, State Representative

Justin Baldwin, Gooding As.

John David Davidson, Blaine Com.

Jeff Connelly, Bonner Com.

Andy Brunelle, Forest Service

Dave Rosenkrance, Forest Service

Dave Radford, Bonneville Com.

Toni Gruenwald, Owyhee As.

Jordan Stoddard, Fremont Com.

Wayne Chandler, Gooding Com.

Randy Corgatelli, Custer Com.

Scott Hancock, Jefferson Com.

Nick Hillman, Clark Com.

John Smith, Clearwater Com.

Tony Grange, OPE

Ann Youts, Lincoln Tr.

Mitch Silvers, Sen. Crapo's Office

Laurel Sayer, Midas Gold

Jill Humble, Candidate for SOS

Jared Stein, Bannock As.

Chelsea McIver, UofI

Dennis Becker, UofI

Call to order by Chair Wayne Butts.

Introductions of members present and guests.

A motion was raised to approve the minutes from the February meeting by Gordon Cruickshank and seconded by Rick Winkle. The motion carried.

Chair Wayne Butts read the resolution script.

Wayne Butts spoke on Newly Acquired Federal Lands By Conservation Donations (PL-03). Private land is continuously being purchased by conservation organizations and then being donated to the federal government for conservation efforts. While this can be beneficial to an area, the unintended consequences result in a tax shift to the other property taxpayers in the county, as the costs to operate do not decrease. This has been an ever increasing issue in counties that have most of the land owned by the US government. **Proposed:** Congress should enact a requirement that provides for the yearly payment of a fee in lieu of taxes for the property that is accepted as a donation for conservation efforts. The amount of this fee could be based upon the value of the property when it was removed from the tax rolls or some other set value, such as the value of the property as dry grazing.

Kirk Chandler spoke on Resolution to require federal government to pay property tax equivalent for eligible public lands under federal management (PL-01). Federal land payments to counties are insufficient to meet mandatory county service obligations. Congress originally intended federally managed public lands to be disposed of to the states. This has not happened in Idaho and has limited local governments ability to pay for necessary public services. **Proposed:** Require the federal government to pay property taxes on lands managed by eligible federal land management agencies including the US Forest Service and the BLM. Federal buildings, military reserves, and other federal facilities would not be subject to the tax. The US Forest Service and BLM would continue to administer public lands on behalf of the people and would use the income generated from activities on those lands to pay their taxes.

A motion was raised to adopt resolution PL-03 by Gordon Cruickshank and seconded by Mike Paradis. The motion carried.

A motion was raised to adopt resolution PL-01 by Kirk Chandler and seconded by Mary Anne Heiser. The motion carried by vote of 12 to 7.

Dennis Becker and Chelsea McIver from the University of Idaho gave a presentation on Alternatives for PILT and SRS.

They gave a review on how PILT is calculated. And led a discussion on PILT reform winners and losers.

Laurel Sayer from Midas Gold gave a presentation on the Stibnite Gold Project.

The biggest challenges that Midas God has faced was the largeness of the project and potential detractors.

Andy Brunelle from the U.S. Forest Service gave a presentation on the Forest Service Capital City Coordination.

Andy gave an update on sage grouse habitat. Jim Hubbard new undersecretary of Agriculture. There is good neighbor authority law extension potential. There was a discussion on SRS Resource Advisory Committee members.

Larry Payne from the National Association of Forest Service Retirees gave a presentation on ESA/NEPA Reform.

Intro to NAFSR. NAFSR can say and do thing that the USFS cannot say. Can work really close to the secretary that agency officials cannot. CEQ and NEPA regulations. CEQ wrote the regulations for NEPA. CEQ has not updated their regulations in 40 years.

At 3:41 PM a motion was raised to adjourn by Kirk Chandler and seconded by Mary Ann Heiser. The motion carried.