

General Board Meeting Minutes
Utah Forest Products Association
April 13, 2006 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
240 E. Main Street, Green River City Hall

Meeting Attendees: Ladd Bunting, Kevin Frandsen, Joel Frandsen, Larry Williams, R. Lee Ellertson, George Matson, Lee Foster, Scott Bell, Larry Watts, Jim Matson, Ed Coates, Morgan Mendenhall, Darren McAvoy, Doug Page, Ray Manning, and Jody Gale.

The meeting of UFPA was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Jim Matson. The Anti-trust policy was read to the members.

Minutes for February 3, 2006 meeting were approved. Motioned by Joel Frandsen; Second by Jody Gale and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report was approved for 4-13-2006. Motion to accept by Lee Foster; Second by Jody Gale and passed unanimously.

UFPA Annual Conference mandates were discussed. The UFPA will be working on the following projects:

- Allies and Affiliates - Arborists, Farm Bureau, Suppliers, Bordering States
Ladd said that we need to form partnerships with entities that have similar interests to be more effective for lobbying. **Geoff McNaughton, Scott Bell and Joel Frandsen will be working on this program.**
- Membership – Contacts, Dues
Jim Matson and Kathleen McDowell will continue to work on this. Jody Gale said it falls to all membership through word of mouth and personal invitations to increase membership. (If Kathleen were at the meeting she would emphasize that we need to provide a benefit for members. The safety certification training program and reduction to work comp costs would be a huge draw for membership, if we make it available to members only.)
- Membership Programs - Practices, Safety, Certification, Workers Comp.
Ladd Bunting and Darren McAvoy are working on these programs.
- Legislation and Work Rules – This will be impacted by federal and state legislation. This will take some work and research. Joel Frandsen will work on this. Jody said that he is spending a great deal of time with congressional staff and can work on this with Joel making contacts.
- Web Site – UFPA Site should be high profile. – Darren McAvoy is the website manager.
- Forest Lands – Private, Public, Policy, Access, Forest Management Plans –
This will be the responsibility of all membership. Forest health, sustainability, and future planning will have to be everyone's job. Scott Bell wanted to know what is UFPA's role in keeping healthy forests and landscapes? Scott's understanding is that the purpose of the Association is to promote good forest stewardship which includes management and treatment and then provide information on how that might be done and who could provide the treatment.

We need to coordinate and facilitate. We have two different facets that should be separated by policy for federal forested land and privately owned forested land. We need someone to champion each facet that would not be in conflict with their position they hold. Scott Truman will do the privately owned forest land; and Jody Gale will do federal forested lands. We need to have a direct role in promoting sustainable and healthy forests as well as voicing the need for supply.

Workers Compensation Program Rates - WCIF Staff

- UFPA Workers Compensation Options – Ladd Bunting reported that he met with Larry, Jim, Kathleen, and Darren on Workers Comp. The rate sheet was distributed for all states and it shows that Utah just got bumped up again. Larry said he is working on other carriers that will write workers comp. Larry said he sent an e-mail to carriers to get whether they would underwrite loggers and he received some responses. In Montana and Oregon the Associated Loggers Exchange. We might want to contact them to see if they could get licensed here in Utah. He threw in New Hampshire & Maine because they have their certified training programs. NCCI sets the rates for the State. The rate set for Utah is \$36.00 plus whatever the WCIF adds for profit. Effective December 1, 2006 we will have rates in Utah for mechanical logging as well as a certified logging rate. As soon as they know what the rates are they will let us know. We're also going to be getting rates from other states and using carriers they use. The class code change is in the process. Larry did an outstanding job working on this issue.
- Safety Certification Training
Darren McAvoy presented safety training programs in other states and distributed a piece on the different states programs. The most successful programs are loggers talking to loggers. All include First Aid and CPR, Forest Management, Silviculture, Transportation, etc. How much of this stuff do we want to include with our safety training program? The committee will need to decide. Topics change state-to-state and there is some reciprocity across states for certification. After the classes an evaluator does a site visit for further education and review of the effectiveness of the training. Colorado was notable. Refer to the handout. There's a two-day meeting/conference coming up in Delta that includes safety training. The committee will draw up a syllabus for the training and then have everyone look at it to give feedback. Kevin said the Forest Service needs safety training in mechanized logging.
- Grants
There is a grant available through the Labor Commission of the State of Utah to use for safety certification training. This grant was developed to reduce accidents in the workplace. It's intended for start-up costs for training. A motion was made to apply for the grant by Scott Truman; second by Jody Gale; passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on UFPA affiliating/joining in FIAC (Forest Industry Association Committee) and FTPA (Federal Timber Purchasers Association). Motion made by Ladd Bunting for UFPA to join FIAC and FIPA, seconded by Joel Frandsen and passed unanimously. There are no costs involved except for when we attend/travel to a conference.

- Agency Updates
 - Forest Service – Fishlake won Seven mile decision in 10th Circuit Court
 - BLM – IDIQ Contracts are being offered - “Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity.” Doug Page said you must be at the training on May 16 to participate in the offering.
 - Forestry & Fire – Joel Frandsen reported that the industry needs to comply with Notices of Intent (NOI) for private and state land projects in filing the NOI with the state right now is voluntary – but the Legislature will be making it mandatory. As an organization we need to have private landowners contact the UFFSL early on so they don’t have any problems.

- Legislative Impacts

- Fire HB 146 – Wildfire Protection Plans - If counties are to receive assistance they are going to have to comply, i.e. building permit, and WUI prevention/ planning. SB 49 – WUI in Park City vs. other counties that are not threatened by burn.

Next Meeting – Meeting will be held Tuesday, July 18, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at Union Station, on the corner of 25th and Wall in downtown Ogden. Scott Bell will be the host.

Follow-up on Workers Compensation
Grant update

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

/s/ Scott Truman, Acting Secretary