

**Meeting of the Board of  
County Commissioners  
Tri County Forest Group  
Friday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 1:00 PM**

**Location: Tri county Economic Development District 986 S Main St. Colville, WA 99114  
Meeting Room**

**Introduction of Attendees:**

1. Amanda Rowton, Clerk of the Board, commissioners@co.ferry.wa.us
2. Johnna Exner, Ferry County Commissioner
3. Gary Nielsen, TCMRA
4. Merrill Ott, CNF Ambassadors
5. Scott Nielsen, Cattle Producers of WA
6. Steve Parker, Stevens County Commissioner
7. Mike Poulson, CMR representative
8. Travis Fletcher, Colville National Forest, twfletcher@fs.fed.us
9. Nathan Davis, Ferry County Commissioner
10. Kevin Arneson, Boise Cascade
11. Steve Kiss, Pend Oreille County Commissioner
12. Kinsey Coots, TEDD
13. Josh White, USFS
14. Gloria Flora, SOS & NEWFC
15. Maurice Williamson
16. Tiana Luke, NEWCF
17. Jeff Koffel, TEDD
18. Kurtis Vaagen

**Introductions**

Commissioner Exner opened the meeting at 1:00 PM.

**TCMRA proposal**

Gary Nielsen asked where this project is at. Travis Fletcher asked if we were going to send a letter. Commissioner Davis said that we would draft one up for the next meeting. Clerk Amanda Rowton added it to the list of things she would have prepared for the next meeting. Josh White said there were not as many responses as he expected to see. If people hadn't commented, he asked that they please do. Commissioner Parker asked for the information on the responses. Clerk Amanda Rowton will resend out the responses to the group. Gloria Flora said that that we shouldn't have to wonder what format or what letterhead etc. Commissioner Exner said that we should wait for Commissioner Blankenship to be present to question the structure of the group.

Josh White said the letter we kicked around a few months ago was a majority. However it is more valuable to list reasons why or why not. Tiana Luke asked should the letter clarify that the letter is based on the responses received. Josh White wanted to be clear that the letter from this group doesn't make the decision. It would be comments they build on. The support of this group is important. Merrill Ott said there is an issue of time constraint, when do you want to have a final

decision. A timeframe expectation is important. If people choose to not respond, then create a cutoff date so people know how long they have to comment. It would also be good to hear those direct concerns to the main proponents so it could be addressed.

### **USFS update**

Josh White asked what projects you would like to have updates on. Travis Fletcher said that not a lot has changed since last month. Scott Nielsen asked if there was any additional information on the LeClair allotment. Travis Fletcher said that it would be in the paper and the official comment period would start on Wednesday of next week. Rodney makes the final decision. Scott Nielsen asked if Rodney chose the alternative he would be using.

### **Forest Plan Revision update**

Josh White said the final EIS & draft will be out at the end of August. There were 9 forest plans. They are done with 3 and we were 9<sup>th</sup> on the list. Travis Fletcher will follow up with Commissioner Exner on the hard copy of the draft. Josh White said the decision to release is staggered. Blue Mountain is to be released now. Maurice Williamson discussed the term collaborative and said that this is confusing. We had been working on the structure and organization here collectively.

Commissioner Parker said this meeting is functioning very well. It doesn't depend on a rule structure to be present and make clear decisions for the county. It's good and legitimate for Gloria Flora to talk to Merrill Ott regarding concerns. Why should the forest service have to do a meeting if we can gather together and it's a good service to the county? Maybe the 2 to 3 of you can appeal your position to Commissioner Blankenship as the Chairman. Maurice Williamson said it is up to the commissioners and it hasn't happened yet. Commissioner Parker said that it is time to move on.

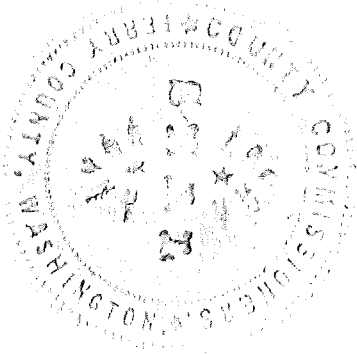
Commissioner Parker asked Mr. Poulson, Region 6 is going to have a change in leadership. Mike Poulson had no information on that currently. Commissioner Parker said that Commissioners would like to be a part of the decision on future leadership. Mike Poulson asked if Commissioner Parker had worked with the Oregon folks. Commissioner Parker said he had worked with them and met with them.

Josh White said Dianne Gurdry is the temporary replacement for Mr. Pena. She used to be with the Department of Commerce.

Commissioner Exner presented the hours changing at the border. She handed out a flyer with information for the meeting from 6-8 p.m. on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June in Colville for public comment. Changing the hours will impact a lot of people. Mike Poulson said that Andrew Engell will be attending that meeting. Commissioner Exner said if we can get people in the room, we can impact the decision. Scott Nielsen asked where this decision is made. Commissioner Exner said we don't know who makes the decision on this. Travis Fletcher asked if it is coordinated with Canadian customs. Commissioner Exner didn't have that information, but asked if we could distribute this information as it would be helpful.

The next meeting is going to be August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Johanna Exner  
CHAIRMAN, Johanna Exner

Nathan Davis  
VICE CHAIRMAN, Nathan Davis

Mike Blankenship  
MEMBER, Mike Blankenship

ATTEST:

Amanda Rowton  
Clerk of the Board, Amanda Rowton