

## **Kansas Tree Farm/Walnut Council Committee Minutes August 12, 2009**

Members present Roy and Carolyn Turney, Bob Atchison, David Bruton, Patricia McCaffrey, Larry Rutter, Dennis Morris, Richard Rees, Ryan Neises, Larry Biles, Leonard Ellis, Charlie Barden

Members absent: Marty Hewins and Steve Floersch

The meeting was called to order by Carolyn Turney

### Minutes

The February 18th meeting minutes were reviewed. The following corrections were made to these minutes: Page 1: Greg Ellis and Greg Stucky were listed as members absent and should not have been on this list. Page 2: Kansas Leadership Conference was attended by Carolyn and Roy Turney and not Dennis Morris.

**Bob Atchison moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Roy Turney seconded the motion. Minutes approved as corrected unanimously.**

### Tree Farm Treasurer's Report

Bob reported no contributions have been made to the Memorial Honors Program, one check has been written to the computer company for our website services and all outstanding debts have been paid.

**Larry moved and Ryan seconded the motion to accept the Tree Farm Treasurer Report. Approved unanimously**

### Walnut Council Treasurer's Report

Larry reported the commitment for the Walnut Council Field Day has not been paid by Pottawatomie County Conservation District. Larry will be checking into this. Major expenses were for duplicating and mailing of brochures. A large donation was received from Kansas State University Research & Extension through Wayne Geyer.

**Bob moved and Dennis seconded the motion to accept both Treasurer Reports. Approved unanimously**

### Kansas Tree Farm Audit

Bob reported that Connie Robinson, KFS District Forester was the main person involved with the Tree Farm Audits. Every one of the four Tree Farm regions were audited. Within these regions, three states were chosen for the audits. A Certificate of Registration has been given to all four of the regions. This means that they all meet the standards of the American Tree Farm System. Bob mentioned that the Kansas Forest Service Stewardship Plans are of high quality and have been requested from some of our surrounding states to use as a model. Audits will be on-going on a five year cycles throughout the regions. There will be one day training available this fall for Kansas inspectors to update their certification status and familiarize them with the new standards. An audit report was handed out and is attached to these minutes.

Performance Evaluation Matrix Carolyn reported on the results of the PEM survey she asked the Kansas Tree Farm Committee to complete. Committee members are invited to review the results prior to the November meeting in preparation for the 2010 POW.

### Website Development

Ryan gave a preview of the new website and requested input from those in attendance on possible changes. Money available through a grant has allowed Ryan to work with a consultant on the design aspect. Bob mentioned he would see if someone with KSU Research & Extensions Communication Department would be willing to assist with the graphics portion to give finishing touches to the site. After the website is up and running a survey will be sent to the membership requesting feedback. The web site may be reviewed at <http://www.kstreefarmssystem.org/>.

### Kansas Forestry Association By-Laws

Changes have been made to the KFA By-Laws and are attached to this document.

### Leadership Conference

Carolyn & Roy attended the ATF Leadership Conference in late February. Some of the items addressed were the use of the traditional Tree Farm logo or the newer Family Forest logo; environmental learning/Project Learning Tree; Tree Farm Magazine – articles can be submitted to Bridget Johnson. Carolyn and Roy will be attending the Tree Farm Convention in September.

### Request for Sponsorship

The KACEE organization submitted a request for sponsorship of their 2009 Conference to be held in early November. A discussion was held on sponsor rates and the need to develop a budget for future requests. **Charlie motioned and Dave seconded that we send \$100 for sponsorship of the conference. Approved unanimously**

### Timber Tax Workshop

Charlie reminded everyone of this upcoming workshop. Two speakers will be presenting. We have already committed \$100 through the 2009 Plan of Work.

### Fall Field Day

Danny Barrow of Valley Falls will be the host for the 2009 Fall Field Day on October 15<sup>th</sup>. The focus of this event will be water quality and the association with WRAPS. Registration information will be mailed in mid-September.

### Review 2009 Plan of Work

One out of the 5 required national re-inspections samples has been completed. These are due to the national office by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Five new Tree Farms have been certified with a goal of 12 for the year. Most of the POW has been completed, however the longer term goals remain incomplete. A more complete review of the POW will happen at the November meeting.

### Member passing

Dave mentioned the passing of Tree Farm member Doyle Derrick at the age of 99. Doyle was a dedicated tree farmer and had only begun planting trees at the age of 75. Dave said Doyle was a true friend of forestry in Kansas.

### National Walnut Council Meeting

Dennis attended this recent meeting which was held in Clarksville Indiana. The conference included tours of manufacturing facilities, sessions on the various insects and disease that are becoming a big problem such as Thousand Canker Disease, EAB and discussion on Green Certification. Dennis sent a walnut bowl for the silent auction. A brief discussion was held on reimbursement to Dennis. **Charlie moved and Roy seconded that we reimburse Dennis \$255 for the purchase and shipment of the walnut bowl and for conference registration fees. Approved unanimously**

**The next Tree Farm/Walnut Council Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> in Topeka at the Shawnee County Extension Office beginning at 9:00 a.m.**

Ryan moved adjournment, seconded by Dave. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Patricia McCaffrey  
Secretary