

**Montana Forest Council  
November 13, 2018**

**Attendance:** Paul McKenzie – FH Stolzte, Bryan Lorengo, Tim McIntire, Coleen Michael – MLA, Roger Ziesak - DNRC, Tom Ray and Jared Richardson - Weyerhaeuser, Gordy Sanders and Scott Kuehn - Pyramid, Peter Kolb – MSU Extension Forestry, Skyler Hoefer – IFG, Cindy Peterson – Project Learning Tree

**MFC Administrator:** Julia Altemus - MWPA

**Chairman's Welcome**

**Anti-Trust Statement**

**June 20, 2018 Minutes:** Paul moved to approved. Jared offered a second. Motion passed.

**MFC Charter:** Gordy walked the Council through the updated language, including adding the word Charter. Julia mentioned Gordy Mouw's comment about that SIC stands for SFI Implementation Committee. We are all under the impression that the MFC is the State Implementation Committee. Paul made the motion to accept the Charter as presented, Peter second. Approved. Jared looked at the SFI website and found that the correct terminology is SFI Implementation Committee. It was voted to add "SFI" before State Implementation Committee – officially SFI State Implementation Committee.

**2018 SFI Annual Convention:** No one from MFC attended, Gordy provided an email from Gordy Mouw of the highlights of the convention. Peter had nominated the Montana SIC for an award, but South Carolina received the award.

**SFI Community Grant Letter of Support:** Dave Atkins' request was for \$25,000 from SFI. The MFC sent a letter of support in October of 2018. Dave believes he will receive notice if he is successful or not by the end of the year. His total need is \$125,000. Peter is producing a video and would like to pursue SFI grant funding in the future. Gordy suggested that if someone has an idea to pursue for grant funding to let him know.

**Educational Brochure:** Paul updated the Council on the status of the brochure. The committee has a draft and will continue to work on the layout. Content is pretty much done, just need to get the final layout and design done. Publication date is summer of 2019.

**Spring 2019 Training Program:** Tim and Bryan – BMP/SMZ advanced SFI class, forest stewardship workshop will be offered again in 2019. New workshop ideas include – mapping and a contracting class, scaling and utilization class hasn't been done since 2013. Mapping could be a webinar. ALP steering will meet the first of

December to finalize the program and will have the calendar ready by January. Roger suggested a workshop on grant writing, and/or another identifying insects and disease. DRNC has in-house staff that can help. Roger will email the 2018 Audit Executive Summary to Julia and she will email everyone. Gordy wanted to know if there were any issues with last year's fires. Roger said the 2017 fires wouldn't show up until the 2020 audits. Peter wanted to know if there is a way to incorporate the scaling workshop with the Mini-College and then there could ALP credits. Scott suggested using Fort Missoula since the band saw is set up there. Coleen wanted to make sure that loggers could register for the Mini-College because there was an issue last year. Peter said they are making sure more people can register and can hold slots open for loggers. The Mini-College will likely be March 23, 2019. Bryan said the Forest Service has reached out and wants to be involved in silviculture training.

**Project Learning Tree & Landowner Workshop:** Cindy showed a Project Learning Tree video "Into the Woods". OPI supports PLT. Bryan wanted to know if PLT had thought about providing a workshop just for educators. Cindy said not so far, but a good idea worth looking in to. Teaching the teachers would be an opportunity to incorporate fieldwork. Landowner workshops start in April with locations and registration filling up.

**MFC Financial Reports:** Coleen said the finances are good but always looking for new participants.

**Member and Partner Updates:** Stoltze had SFI audit in October and worked out well. Don't have report back yet, but all indications it went well. IFG had audit in June and it went well and received an inspector award. Weyerhaeuser had a companywide meeting in Houston recently. They won't have an external audit until 2020 but another internal audit in 2019. Tree Farm had its annual meeting the end of September. MLA is participating in the John Deere expo this week in Bozeman. Jason participated in the FFA annual meeting in Billings this past April. MLA is trying to get in front of school kids to introduce them to logging as a career. Bryan reached out to the Jobs Corp program and also believes we need to reach out vocational students. Keith and John were recognized at the DNRC Forestry Pioneer Days. MSU Extension has a new director, Cody Stone. Peter was involved with Bioenergy program. He kept reminding people within the grant program that bioenergy is only possible with existing forest products infrastructure. Peter is putting together an educational video. Julia and sent around a link to the draft video. Peter is looking for feedback on the information presented so far. First video frames the issue and the second video will focus on logging practices. The 3<sup>rd</sup> video on wood projects and emerging markets. This will bring landowners up to speed and an educational opportunity for school children. This year the MSU President and all the MSU Deans are taking a road trip through western Montana. Peter made a strong pitch to look at forest economies. DNRC had 2 takeovers in the last couple of months. Working on 4 SMZ violations. One will be a penalty case and 3 will be written warnings. DNRC is gearing up for the legislative session. Pyramid had their

surveillance audit and all went well. Paul said there is an international committee on Low Volume Roads that is having their meeting in Kalispell in summer of 2019.

**Next Meeting:** February 12, 2019 in Missoula. Julia will check with RDO for availability. 9:30 – 12:00