

**Montana Forest Council  
February 12, 2019**

**Attendance:** Chris Damrow – FH Stoltze, Bryan Lorengo, Tim McEntire, Coleen Michael – MLA, Roger Ziesak - DNRC, Jared Richardson - Weyerhaeuser, Gordy Sanders and Scott Kuehn - Pyramid, Peter Kolb – MSU Extension Forestry, Skyler Hoefer – IFG, Cindy Peterson – Project Learning Tree

**Chairman’s Welcome**

**Anti-Trust Statement**

**November 13, 2018 Minutes:** Cindy requested adding “in the woods” to the PLT report. *Bryan wanted to know if PLT had thought about providing a workshop (**in the woods**) just for educators.*

Scott moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jared offered a second. Motion passed.

**MFC Charter:** Gordy confirmed the MFC Charter was finalized and provided a copy of the final document.

**SFI 2015-2019 Standards:** Gordy advised the committee that the certification expiring in 2019 will be automatically extended to 2020 for Certified Tree Farm Inspectors and for SFI Certificate holders. New standards will be for 2020-2024. May see increase in monitoring requirements of water bodies for those using Roundup herbicide.

**Educational Brochure:** Chris reported that Paul hasn’t heard back on the graphic design yet. Paul will be in contact with Janina Hobday to follow up. Good progress was made on the brochure last summer/fall.

**Spring 2019 Training Program:** Tim – Classes for this year include the forest stewardship workshop for loggers BMP/SMZ, Advanced SFI class, Log Scaling, Tracking Costs and an Avenza app workshop. Other workshops of interest will be the Insect & Disease class @ the Extension Forestry Mini College March 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Weeds Management workshop at the Forest Landowner Conference in Butte, April 12. Bryan – previewed one of several equipment operator video’s that have been developed to use for employee orientation which may evolve into an apprentice certificate. The video’s explain the equipment’s function and capabilities. They will also be valuable for landowners and the general public. They should be up and running on the MLA website by March 1. MLA has also submitted a grant application for a simulator that can be used as a promotional as well as educational tool.

**Project Learning Tree & Landowner Workshop:** Cindy reported that Grants have included \$9,000 for staffing from DNRC, \$1,000 for materials from USFS, \$8,000 from SFI for conference workshops. Early childhood workshops are scheduled as well as participation at the MEA conference. On-line training in October will be a facilitator refresher.

Landowner workshops start in April with locations in Libby, Lewistown, Corvallis, Kalispell and Trout Creek.

**MFC Financial Reports:** Coleen said the finances are good but always looking for new participants. Roger suggested the in-kind contribution from DNRC be increased to \$8,000. Peter suggested Extension Forestry should be updated to \$10,000.

**Member and Partner Updates:** Gordy reported for Bruce Rowland – Stimson has a surveillance in July and internal audit in June. Roger- HRA legislation is moving through the senate, passed by house. It included fee increases for HRA & Extension Forestry. DNRC is working on HRA application to be available on-line. HRA-s 1 take over and 1 SMZ violation settled with a penalty and fine. GNA legislation has strong bipartisan support. Service Forester Roundup, scheduled for May 28-30. Possible opportunity for industry to do presentations. Bryan – attending regional safety summit in Oregon, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Will include safety representatives from WA, ID, OR, MT & BC. Peter – Extension Forestry spring newsletter, “Getting the Work Done” includes logging techniques. Logger survey MLA will send out to get idea of equipment available and what a logger would consider acreage wise. Mini College is March 23<sup>rd</sup> in Missoula with increased capacity based on prior year’s turnout. MFOA is working on legislation for prescribed burning, and also providing comments on legislation for conservation license. Natural Resources Youth Camp is scheduled for July. Pile burning workshop was successful past 2 Novembers. Will schedule 2 in 2019. Weyerhaeuser’s Truck Safety Refresher will be April 19<sup>th</sup>, with emphasis on reach safety inspections. SFI surveillance audit in July. Weyerhaeuser is combining fiber source certificates to one for the US and one for Canada. IFG – recently purchased finger joint facility in Athol, ID. Surveillance audit in June. Contractors meeting April 15. Scott- Forestry Day’s April 26/27. ILC April 3-5. Scaling class for mini college and MLA. Stoltze – Contractor meeting April 24, Family Forestry Expo, May 6-11, in 30<sup>th</sup> year. Surveillance audit in October. Tim MLA & FVCC working on opportunities to promote to students that might be considering trades programs. Equipment simulator will be a great opportunity for trade shows. Working on social media. Jared – Tree Farm update – 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Jared is new chair as of January 1. Bryan – REAL MT is looking for applicants for next session. Applications are due in March. Coleen – MLA has new membership coordinator as of December 1. Gordy – Pyramid surveillance audit in October. Social Media interest.... North American Forest Partnership - #ForestProud

**Next Meeting:** June 18, 2019 in Missoula. **Julia will check with RDO for availability.**  
9:30 – 12:00