



# BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**June 22, 2020—5:00 P.M. Meeting via ZOOM**

## Minutes

- 1.00 Call to order – Butte County Public Works Facility, Via ZOOM
- 2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- 2.01 **Roll Call – Members:** Nick Repanich, Thad Walker, Teri Faulkner, Trish Puterbaugh, Dan Taverner, Peggy Moak  
**Alternates:** Vance Severin, Carolyn Denero,  
**Guests and Public:** Matt Beasley (Plumas County Sheriff's Office Representative); Wolfy Rogle, Butte County RCD); Deb Bumpus (Forest Supervisor, Lassen National Forest); Russell Nickerson, (District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, Lassen National Forest); Brett Sanders (Congressman LaMalfa's office); Clay Davis (NEPA Planner, FRRD); Dennis Schmidt, Director of Public Works; David Phelps, Pair-O-Dice 4 wheelers
- 2.02 Self-introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests, and Public – 5 Min.

## Minutes for Consent Agenda

- 3.00
- 3.01 Review and approve minutes of 2-24-20: M- Walker for Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> Repanich, Approved 4-0 Review and approval of May minutes tabled to next meeting due to lack of eligible voters in attendance at the meeting

## Minutes

- 4.00
- 4.01 Matt Beasley, Plumas County Sheriff's Office – updates on plans for Law Enforcement in the High Lakes and other areas – one 2-man patrol for 10-12 hours each weekend. Generally come up through Humbug then Philbrook and out the South side. Will consider trying to coordinate with Butte and maybe F&W to enhance coverage.

- 4.02 Forest Projects Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for USFS projects affecting Butte County residents' forest management, recreational, environmental, socio-economic interests(Chair)

Lassen NF Almanor Ranger District- Russell Nickerson (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on prescribed fire plans, pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA:

- Status of final part of trails maintenance project (the T and Long lake trail are left, then pull the gravel out of the Stairsteps – July 13, Army Corps of Engineers permit still pending he plans on looking at those places. Priority is Long Lake and the Trails. Tying in with Dave Emmeker. Covid 19 has affected staff projects
- Schedule of the 2020 OHV patrollers: They are working weekends but only during the day, Forest Protection Officers, but can write up incidents and have LEOs follow up
- Russell will check with Janey to schedule a pre-season meeting with OHV patrol, LEO, Rec and FOTHL? – would need to be a Zoom meeting
- Stacy Kronner (our Rec Specialist)-just left last week, LNF working on replacement, but likely 3 months out
- Status of 25N05 turning into Motorized Mixed Use - no update as yet, still working on MVUM – Russell will try to get that info next week
- Status of maintenance on the ML3 25N05 (slower and rougher would be better, in other words, in the interest of road safety, rough is good, as long as they don't write tickets for OHV. If they do start writing tickets, then there is going to be huge pressure to make it smooth for trailers) LNF plans for maintenance this year going up to the T
- WestShore Almanor and Robbers Creek NEPA will be done this summer
- Colby area grant is pending in coordination with the RCD
- What are the Forest Service restriction re: COVID – focusing on admin and contracts. Seasonal work force concentrating on cleaning up campgrounds. Scheduled to open June 26. Patrols and Law Enforcement have been out in the field. Several exemptions are pending on projects. Most staff are teleworking; not in the office
- 2 LEOs are covering Butte, and other counties, one new one started this week at Eagle Lake, though they work all over the Forest. Down numbers on staffing, covering a lot of ground, up as far as the T. Lack adequate vehicles to access ML2. Citizens can report incidents and abuse to Russell directly, call headquarters. Nick asked if text or email is available due to reception issues.

Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, Clay Davis (District Planner): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA and Collaborator's Meeting Update:

- Received feedback from Trish Puterbaugh on French Creek II, a new project – the projects are not finalized yet, still in concept form, asking for feedback to help them shape the projects' scope.
- Mooreville Ridge project completed. Four Miles roadside hazard project moving ahead due to road work that Bamford accomplished on a different logging project. They keep access available to the public until active logging is occurring.
- Law Enforcement are focused on resource damage and their personal safety due to more public presence in the woods. Nick asked about time spent on pot farms vs. regular patrols. 80/20 regular enforcement, same for LNF. Fire season impacts LEO activity.

4.03 Thad Walker, Butte County RCD: The Butte County RCD submitted 3 grant proposals to the Wildlife Conservation Board -Forest Conservation Program, funded through Prop 68 for Forest Health, all for forest health projects on the Lassen and Plumas National Forests. NEPA Planning grant for Colby include single-track and OHV as in addition to the main focus of wildlife protection, and forest and watershed health components on a landscape level. The Concow Resilience project is important to restore watersheds on an experimental basis, employing several different techniques for later evaluation for efficacy. MOTION: Dan - Recommend Support letter for the grant proposals to the CC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Teri, Vote: 3 Ayes, 1 Abstention (Thad)

4.04 Pacific Forest Trust – request for feedback on pending legislation – FAC general feedback is that the logistics and particulars of this legislation are beyond the scope of the FAC for official comment.

4.05 New Business–Considerations for upcoming meetings: Next meeting is July 27, 2020 - ZOOM, 5:00 PM

- Access to evacuation routes, traffic studies, in the event of wildfire (CalFire, PW, BCFSC, Nick R.) To include all rural foothill areas
- South Feather Water & Sewer District - Recreation and Water Projects
- Fish & Wildlife

4.06 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM