

Friends of the Clearwater Board Meeting Minutes 7-01-26

Board Members—Annette Bridges, Beth Hoots, Harry Jageman, Nils Peterson, Gary Macfarlane, Lynne Nelson, Chris Norden, Steve Paulson, Julian Matthews, and Rick Rupp

Staff—Kyran Kunkel, Krystal Starkey, Paul Busch, Jeff Juel

Member/Guest—Kristi Running

Nils made the motion and Chris Norden seconded to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed.

Kristi Running, U of I law school professor, expressed a personal interest in working closer with FOC and a professional interest in letting her students know about FOC as an organization for whom they could do the required non-profit project.

Rick asked about adding 15 minutes to hear from everyone at the end of every meeting. Nils made the motion to do so this meeting as long as there was enough time to fit into the 1.5 hour meeting. Steve seconded. The motion passed.

Jeff presented an issues update focusing on the giant emergency blowdown timber sale proposal for several national forests occurring anywhere within 12 million acres. The board had approved taking further action, pending a final decision by the agency. We also discussed ongoing timber sale litigation with Greenfire and ongoing and potential ways to influence agency decisions, in light of the reduced level of public involvement.

Kyran discussed the Big Wild project, NREPA, and the upper Lochsa checkerboard issue, which align into our Big Wild program. FOC is engaging with other groups, attended a meeting in northern Idaho, and is working with Mike Garrity of AWR. Rick suggested we may want to make NREPA a separate project as it would accomplish many if not most the goals of the three initiatives. The board recognized that NREPA is a huge project and cannot be ours alone.

Nils and Kyran updated us on finances, and things seem to be doing very well. Paul cautioned we still need to find other funding and a days-in-the-bank analysis may not be the best. We got the grant from New-Land.

Lynne updated the board and staff briefly on the Forest Policy director position.

There was a consensus to table the plank discussion and do it via email.

There was 15 minutes to allow all to weigh in.

Several board members simultaneously made the motion to adjourn and second. The motion passed.