

# Randolph Forest Commission

## Minutes

**Date:** March 4, 2015  
**Location:** Randolph Town Hall  
**Members Present:** John Scarinza – Chairman, Mark Kelley, Doug Mayer, Jeff Parker and the Chairman appointed David Willcox to sit in for Walter Graf  
**Others Present:** Michelle Cormier

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM

- I. Minutes of the February 2015 meeting were read and approved.
- II. An invoice from Kel-log, Inc. for materials for the bridge on the North/South road off the Jimtown logging road. Gorham is rebuilding the bridge on the Randolph Town Forest to access cutting on the Gorham Town Forest: \$1,336.40. Labor and Materials were being supplied by Gorham, but this invoice represents the difference in price between hemlock and pressure treated material. The original agreement called for hemlock, but the RFC asked to upgrade it to Pressure Treated. This amount was approved for payment per the agreement between the two town forests boards.
- III. Request For Proposal to entertain maple sugar production on the Randolph Town Forest. John Scarinza presented a map with the stands available for sugaring, clearly marked and highlighted. In addition, John shared some stand data which shows current 12" and higher diameter for current production as well as trees >10" and <12" for future production. This covers 723 acres of land on 10 stands within compartment 3A. John will include this information in developing the actual RFP for the next meeting.
- IV. Walt Wintturi put together a list of qualified registered foresters who should be contacted for an RFP of the position of Randolph Forester. Walt also offered to sit in during the review process to select the new forester.
- V. David Willcox announced that the Randolph Town Forest would be receiving a \$30,000 grant for "Dirt to Trees to Wildlife". This grant will

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serve as an incubator for future state-wide roll-outs of similar plans. John Lanier, the director of this program, and Coos Country Forester, Brendan Prusik have been working on this project for over two years. The project involves the development of software, which will marry the data already available for identifying the location of various categories of soils, with data not currently available in digital format, about the types of trees and other flora which grow in those soils. It will also link the kinds of birds and other fauna which like to live in or near that flora. The software will be housed at NH GRANIT, a part of UNH and should be of great use to landowners everywhere who want to attract birds and animals. The money will come in under the Gifts and Grants category, and a new disbursements account will be set up for "Dirt to Trees to Wildlife." Since the money for this project is going through the RCF, we should be able to host some kind of function when the software is available, to introduce it to organizations across the state which will be interested in using it. Hopefully, we should also be able to use this function to introduce those organizations to the advantages of using the RCF as a laboratory.

- VI. Doug Mayer brought in some samples of sign designs for the road sign initiative that was discussed at the March meeting of the RFC. Given some preliminary costs, the next step is to flush-out the suggested road names, clear them with 911, and submit the list to the vendor to be estimated for final approval. The vendor will send a few samples of painted signs in the suggested "SW Chrome Green" colored background with either white or cream lettering. A suggestion by Jeff Parker is to add silica glass beads to introduce reflectiveness. This product is available at most automotive paint stores.
- VII. Doug Mayer also brought in a draft for a future small grant application. Discussed at an earlier meeting, it was suggested to have some funds

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available to subsidize studies, aid research, and similar projects done on the RCF and to enhance the goals of the Stewardship Plan. This application was the start of the process for such a future grant(s).

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM. The next meeting will be held Wednesday April 1, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Randolph Town Hall.