

# **Polk County Forestland Classification Committee Meeting**

## **Meeting Minutes**

April 13, 2009

9:00 – 4:30 pm

Oregon Department of Forestry, Dallas Office

Meeting called to order by Terry Lamers (Chair) at 9:15 a.m on April 13, 2009, Oregon Department of Forestry, Dallas Unit, 825 Oak Villa Rd., Dallas, OR

Members in attendance: Terry Lamers, Don Duhrkopf, Tom Parsons, Jeff Classen and Brad Withrow-Robinson.

Quorum present.

### Agenda:

Review minutes

Discuss fire cost liability

Review areas and issues to consider in the field

Take a field trip to several locations to ground truth perceptions from photo images

Minutes were reviewed and accepted with minor changes (typographical errors).

Regarding landowner liability to costs of fighting fire, generally limited to \$300,000 when the landowner is compliant with regulations, the Committee wondered if lands were not classified and assessed and so not given ODF protection, might that lead to the an unlimited vulnerability, or does the Falls City Fire Department provide necessary coverarge (that is agrees as a political subdivision to provide protection, as stated in SS 477.406). Jeff will ask the Salem office of ODF for clarification.

The Committee left mid morning and returned late afternoon after viewing several areas within the District. The Committee visited Mistletoe road, the Falls City area and Pedee Area to get a clearer idea of the situation on the ground that will be applied in the classification process and discussion at the next meeting.

Several tentative meeting dates were set, the final to be chosen pending Eric Foucht's availability. The committee hopes to complete the draft classification at that meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 4:35 p.m.

Approved 5-5-09