



## Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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### Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting November 8, 2021

#### Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday November 8, 2021 at Mt. Nebo. Those Board members in attendance either in person or remotely were: Bill Buckel, Derek Buckel, Ken Fisher, Mike Kozier, Larry Tichnell, Will Williams, Fred Eggleston, Mike Minnick, and Melissa Nash.

The agenda was approved following a few additions and a motion by Mike K. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved following a minor date correction and motion by Ken and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred.

Bill B. gave the treasurer's report.

Forestry Board	\$6,136.45
MUCFC	\$180.00
NRCC	\$1,720.26
Workshop/Ed	\$543.11
Scholarship	\$1,430.00

The only change is that the \$10 check from a couple years ago that never cleared the bank has been added back in. The report was approved following a motion by Larry and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Will.

#### Volunteer Hours:

The Board's hours since the last meeting were as follows:

Ken – 6	Mike K – 6
Mike M – 6	Fred – 3
Larry – 3	Will – 5
Bill B. – 6	Bill A. – no report
Mike F. – no report	Derek B. – 3

**TOTAL: 38 hrs.**

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### **Mushroom Workshop**

We are waiting to hear back from the Discovery Center on availability of the room for either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April. A discussion was held on whether to offer 1 or 2

time slots. The capacity of the room is about 40 people and we filled up last time before we had to cancel. We will also need to check on the price of materials to see if \$20 is still sufficient. We will revisit next meeting when we will hopefully have a date set.

### **Envirothon Training**

Will met with 8-10 students from Southern High School. Only 2 were returning from last year. Hickory has a line item in their budget for Envirothon and is encouraging teams to purchase additional equipment up to \$900. The Forestry Board can assist with equipment lists & recommendations.

### **NRCC**

We received an email letter from Nate on his camp experience, so his deposit will be returned.

Students can apply online now for the 2022 camp which will be July 24-30, 2022. The website still lists the 2021 dates as the Association is still working on getting it updated. They hope to have the new information up by the end of the year. Tuition is expected to remain at \$575 per student.

### **Waterwise**

Mike M. would like to have a committee meeting before our next Forestry Board meeting to talk about forestry specific language for some aspects of the program. Melissa will send out a summary of what was talked about during the summer committee meeting.

### **Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan (LPPRP)**

Mike M. shared forestry management numbers that Melissa was able to put together.

760 parcels with a total of 58,000 privately owned acres in Garrett County are enrolled in a Forest Stewardship plan, either through the MD DNR - Forest Service or through a consulting forester.

There are also 13 tracts enrolled in a Forest Conservation Management Agreement on a total of 3,444.72 acres.

As for publicly owned tracts with a plan, there are the following forested acres:

Garrett Co (Francis Sanders Drive tract) 68.93

Garrett Co (Fork Run tract) 676.52

Garrett Co (Landon's Dam tract) 333.72

City of Frostburg Watershed (plan housed with Allegany Co office, but property physically in Garrett Co) 1,300

Western MD 4-H Center 1,308.3

Those 5 total approx 3,688 acres

That said, using the 285,000 ac figure for total forested acres in the county and knowing that there are 87,600 state-owned acres - 74,185 of which are Potomac, Garrett, and

Savage River State Forests and under their own forest management plans and accounting for the 3,688 acres of county/municipal forested land and private land under management plans, that would put approximately 49% of all forest land in the county as being managed under a stewardship plan. Just looking at private forested acres, approximately 30% of our private forest acres are being managed under a forest stewardship plan.

Our state forests are dual-certified by the two major internationally recognized forest certification systems for public land, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). The certification process involves a detailed review of the environmental, social and economic values of the forests so they can remain healthy and viable into the future.

We also currently have 62 properties totaling 10,143 acres certified through the Tree Farm program.

Currently, there are 47 licensed Forest Products Operators (FPO's) who have indicated they will provide services within Garrett County. That number includes all types of forest products businesses.

Of those that have asked to be included on our public directory:

13 firewood

23 logging

5 sawmills

Some operators provide more than one type of service, and some are smaller scale and choose to operate by word of mouth and not be included in our public directory.

Specifically from a sawmill aspect, those who served Garrett County in the last 3 years reported the following:

2019 license year (numbers reported from 2018)

3 mills reported serving Garrett County, with a total of 20-30 million board feet of production

Top species bought (in no particular order) were black cherry, yellow poplar, red oak, white oak, and soft maple.

Products bought included standing timber and logs

Products sold included logs, firewood, lumber, rail ties and mulch

2020 license year (numbers reported from 2019)

2 mills reported serving Garrett County, with a total of 20-30 million board feet of production

Top species bought (in no particular order) were black cherry, yellow poplar, red oak, white oak, and soft maple.

Products bought included standing timber and logs

Products sold included logs, lumber and firewood

2021 license year (numbers reported from 2020)

4 mills reported serving Garrett County, with a total of 7-20 million board feet of production

Top species bought (in no particular order) were black cherry, yellow poplar, red oak, white oak, and soft maple.

Products bought included standing timber and logs

Products sold included logs, limber, firewood, rail ties and mulch

From a logging aspect:

On private lands in Garrett County, there were the following Erosion & Sediment Control permits issued:

FY19 total of 54 permits on 2,305.25 ac

FY20 total of 36 permits on 2,353.6 ac

FY21 total of 16 permits on 1,172.6 ac

FY22 total of 22 permits on 994 ac (as of today)

On state forests in Garrett County, there were the following harvests:

FY19 total of 16 on 509 ac

FY20 total of 14 on 415 ac

FY21 total of 13 on 565 ac

FY22 total of 9 on 390 ac

Mike plans on sharing this information at the Mountain Loggers meeting.

Siera advised Melissa via email that she hopes to have a draft plan available in the next couple weeks.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Mountain Loggers**

The next Mountain Loggers meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Green Turtle. Their elimination dinner was held in October. Exact numbers aren't available yet, but Mike M. said their silent auction did very well.

### **UMD Ash Project**

The University of Maryland Dept of Entomology is looking for trees infested with EAB between November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> to use in a study. The tree must be alive, not treated with any insecticide and display signs of infestation. Logs must be cut into 2 ft sections and be between 2" to 12" diameter. Contact Stokes Aker at [saker@umd.edu](mailto:saker@umd.edu).

### **Statewide Meeting**

Melissa attended the statewide virtual meeting. Between 35-40 people participated. They held an election of officers. Joli McCathran will be the new president. The vice president position is still vacant. Secretary (DNR representative by default) will eventually be the person who fills Anne Gilbert's old position. Dawn Balinski will

continue as treasurer. The regional representatives for the executive committee will be Wayne Lucas (southern), Agnes Kedmenecz (eastern), Doug Inkley (western) and vacant (central).

Statewide forestry stats presented for FY2021 were as follows:

594 forest management plans on 33,989 acres (10,000 more than 2020)

17,507 acres of forestry practices implemented

627 acres of tree planting, all types

169 acres of forest buffers

1,153 acres of wildfires suppressed

2.1 million seedlings grown at state nursery

1,298 roadside tree permits processed

3,645 acres conserved through Forest Conservation Act

The spring meeting will tentatively be held the first Thursday in March as a blended meeting with in person and virtual options.

### **Information Pamphlet**

Mike M. would like to develop a brochure with information for who to contact about various natural resource programs and issues. A discussion was held on what to include. Melissa will work on a draft to send out.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be December 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Mt. Nebo. We will have coffee. If anyone would like to bring Christmas goodies to share (cookies, donuts, etc), they would be welcome. Anne Hairston Strang, acting state forester, plans to attend.

Melissa Nash  
Secretary

### **Upcoming Dates**

November 9 – Mountain Loggers 6pm @ Green Turtle

December 13 – Next regular meeting