

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Faye Krueger – Regional Forester Northern Division**  
**September 22, 2014**  
**8:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee and Commissioner Dan Green met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were United States Forest Service Northern Region One Regional Forester Fay Krueger, Idaho Panhandle National Forest Supervisor Mary Farnsworth and Forest Planner Nanci Curtis, and Deputy Clerk Brandie Bradley. Commissioner Jai Nelson was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.
- B. Introductions:** Introductions were made by all of the attendees.
- C. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- D. New Business:**  
United States Forest Service (USFS) Region One Regional Forester Fay Krueger explained to the Commissioners that her office has been in the process of updating the forest plan over the last twelve (12) years. She advised that they are currently in the objection process phase, which is conducted prior to a decision being made. All objections that are received must also include a remedy to be considered. Ms. Krueger stated that the Idaho Panhandle National Forest is the first forestry office in the nation to use these new processes. She explained that her office has been given direction to enhance cooperation with the five (5) northern counties, which was the reason for the meeting.

Commissioner Green shared that due to the time constraints of the County Commissioners a Natural Resource Advisory Board exists to review related issues and make recommendations to the Board. He stated that he has heard concerns that the forest service is increasing the amount of wilderness designation areas and the potential impacts of these designations. Chairman Tondee explained that any designations made by the USFS should not hinder recreation or public access.

The attendees agreed that informed decisions and dialogues are important and Chairman Tondee recommended that the USFS staff members continue to have open communication with the Commissioners, as well as with the members of the Natural Resource Advisory Board. This open communication will assist all of those involved by improving their understanding of the decision making process. The Commissioners encouraged USFS Idaho Panhandle National Forest Supervisor Mary Farnsworth to meet with the Natural Resource Advisory Board to understand and address their concerns.

Ms. Krueger stated that her goal was to promote healthy communities and she would like to see the USFS and the County partner to implement and complete projects that assist with achieving this goal.

The meeting ended at 9:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

TODD TONDEE, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brandie Bradley, Deputy Clerk

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