

Sale & Exchange of Property & BWCA Subcommittee
Permanent School Fund Advisory Committee
Tuesday, June 18, 2009
1:00 p.m., 229 State Capitol

Minutes

Present: Ron Nargang - Chair, Superintendent Patty Phillips, Representative Denise Dittrich

Absent: Senator Satveer S. Chaudhary, John Herman, Senator Tom Saxhaug (Mitch Berggren was present), Mark Johnson, Robert Krepps

Ron Nargang called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

BWCAW – Presentation by DNR Staff and Discussion

Paul Pojar, DNR, reviewed further background information on the history of the BWCAW and past efforts to remove school trust lands from the BWCAW.

Subcommittee discussion followed. Representative Solberg joined the discussion for a short period.

The following options were identified:

- (1) Land exchange with the federal government following standard procedures
- (2) Condemnation of school trust land
- (3) Court action seeking reverse condemnation
- (4) Federal legislation enacted that mandates land exchange
- (5) Conservation easement issued on school trust land (legislation needed)
- (6) Seek third party purchase of school lands, or possibly Legacy funding
- (7) Court action looking at 1857 enabling law and 1970s law creating BWCAW, violation concept

Next steps:

- (a) Subcommittee visit with Range delegation, possibly in September
- (b) Subcommittee visit with state's Congressional delegation
- (c) Write up options, identify pros and cons of each option, identify recommendations, and bring recommendations to full committee.

Alternative Revenue Sources - Presentation by DNR Staff and Discussion

Kathy Lewis, DNR, reviewed the alternative resource options as identified in the School Trust Land Revenue Enhancement Program report. She also provided some information on a vehicle use permit by the State of Washington.

Subcommittee discussion and questions followed.

The following items were identified for further discussion:

- (1) Legacy funding for condemnation of school lands within Peatland Scientific and Natural Areas
- (2) A surcharge on hunting licenses for the right to use school lands
- (3) A vehicle permit for non-consumptive use, such as Washington State.

Chair Nargang recommended that there be acceleration of the exchange of school lands out of management units where revenue generation is prohibited. There was also a recommendation to focus on consolidation of school trust parcels.

Discussion of Future Meeting Topics

The Subcommittee decided the next meeting would include a discussion and development of a goal statement – what is do they want to do and achieve. DNR was asked to work on the options for the BWCAW, writing out a description of the options and identifying pros and cons. This draft document would be discussed at the next subcommittee meeting. DNR was also asked to find out further information on Washington’s vehicle permit for non-consumptive use.

Next Meeting

The Subcommittee decided to meet again on August 12, from 1:00 to 3:00, in a room at the State Capitol.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Ron Nargang, Chair