

Permanent School Fund Advisory Committee
Wednesday December 8, 2010
1:30 PM, Basement Hearing Room, State Office Building

Minutes

Present: Representative Denise Dittrich, Chair, Senator Tom Saxhaug, Senator Charles W. Wiger, Representative Jean Wagenius, Ron Nargang, Joe Silko, Grace Kelliher, Robert Krepps, Mark Johnson, Steve Betzler, Gene Merriam, John Herman,

Absent: Senator Ellen R. Anderson, Senator Kevin Dahle, Senator Satveer S. Chaudhary, Representative Kent Eken, Representative Carlos Mariani, Representative Loren Solberg, Patty Phillips, Alice Seagren

Representative Denise Dittrich called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes from the November 15, 2010 meeting

Meeting minutes from the November 15, 2010 meeting were distributed to committee members and approved.

Fire Suppression Cost Allocation

Olin Phillips, DNR, presented on the DNR's fire protection efforts and costs charged to the school trust for such efforts. Mr. Phillips discussed the details that are involved in determining the costs certified to the school trust. Also discussed were possible alternatives to the current method of funding for fire protection on school trust lands.

Committee discussion and questions followed.

Forest Certification

Rebecca Barnard, DNR, presented on the forest certification of all state forest lands, including school trust lands. The state forest lands are dual certified under FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) and SFI (Sustainable Forest Initiative). Ms. Barnard commented on the benefits to the school trust that come from forest certification.

Committee discussion and questions followed.

Committee Member Term Length and Transition

Mark Shepard, House Research, presented on the laws that affect term length of the committee

members. Mr. Shepard advised that the DNR appointees would remain members until replaced by the DNR Commissioner.

Committee discussion and questions followed.

Subcommittee Update

Ron Nargang, Sale & Exchange and BWCAW Subcommittee, reported that the BWCAW exchange and sale continued to progress.

Chair's Report

Representative Dittrich presented on the Committee's achievements over the past few years.

2011 Legislative Agenda

The Committee discussed possible legislative initiatives for the 2011 session. The topics that were discussed are below:

- 1.) Legislation related to the exchange and sale of the school trust lands in the BWCAW.
- 2.) Legislation that would create a management agency similar to that used in Utah.
- 3.) A clarification of the roles of citizen members.
- 4.) The dissemination of information to encourage public knowledge of the school trust lands.

Discussion of future meeting topics and schedule

It was agreed that the DNR would work with the new committee members to convene the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Representative Denise Dittrich, Chair