



MINUTES

TENNESSEE FORESTRY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

9/7/2022

Tennessee Forestry Commission meeting was held in the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, Bruer Building Fire Training Room in Nashville, TN, September 7, 2022.

Participants:

Forestry Commission Members: Tom Midyett, Chairman; John Charles Wilson, Vice Chairman; Alex Richman (remote), Bill Legg, Drew Getty.

Tennessee Department of Agriculture - Division of Forestry (TDF): David Arnold, State Forester; Heather Slayton, Assistant State Forester; Wade Waters, Assistant State Forester; Robert Elliott, Forest Health and Sustainability Unit Leader; Philip Morrissey, Forest Stewardship Program Specialist; Dyshea Brown, Executive Administrative Assistant.

Chairman Tom Midyett welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the August 24, 2022 meeting

Bill Legg motioned to approve minutes as presented. John Charles Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Recap of Commission members to form landowner assistance programs sub-committee

- The sub-committee will be John Charles Wilson – Chair, Bill Legg and Alex Richman.
- Purpose of committee is to seek input from various forest landowners on the Division's forest landowner assistance programs.
- The sub-committee would not have a vote on action from the Commission, thus no need for submission of a sunshine notice.
- The sub-committee would report to the Commission any actions that they have taken at future meetings.

Approval of the Sub-Committee

John Charles motioned to approve the sub-committee. Drew Getty seconded the motion. All



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Commission members present voted yes to approve. The motion was approved.

Wildland Fire Management Program Review

Wade Waters/David

Arnold

- Video was shown of fire in Sevier County “Day in the life of emergency response” with David Arnold and Darren Bailey, East TN District Forester.
- Handouts were provided with the plan of the National Incident Management System that is the guide followed by the Division for emergency response.
- Discussion and review was conducted of the Division’s wildland fire prevention, suppression, and mitigation programs.

Resolution for Michael Lewelling

Tom Midyett

- Tom Midyett suggested developing a resolution for Forestry Aide 2 Michael Lewelling to commend him on life saving actions during the Sevier County fire, April 2022.

John Charles motioned to commend Michael Lewelling for his heroic actions April 2022. Bill Legg seconded the motion. All Commission members present voted yes to approve. The motion was approved.

Bill Legg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Charles seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 2:00PM CDT.