



Annual General Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2011

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Travelodge Hotel, Prince Albert, SK

Attendees: Andrea Atkinson, Michael Bendzsak, Earl Bourlon (guest), Chris Brown, Matthew Burtney, Kim Clark, James Daigneault, John Daisley, Mike Demyen, Amber Dereshkevich, Henry Desjarlais, Deb Desrosiers, Dave Dorosh, John Doucette, Dwayne Dye, James Fisher, Robert Follett, Vicki Gauthier, Kathleen Gazey, Lane Gelhorn, Kevin Gillis, Wilf Goerwell, April Goll, Mike Guitard, David Harman, Daryl Jessop, Travis Kiel, Xianhua Kong, Michelle Laliberte, Wayne Lewis, Ron Litton, Pat Mackasey, Michael McLaughlan, Roger Nesdoly, Mike Newman, Sindy Nicholson, James Norman, Roman Orynik, Spiros Papastergiou, Darcy Parkman, Nadine Penny, Del Philips, Darryl Sande, Peter Sigurdson, Jim R Smith, Wendy Soulsby, David Stevenson, John Thompson, Laird Van Damme (guest), Ken van Rees, Shane Vermette, Bruce Walter, Bob Wynes.

Note: Agenda and an information package containing reports and financial statements were distributed at the start of the meeting.

(1) Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mike Bendzsak seconded by Chris Brown that the agenda be adopted.

Motion Carried

(2) Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting – April 14, 2010

Moved by John Thompson seconded by Daryl Sande that the minutes of April 14, 2010 as previously distributed be approved.

Motion Carried

(3) Reports

a. President Report– Pat Mackasey

Pat presented his report as distributed in the information packaged including thanking members of council for their participation over the past year and welcome incoming president Dave Stevenson.

b. Admissions Committee Report– Chris Brown

Chris presented his report stressing that discussion at the Admissions committee include changes to the association's membership categories and how membership requirements might be changed from time based to competencies assessment of qualifications. Also, a decision by the membership committee and endorsed by Council that those individuals who are non-active that as soon as they become active, meaning one day of employment or seeking employment they must start paying full dues.

c. Registrar Report – Roman Orynik

Roman presented his report highlighting current membership and changes to membership since the last meeting. He also presented a summary of the work that has been undertaken by the CFPFA in the development of the Certification Standards, Mutual Recognition Agreement, and the national assessment process for the Assessment of Foreign Trained and Graduates of Non- Accredited Programs.

d. Treasurer Report –Wilf Goerwell, Roman Orynik

i. Financial Statements 2010

Wilf present an overview of the 2010 financial statements. A question was raise as to where is the GIC interest recorded. Recorded in the Under Cash Flow statement

Moved by John Thompson and seconded by Daryl Sande that the financial statements be accepted without the need of a financial audit or review.

Motion Carried.

ii. ASFP Resolution 2011-2

Whereas: The Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals (ASFP) is firmly entrenched and established in legislation.

And Whereas: The ASFP has a viable membership and relatively stable membership income.

And Whereas: The Saskatchewan Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry initiated the development of the ASFP and The Forestry Professions Act.

And Whereas: The Saskatchewan Section of the CIF supported the initial establishment of the ASFP with a \$5000 contribution.

And Whereas: The ASFP has been able to establish and annually contribute to its own contingency fund.

And Whereas: The Saskatchewan Section of the CIF continues to provide continuing education opportunities to help ASFP members maintain their mandatory professional competency.

And Whereas: The Saskatchewan Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry is experiencing financial pressure from the National Office who has liquidated the Institute's national contingency fund and is requiring sections to make up for the budget overruns.

And Whereas: The Saskatchewan Section the Canadian Institute of Forestry is also experiencing considerable financial pressure from a serious decline in renewed memberships due to lack of support from the Forest Service branch of the Ministry of Environment.

Therefore, Be It Resolved That:

The ASFP contribute \$ 5000 to the Saskatchewan Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry to assist them in maintaining their viability and continuing to provide professional education opportunities.

Moved by: Michael McLaughlan and seconded by Darryl Sande

Discussion:

Disturbed that the last part of the resolution implies that we are not interested in personally in being involved in the CIF and only are involved because someone else pays for it. Concern that this statement becomes a permanent record of the association. There is \$14,000 in the CIF account and therefore there is no need to repay the \$5000. It is not about the financial need of the SK section of the CIF. The money was to provide working dollars in the past and to repay is acknowledge the gratitude to the CIF and return that money that was not needed in startup. What is the issue nationally – suggested that the national deficient be covered by sections but was not resolved at the AGM. National will not be looking to sections to cover this deficient. This would be a onetime contribution / repayment to the CIF and would be recorded as such in the financial statements. The good will from the CIF was not needed for our startup. There is a concern of optics of funding an organization that employer may not fund. Intent to repay the 5000 that we were given on startup

Travis Kiel moved and seconded by April Goll an amendment to the motion that this contribution is to repay the grant and delete the rest so that the motion would read “The ASFP repay the startup grant of \$5,000 to the Saskatchewan Section of the Canadian Institute of Forestry”.

Amendment carried

Motion carried

iii. 2011 Budget

Moved by Michael and seconded by Kevin Gillis that the 5000 repay to the CIF come out of the 2011 contingency fund contribution.

Roman provided input stating the importance of the contingency fund and that with the surplus from previous years that the payment is made from that surplus.

Motion Defeated

Moved by Roger Nездoly and seconded by Shane Vermette Motion to accept the 2011 budget as presented
Where are we going to buy a computer for \$ 250 as budgeted for in 2011? We probably will buy the computer in 2012.
Motion Carried.

Meeting suspended at 12:20 for lunch and presentations

Meeting reconvened 3:00

- e. Professional Conduct & Discipline– Pat Mackasey & Wilf Goerwell
Reports presented by both Pat and Wilf representing the two committees. Collaboration is still needed between the two committees to work out some finer points of the processes developed to date. They along with their committees are work on finalizing documents.
- f. Continuing Competency Committee – Roger Nездoly
The continuing competence committee is recommending two changes in the program first – dropping the intensity of the audit from 10% to 5% and secondly that all members are required to declare their annual continuing competencies hours by category.

Moved by Kevin Gills and seconded Bob Wynes that the requirements of the continuing competency be changed to reflect annual reporting of hours and changing the audit from 10% to 5 %.
Why not report for three years? The audit is a three year audit and yearly report will provide the data needed.
Motion Carried.

(4) Right to Practice Resolution 2011-1

Whereas: The Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals (ASFP) has been a legal administrative tribunal and established under legislation since 2006.

And Whereas: Efforts to create the association date back at least 20 years, and ASFP members have more experience with professional practice requirements than the age of the association may indicate,

And Whereas: Some members of the ASFP have been members of both Right-to-Title and Right-to-Practice professional associations from other provinces and are not unfamiliar with their responsibilities as practicing professionals,

And Whereas: Transitioning from a "Right-to-Title" to a "Right-to-Practice" association further protects the people of Saskatchewan by identifying areas of restricted practice requiring a signature or seal,

And Whereas: The standing and credibility of Saskatchewan forestry professionals will improve amongst other provincial associations, and the Right-to-Practice designation would provide professional and labour mobility parity among Canadian forestry professional associations,

And Whereas: The practice, knowledge, understanding, and application of forestry differs so significantly from other professions (e.g., agronomy, engineering), that it is not in the public interest for other professions to be responsible for forestry activities,

And Whereas: The evolving Saskatchewan Environmental Code is considering the requirement for qualified persons which are more likely to include professionals with a Right-to-Practice designation.

And Whereas: It has been a logical progression for other Canadian Professional Forester and Technologist associations to move toward Right-to-Practice status to enhance public protection,

And Whereas: Moving to Right-to-Practice is an important step for the association for which council requires clear and unambiguous direction from the membership.

Therefore, Be It Resolved That: The ASFP council and executive, on behalf of the members proceed in working to change the association, including advocating and requesting changes to The Forestry Professions Act, from a “Right to Title” to a “Right to Practice” organization.

Moved by Wilf Goerwell and seconded by John Thompson

Discussion: Roger Nesdoly: It is important to understand how both the AIT (Labour Mobility) and the New West Partnership will affect the Association. The agreements have an effect on the development of the Environmental Code. The current code chapters are relatively simple and very sector based but the next few will be more complex and multi sector. We need to ensure that RFPs & RFPTs can continue to carryout the activities they have been doing even if other professions are included in the Code.

Roman Orynik: Other jurisdictions have the following underway as it relates to Right to Practice:
New Brunswick is proposing changing to RtP (this will include technicians)
Nova Scotia is actively investigation RtP
Newfoundland is looking at RtP legislation
Ontario has 15 years of RtP after switching from Right to Title.

It is inevitable that we move at some point and the time is right now. This will require potential changes to the Act and therefore to the Bylaws. We need to consider the inclusion of other professions (Technicians, P. Bios, etc.)

Q. (John Daisley) We currently have two designations: RPF and RPFT. We need to define their roles and activities. Are we going to become two tiered? Who will be defining professional activities?

A. (Roman Orynik) These roles are to be defined by the ASFP. We need to look both inside and outside of the box at the scope of practice. The Code currently refers only to “a member of the ASFP”. We therefore need to define the membership as the Code. The Code relies on the competency assurance implicit in ASFP membership.

Q. (Dave Harman) The Assistant Deputy Minister is responsible for the Code Committee. The Legislative changes are on hold. What are the next steps?

A. (Roman Orynik) Earl Bourlon and I need to understand the changes and need to get on the legislative agenda. We need to talk to other associations and get letters of support.

Q. (unknown) Does the resolution say we are getting executive permission?

A. (Roman Orynik) The motion is that we proceed.

Q. (Wilf Goerwell) If the motion is turned down should we stop Code development?

A. (Roman Orynik) No, we should continue.

Roman Orynik: It is not clear what qualified person (QP) means. We have a letter from Lin Gallagher on the subject but it doesn't give a direct answer to the question.

Dave Harman: The Code Development Committee has differing views on what QP means. There are lots of concerns: the agrologists are worried about the engineers for example. The time is right now, there is an opening, and the government support exists now (for RtP).

Roman Orynik: The changes to the Forestry Professions Act were placed upon the legislative agenda but then were withdrawn by the Deputy Minister. (These changes were put there as a placeholder pending the outcome of this AGM). Senior management apparently wants to sort out a number of Code related issues before proceeding.

Bob Wynes: The withdrawal from the legislative agenda should not be seen as a lack of support from senior management. The time was felt not to be right just yet due to other factors.

Motion carried with 3 abstentions

(5) Confirmation of actions of council, committees and officers

Moved by Dwayne Dye and seconded by Dave Harman that the actions of council, officers and committees of the ASFP for the proceeding year be approved and confirmed.

Motion Carried

(6) Nominations and Election of Officers

John Doucette presented the report of the Nominating Committee –

a. Nominated for Vice President: Chris Brown and Roger Neddoly

b. For members of Council: Andrea Atkinson, Peter Sigurdson, April Goll, Dave Harman

Call for further nominations from the floor for Council (3 times) and Vice President was made three time.

Moved by John Thompson and seconded by Kevin Gillis that nominations be closed.

Carried

Nominations to Council were by acclamation.

A secret ballot vote for Vice President was held with Roger Neddoly being elected Vice- President.

(7) Incoming President Remarks

David Stevenson presented incoming president's remarks.

(8) Other business

None

(9) Adjournment

Moved by Wilf Goerwell and seconded by April Goll that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.