

National Forest Advisory Board (NFAB) Meeting
May 16, 2007 – 1:00 p.m.
Forest Service Center, 8221 South Highway 16, Rapid City, SD

Members Present:

Tom Blair, Chair; Jim Heinert, Vice Chair; Jim Scherrer, Donovin Sprague, Bob Paulson, Aaron Everett, Becci Jo Rowe, Nels Smith, Pat McElgunn, Doug Hofer, Everett Hoyt, Mac McCracken, Hugh Thompson, and Ron Johnsen.

Forest Service Representatives:

Craig Bobzien, Dennis Jaeger, Gary Chancey, Bob Thompson, Jane Eide, Steve Kozel, Mike Lloyd, Dave McKee, Juanita Garcia, Twila Morris, Recorder.

Others:

Seven members of the public were in attendance.

Members Absent:

Matt Hoobler, Bob Kloss

Welcome and Roll Call:

Chair Blair: Quorum present, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Comments to the Chair:

Carroll: Visitors from the National Forests of North Carolina are here to watch and learn. They hope to establish an advisory board in North Carolina. Mary Noel & Ruth Berner are representing their Forest Supervisor Marisue Hilliard.

Chair Blair: Some of you may remember Marisue Hilliard from her time on the Black Hills prior to Craig.

Approve Minutes:

Chair Blair: Are there any changes to the April minutes?

Motion made to approve the minutes as reported, motion seconded.

Blair: Motion carried, the April minutes stand as reported.

Approve Agenda:

Chair Blair: Are there any changes to the agenda?

Motion made by Hoyt to approve the agenda as presented, motion seconded by McCracken.

Blair: Motion carried, the agenda stands as presented.

Housekeeping:

Carroll: Reviewed the layout of the building.

Meeting Protocols - Issues:

Chairman Blair: Cell phones off please. Do we have any alternates in the audience that should be at the table?

Bobzien: On the agenda today are two speakers who'll be sharing some background and history of the Black Hills to help us gain understanding. The second part of the agenda today will be on the open space issue, and developing an action plan.

Hot Topics

Governor's OHV Task Force Update ~ Tom Blair & Doug Hofer:

Blair: Craig, Doug, and I attended the Governor's Task Force meeting. Doug did a marvelous job of juggling the flood emergency with the Task Force meeting. Doug please open this discussion.

Hofer: This was our third Task Force meeting and our focus was on funding and registration. We also worked on the definition of "OHV", which is harder to do than it may appear. There are so many different nuances in all the vehicles that are on the market and technology keeps changing. We reviewed the definition used by other states in the nation that manage OHV trails and activities. The definition we settled on is similar to the definition used in Colorado. The main part of the definition is that an OHV is a vehicle that is designed to operate in places other than on State highways. There is a list of vehicles that are not included such as snowmobiles, etc.

Registration and titling will be an interesting issue because while OHV's can, and probably should be titled, there are no license requirements so it's hard to follow up with it. What we learned from the dealers of OHV's is that it is problematic especially when it comes time to sell, because some are titled and some aren't. We worked on some recommendations, and the Task Force is universal in the belief that we should pursue a licensing program in South Dakota. This will be one of the primary funding sources for programs to develop and administer the trails and the programs. Other funding mechanisms were discussed. We also spent a lot of time discussing Ag exemptions, which is always interesting.

Finally as we look toward the next meeting, a lot of the discussion will be about public safety issues. We have several folks on the Task Force who represent public safety. Today's laws are interesting because you can register your OHV as a motorcycle under current law. This law was put in place a number of years ago to deal with an issue at the time. The OHV Task Force is starting to get a good solid grasp on the work it is charged with and there will probably be some preliminary recommendations by the end of the summer. The group is also still working on the overall goal to recommend legislation to the Governor by the 2008 legislative session. The Task Force group works well together and is doing a great job of bringing out both sides of the issues that we are dealing with. This is a big issue and it might be a little too early to speculate how far we'll get in the next legislative session. I don't know if it will be feasible to go forward with a complete package or if we'll go forward with smaller pieces. Senator McCracken was at the first two meetings, and as a Legislator, can appreciate how interesting this will be. This activity has grown to such a level and has gone so long without any regulation or frame work; it is going to be a challenge. The good news is there are people from all parts of the spectrum that are engaged in this and everyone really wants to make it work. Our next meeting will be in June.

Blair: Doug is right, this was an issue that as it came to the Board from Chief Bosworth, we treated it as the last issue to deal with, but it might be the biggest issue we have to deal with. This industry has been out there for decades, and we have a wide cross section of recommendations and rules between states. OHV's are not even allowed on public lands in North Carolina, much less on the highways. Ranchers and people that have acreage, ride fence with ATV's not horses. Craig and I have talked about money and even though we've looked at the snowmobile program, parts of it may fit with the OHV program, one part that won't fit is the

funding source. DOT is tight and gas tax might not be available. When we found that out, everyone moved on to look at other types of funding and other recommendations. I applaud Doug for moving the group through that major hurdle. The Task Force is moving forward quickly, and things are going well.

Thompson: The target date was to get this OHV legislation passed in 2008 to coincide with the travel management decision on the Black Hills so the public would have the whole package. How essential is this time frame?

Blair: We know that the National Forest has the mandate to have the rules in place by a certain date, and we also know that the rules for the Black Hills and the State do not dovetail. I would certainly ask Mac his advice, and add that I had a part in literally creating new legislation when the gambling issue was before Deadwood. This was the whole session and a lot of meetings, etc. This is similar although there may be bits and pieces such as the Ag exemption that is going to be huge. I think there's still the potential that we take it as a full package.

Hofer: There are several places that activities on the Black Hills and on the State, where administration and management come together, but first and foremost would be the direct involvement the State has with funding of trails and dealing with the impacts that would happen once the OHV legislation is passed. How it ties with the track the Forest Service is on is still unknown. It is going to get harder and harder to bring all the interests together the longer we let it go and don't deal with it. The issues get more complicated if it's unaddressed, so that may be driving the States time frame more than the deadline the Forest Service is under. No one is interested in delaying for the sake of delaying. I recognize it is going to be a huge set of initiatives, and I'm not sure they'll move forward at the same time.

Another question that was discussed at the meeting was that if there is a registration system in place with revenues coming from the users and programs put in place to both regulate and provide opportunities, who should administer all of that? The Task Force group thought that the GF&P would be the natural entity to administer the program. That will no doubt be one of the recommendations that are brought forward.

Blair: The State has done a marvelous job with the snowmobile program.

Bobzien: As far as the travel management project, last month the indication was that we would be ready to issue a proposed action by the end of May. It has now been delayed till the end of August. We have 4,000 miles of routes and are doing the environmental screening for those routes. The sheer workload involved in that requires more time to do that initial evaluation so that they all pass before we issue the proposal to the public. We are working to establish the exact dates in August. We will have a high quality proposal that reflects the NFAB and the publics input.

Blair: Gregg Mumm, do you have anything to add?

Mumm: Nothing

Biomass Subcommittee Member Update ~ Frank Carroll:

Carroll: For your information, Blaine Cook, Black Hills National Forest Silviculturist, is the new Forest Service representative on the Biomass Sub-Committee.

Bobzien: Wyoming biomass conference held this week, Blaine is attending this meeting. Locally, we have Jim Nieman talking about the possibilities of utilization of biomass. Also in operation is the Upton plant. Bob Kloss is also at a biomass conference this week. We are seeing start up schedules for Fuels for Schools, The STAR Academy is scheduled for July, and The Veterans Hospital in Hot Springs is scheduled also. Next month we'll report on biomass at the NFAB meeting and we'll look at biomass on the field trip in August. If you have suggestions for field trip topics, please write them up on the flip chart.

Bobzien: Wildfire is a hot topic. Wildfire on public lands and the Forest Service was on the front page of USA Today. The fire suppression portion of the entire Forest Service budget nationally went from 13% to 46%. One of the things the article notes is that the population growth. We've had 8.5 million new residents in the urban interface in the last decade. The former Chief, Dale Bosworth and the three previous chiefs wrote a letter to congress for consideration. It is their concern about the added cost of fire suppression, and the values at risk. We have a challenge in front of us and part of it is the trade off we are seeing in the ability to manage our resources. I've invited the Black Hills National Forest Fire Management Officer, and the State fire leaders to come in and talk next month. We'll continue to do fuel work, etc, and we are continuing to prepare and think about how we can reduce the risk.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Black Hills – A Historical Perspective – Donovan Sprague:

Carroll: The board members have been introduced to Donovan, and I would like to introduce Donovan to the audience today. Donovan will talk with us about his perspective on the Black Hills which he calls Paha Sapa.

- The talk Donovan gave was an in depth presentation on the Lakota and American Indian use of the Black Hills and surrounding area, particularly pertaining to the past generations in his family. The detailed information Donovan has about his family goes back several generations, and was very informative to all. A few of the points of particular interest were:
 - Tribes report to the U.S. government. Tribal law also comes into play.
 - Bear Butte is a particularly special place for the Lakota. Woman ready to give birth would go to Bear Butte, because it was good to be born there. Donovan's Great, Great, Great Grandfather was born at Bear Butte.
 - "Winter Counts", which were painted on hides, were an important way of recording history and telling a story.
 - Story telling is a form of orally teaching and learning the history of the American Indian. Their legends and stories tell them that they came from the Black Hills.
 - The Lakota creation stories say that the Black Hills is the center of their universe and the actual creation of the Lakota people came about from Wind Cave, when they followed the buffalo out into this world.
 - There were always movements, and there are artifacts here in the Black Hills that came from the coast.
 - Donovan shared the legend of Devil's Tower.
 - The people followed food, so they have history in several states.
 - A glacial period covered up many of our old artifacts in North America.
 - BHSU has a Bachelor of Science program in American Indian studies, and the University of Arizona became the first university in the nation to offer a Ph.D in American Indian studies.

Paulson: Can you explain the Dawes Act?

Sprague: It was a type of Allotment Act to give land to everyone 18 years old or older. This was the start of reservation system.

Paulson: Explain the two offices in town working on Indian Land Reparation Act.

Sprague: They are mostly just doing studies; from there, the BIA has to prove all the studies. The land is currently in Federal Trust.

Hoyt: I would like to compliment you on a very informative presentation. Didn't Congress act in 1875 to amend the Laramie Treaty?

Sprague: There were some basic amendments; the handout would show the amendments. There was an offer of money for the Black Hills, but the payment was refused.

Thompson: Is the money still there?

Sprague: Supposedly, it is still in a bank in Washington DC earning interest. The tribes want land, not money, which is why it was refused.

Rowe: Are there specific sites within the Black Hills that are considered sacred?

Sprague: A Medicine Man will tell you that the whole Black Hills is sacred, but where there are remains or petroglyphs, or places for prayer, those are sacred.

Scherrer: Are the places well known? How would anyone know that they are sacred sites and should be treated as such?

Sprague: The sites are all mapped. The maps need to be translated and updated.

Rowe: As we moved forward with OHV trails etc., is it important to keep in mind these special areas?

Carroll: That is a question that Dave McKee will be answering in his presentation.

Blair: Let's take a 10 minute break.

The Black Hills National Forest – Heritage & Cultural resources; an overview – Dave McKee:

Carroll: Our next speaker is Dave McKee, Forest Archeologist.

McKee: Heritage resources are the things on the Forest that tell us about past lives in the Black Hills.

- Black Hills National Forest Resource Program:
 - Compliance
 - Tribal Consultation
 - Heritage Resource Management
 - 6500 Sites on the Black Hills
 - Island in the Plains Conference
 - Public Education Programs
 - Archaeological Research
 - Historic Restoration
 - Public Involvement
- Several projects in various stages of completion include:
 - Mount Roosevelt Project:
 - National Historic Register December 2005.
 - Constructed by Seth Bullock in memory of Teddy Roosevelt.
 - Interpretive signs going up summer of 2007.
 - Rock Art Recording Project:
 - Concentration of petroglyphs in the Southern Hills.
 - Volunteers help record the petroglyphs.
 - Gorman Cabin:
 - On Mystic District by Silver City.
 - Built by John Gorman in 1876.
 - Volunteers help with restoration through the "Passport in Time" program.
 - The interpretive signs tell a mining story.

- Currin Cabin:
 - On the West end of Custer Crossing Road.
- Miller Ranch:
 - On Reynolds Prairie.
 - Interpretive signs tell the story of early ranching and the Miller family
- Archaeological Research Project on the Bearlodge Ranger District. Project partners include:
 - University of Wyoming
 - Crook County, Wyoming RAC
 - Passport in Time Volunteers
 - Black Hills National Forest
- Williams Spring Project:
 - 5300 feet above Sand Creek.
 - Camp site there was occupied for up to 6,000 years.
 - The site is at least nine feet deep.
 - There are 2,000 artifacts per square meter.

Thompson: Are the Williams Spring Site and Gore Buffalo Jump connected?

McKee: Yes, there seems to be correlations. War site on foot hills, just on the edge of sand creek is the camp site, and then Williams's spring is up high.

Smith: Dave mentioned the skill level needed in higher quality flint knapping. Did the people move out or were they driven out or was the art lost for awhile?

McKee: It could be either of them. With the bow and arrow, they didn't have to pay as much attention to the spear.

Hofner: Donovan mentioned in his talk, Bear Butte, as a significant site for tribes. The State consults with 17 different tribes with regard to anything that is done at Bear Butte. In all the archeological work that has been done, how many tribes, or examples of tribes other than Sioux and Cheyenne, are documented?

McKee: The Black Hills consults with 17 tribes; a lot of those tribes were here in the Black Hills.

Hofner: The Cheyenne view Bear Butte as the most sacred place in the universe and to them that is where their cultural beliefs really start and end. They continue to come back to Bear Butte and recognize it as the center of their universe.

McKee: When we consult with the tribes, we ask about historical information. We ask about sites that would be key to a culture and within their knowledge and understanding.

Sprague: In American Indian studies at BHSU, we present the Bering Land Bridge theory, in addition to tribal creation stories and their views about human origin. I have collected tribal creation stories, and every tribe seems to have a story, but there is not one of them that say they used the Bering Land Bridge, except some Alaskan groups who were likely down in China & Japan. Creation stories all have common themes, like floods, fires, etc., that tie together. Pottery is an indication of something different.

Scherrer: I'm not clear on the question regarding sites, we don't want to violate special areas on the Hills, but is there specific information for the public that shows people the sites, so that we can avoid the areas, and if so will the information be used in developing trails, etc?

Sprague: No, we do not share site information, but we do invite people to sites, so they can experience them.

McKee: The process is the same as what we're doing for the travel management screening. There are different criteria that are used when evaluating a site. 20% of our sites would be significant, and historic.

Scherrer: What is the number of sites?

McKee: There are 6500 sites, we have good surveys done on ½ million acres.

Hofer: The Missouri River Trench has thousands and thousands of sites, and those aren't even all known to the people that are managing them because they are held in secrecy. People lived and died and were part of that area forever. The part that it plays in management is that it's a piece of the puzzle that we deal with in land stewardship today. We have a lot more to learn about how to work through the maze.

McKee: It's a resource that is non renewable, so we have to think long term.

McCracken: Such as the case in the Missouri River, what is the proper procedure to follow if a person discovers a site?

McKee: Depending on land ownership; if it's private land, it's private, if it's Federal land, you contact the appropriate Agency.

Blair: The myth and legend of the Black Hills was that Native Americans did not go into the Hills.

McKee: We have records of them being here as long ago as 12,000 years and as recent as 200 years.

Bobzien: Dave is leaving the Black Hills to be a Staff Officer on the Bighorn National Forest. Dave's presentation today wasn't the hardcore laws, etc., rather just a sampler of what the Black Hills represents. Our Archeologists take their job of inventory appropriately. We know where the sites are, and we record those.

Blair: Next on the agenda, an update on open space.

Open Space Sub-Committee Update ~ Craig Kjar & Bob Paulson:

Paulson: We've asked John Culberson to join us for the presentation.

Kjar: To recap the meaning of "open space", these are natural areas such as forests, grasslands, parks, creek corridors, farms, or working ranches. They can be public or private land, and they can be protected or unprotected. The conflict is between development of land and conservation of land. The Black Hills is 20% private land within the boundary of the National Forest. With the loss of open space comes wildlife disturbance, increased cost of community services, increased cost of treatment by the Forest Service on land next to private land (such as the mechanical treatment, prescribed burning, etc.)

The Sub-Committee decided to focus on one area and report on that today, land adjustment. One way to save open space is land exchanges. Land exchanges take a long time because we have to balance the land values and owner's interests, evaluate resources, and protect heritage and resource values. The exchanges can be complex, but this looks like an area that we could make a difference. What if we had better sale authority for public lands? Authority to sell land, hold receipts and buy other land.

We'll have Donovin give a perspective from the tribal interest; John Culberson will give a perspective from the local government; and Pat McElgunn will give a perspective of the legislation issues.

Sprague: There needs to be some territory marked for Native American educational cultural purposes, no specific group. Also, the Black Hills is sacred to our people, but we were not afraid of the Hills, it was used, art work evolved from the Black Hills, there was extended living periods in the Black Hills. We have a great interest in the Black Hills but the policy and the reservations have handicapped us from being involved in the process. The third largest Native American community is in Rapid City. Some of the interpretation and translations are incorrect.

Culberson: I'm a member of the Custer City Council, and I'm the Custer County Highway Superintendent. When we started looking at the conflicts that exist with people moving into the Forest, and the ability for us to provide services, we realized this was our chance to get the local and federal governments on the same page for all our benefit. The Custer County Commissioners see the potential cost to local government. Fire protection, ambulance service, road service, etc., need to be provided. If we provide services to one development, we would have to provide services to all of them; the tax payers could never afford it. If we can exchange land around a city, and buy private land that is out in the Forest, it would be beneficial.

Paulson: Nels, can you tell us about the Tally Ranch situation? They demanded services, and were turned down by Crook County.

Smith: The County road went up to the upper end of ranch, and at that point it went to a Forest road, then there was the Tally Subdivision. Mrs. Tally drove a school bus but once the kids were gone, there were no more road services. After that it was determined that it wasn't a public road, and they closed the road, but they have since opened the road. As much as we can, I believe it makes sense to block up these areas. If someone does buy them, they will eventually file an equal protection suit, and say that if you plow one road you have to plow all. To any extent that we can get ahead of this we should. Also, when these areas are occupied, they have to have more than one way out.

Paulson: The Tally Ranch is an example of what goes on throughout the Black Hills.

Culberson: Custer County maintains 400 miles of roads, we run into a conflict all the time.

Hofer: Another issue is the trail issue we talked about before. Today the snowmobile trail system in the Northern Hills covers 300 miles on the forest, but it does cross private property. We've been able to take trails across private property, but the problem is when they get subdivided, then they are not willing to run trails across private property. Often times, it becomes almost an impossible situation. We may lose a lot of the opportunity to have public trail system.

McElgunn: We had discussions about what the land exchange program is today, that seemingly doesn't work, so nothing really happens, and it is a tedious process. The idea is to take something that exists, and model it based on something that has been explained, then possibly you can get Congress to give it a try. Deferred maintenance is a useful tool which involves the Secretary, to assist in implementing a Forest Service objective. Receipt of the sales would be retained by the Secretary, involving no intent lands that are needed, streamlining public involvement. We could go back to the Forest Service for a list of properties that would be beneficial to sell, that could fund the land program, and use the money to buy other parcels of property. There are a handful of parcels on each District that fit the description. If we could have a program authorized by the Delegation, with start up funds, and then have some success with the program, we would have success with it in the future. The objective would be to eliminate the areas that would be difficult to manage. If there is property directly behind someone's private home, there would be problems.

Hoyt: We like the phrase "willing sellers" any more leverage provided, such as eminent domain, would be a negative thing.

McElgunn: There shouldn't be an issue, because we're talking about sites that are not needed. The site next to Custer would best be used by the City of Custer. There are a lot of sites available, so we should have willing participants on both sides. I don't see adverse relationships appearing.

Hoyt: I don't see the problem with the Forest Service sale, but the person who is not willing to sell at any price would be the problem.

Culberson: If someone doesn't want to sell, that is good, but the land would eventually sell, the heirs of the property, etc. Some where along the line, the land will sell.

McElgunn: In the early stages of the process, the ones who are not willing participants don't need to come to

the table.

Paulson: I currently know of 12 people that have land for sale who would like to sell below market value in order to have the land go back into Forest Service ownership, so that it will remain in public use. These individuals call when tax notices come out January and in April when taxes are due. They can't pay the taxes, so want to sell.

Everett: I'm certain that Bob is right about the 12 landowners, but when something like this comes to a public hearing and the public's concern is that the Forest Service is strong arming the landowners, and they have other property rights concerns, it could get messy. I agree that it is a big issue.

McElgunn: It would have to be an agreed upon transaction. There are a lot of activities that involve willing participants.

Culberson: Custer County RAC idea is to put everyone at the table, to hear everyone's concerns.

Smith: Before we can do anything, we have to have legislation, and a hint of eminent domain would be the kiss of death.

Rowe: Would property tax relief for holding land rather than selling it, to tie it up, be an option? (Could there be an agreement with the Forest Service that would allow land owners to hold on to their property in order to buy some time for the Forest Service to acquire it?)

Blair: That probably just won't happen.

McElgunn: You would have to define the parameters, such as years, etc., but every time you give someone relief, the legislature wants to know how we'll make up the difference.

Hofer: I think it's worth noting how diverse the interests are at this table, the identification of the problem and the whole concept is being embarrassed by all interests, and that is significant. The whole thought process is that something like this could have universal support when everyone can see the value.

Kjar: Here is a map of Custer County showing the concept of identifying parcels to sell that we either located next to communities or areas with existing development such as these parcels of land around Custer that might be available. We also looked at isolated parcels of private land inside large blocks of Federal land, that we might acquire from willing sellers. We will look at all aspects of land management and resource issues through the NEPA process for Forest Service lands proposed for sale.

Under this concept, the Forest Service would develop a proposal that would be reviewed by a committee representing State, local, and tribal interests that would be formed for this purpose. We would also develop criteria to evaluate the select parcels that are offered by willing sellers.

Cost estimates for this process are not available, but we would need a land specialist, also would need specialist support for the NEPA process. Land survey cost, title, and land records issues would also be considered. Ultimately we would look at a process that would be feasible.

Paulson: The goal would be to keep the tax base whole and in tact. The next Sub-Committee meeting will be on June 12, 2007 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Mystic office.

Hoyt: What are your expectations for the draft legislation?

McElgunn: Is the consensus of the group that we are moving in the right direction? That we should be moving toward legislation, and we would need the Wyoming side to buy in as well. It's probably too late to get anything done in this year's congress.

Hoyt: How can we be helpful and assist the Sub-Committee?

Bobzien: I believe the Sub-Committee is on the right course, for those who have not been tracking the issue, there is a briefing paper on open space in your NFAB binder. What actions do the Forest Service need to take to help address the understanding and to improve the loss of open space? This proposal tracks very well for addressing this type of issue. We can't move fast enough when it comes to willing partners. This is a good flagship piece that the committee is bringing to help streamline a process so we can be more effective in land adjustments. The second thing is the idea of smart growth. We know we're going to get growth here, we continue to focus on the tools available to us in addition to land adjustment, but keep it in the context of the bigger issues, are there other things that we could do through other areas. We're staying on the course, but don't lose track of other possibilities and partners.

Paulson: What would Everett like to see the Sub-Committee come back with?

Hoyt: A time line that we can endorse.

Blair: Similar to the OHV plan.

Bobzien: When using legislation as frame work for administrative sales, we must keep the public involved. Land adjustments are becoming more controversial, they are becoming more difficult with more ownership, and more development. Eminent domain is not what this is about; we must be very clear about that.

Hofer: We shouldn't lose site of the big picture and that there are other tools in the tool box. Whatever legislation gets drafted, I would like to see us make sure that it would allow the Forest Service to work with partners and partnerships, not an isolated fund that works separate from the rest of the world. This is a tool to leverage bringing other partners to the table.

Blair: Will the Sub-Committee be ready with a recommendation for action by the June 20th meeting?

McElgunn: We could have a schedule, probably not going to have a proposal drafted.

Blair: It's almost to the end of the summer session, so we probably can't get anything through this year.

McCracken: I would recommend that you get the field representative for the two Senators in the meeting to talk about the issue, also include private entities, and the Forest Service to see if there is a flicker of interest before you move on.

Paulson: I recommend we have an update on the July agenda.

Blair: I would like to give Mary and Ruth an opportunity to ask question before we open for public comment.

Noel & Berner: Three states in our Region have already done something similar to this and have the authority to buy and sell land the way the Board is discussing, we will be glad to share our process with the Black Hills. Suggest putting all of the private easements on the land adjustment maps as well. We appreciate all the work and time the Board has offered, and the benefit that has to the Forest.

Blair: As a Board we would like to thank you for attending, and say hi to Marisue for us.

Thompson: I would like to introduce my alternate Steve Sisk, Steve is from Aladdin Wyoming.

Sisk: Born in Sturgis, spent have his life in the Black Hills and left the Black Hills for 33 years. In Alaska, Scott was the Director of DOT. Looking forward to serving on the National Forest Advisory Board.

McCracken: Questions about green credits and carbon credits were brought up at the last meeting. I addressed the PUC and have a handout to offer so that you can see where we are with it in South Dakota.

Public Comments:

Chair Blair: If anyone from the public wishes to address the Board, please do so.

Adjournment:

Chair Blair: If there is no other business to come before the Board, I will ask for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next NFAB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20, 2007, at the Forest Service Center in Rapid City, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates:

- July 18, 2007
- August 15, 2007
- Summer Field Trip – To Be Announced
- September 19, 2007
- October 17, 2007
- November 21, 2007
- December – No Meeting