

Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters
Winter Business Meeting, January 27, 2006
Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg, KY

Call To Order:

Don Hodges, chair, called the Winter Business Meeting of the Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters to order at about 8:30 AM in the convention center. Approximately 65 members were present.

Minutes-Summer Meeting:

Ron Taylor, Secretary, handed out the minutes from the Summer Business Meeting at The University of South, Sewanee, TN. Upon review the minutes were accepted as written with one minor correction.

Budget and Account Yearend Balances:

Ed Smith presented the 2005 financial summary with a beginning balance of \$9,260.11 and the ending balance was 9,057.78. Major sources of income were the Forester's Fund and dues. Major expenditures included the FFA convention, meeting and chapter dues.

Ed also passed out the proposed 2006 Budget. The up-coming 2006 budget proposal starts with a balance of \$9,057.78 and ends with a balance of \$10,425.28. Major planned expenditures are Student Development, National Convention, Leadership Academy and distribution of Chapter dues.

Chapter Reports:

--Past East Kentucky Chapter Chair, Pat Cleary, reported that the Chapter had two meetings. Sixty people including 15 County Agents attended the spring meeting. The topic was Invasive Species and Forest Health Issues with presentations by UK faculty. The fall meeting was a dove hunt; as they were preparing to host the winter meeting, only 5-6 people were involved.

Reporting on this meeting, approximately 110 people attended. The Silent Auction netted \$850. Corporate sponsorship totaled \$1,500. This was planned to be the approximate profit for the meeting.

--Middle Tennessee, Chapter chair, Ward Tarkington reported on their plans to host the Summer Meeting at Land Between the Lakes near Paris on June 7-9, 2006. A great agenda is lined up.

--East Tennessee, Chapter Chair, Greg Bailey, reported that they continue with their successful monthly Breakfast Meetings. This fall they held a Hardwood Regeneration Meeting at Oak Ridge and Wartburg with 41 members attending.

--Southeast Tennessee Chapter Chair, Ken Smith, reported that they held a very successful and informative summer KT-SAF meeting.

--West Tennessee, David Mercker sent a report on this past year's activities.

Student Chapter Reports:

--David Buckley, advisor for the University of Tennessee, reported that they have 25 student members. They have various activities such as yearly bond fires, Ag-day, fundraisers such as Christmas tree sales; attend quiz bowls and National Job Fairs. Attendance of Conclaves is one of their main activities and they will host the 2007 Conclave with about 15 schools and 300 students attending.

--Tammy Cushing, advisor for the University of Kentucky Student Chapter, said that they have good senior membership but are working hard to recruit underclassman. Two students attended the Fort

Worth SAF Convention. Their big fundraiser is T-shirt sales. She mentioned that it takes considerable funds to send students to Conclaves and National Conventions.

--Karen Kuers, student advisor for The University of the South, Sewanee mentioned that her students took an active role in hosting the Summer Meeting.

Agency and Industry Reports:

- Kentucky Division of Forestry, Steward West, reported that they have eleven vacant positions in the salary range of \$34,000-\$48,000. They also have held public forums on arson fires.
- Tennessee Division of Forestry, Ward Tarkington reported that they have 4-5 job openings starting at the \$28,000 level.
- Brent Miller, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, said that their agency would be hiring two Foresters in the \$2,850 to \$3,800 monthly salary range.
- Amos Stone, Daniel Boone National Forest, described his Forest's consolidation efforts. The Boone now has four Districts, the Cumberland on the top part, London, Stearns and Redbird to the south. Somerset was split up between London and Stearns and the Stanton and Morehead were combined. Ben Worthington has retired as Forest Supervisor. Rex Mann, past timber/wildlife/fire staff officer has accepted a Washington Office Fire position while remaining in this area. With the new Forest Plan, 4-5 million board feet of timber sales is planned yearly.
- The University of Tennessee reported that they are searching for a new Department Head. Several Timber Products professor positions are being advertised as well as a Biometric professor and a Range or Grassland specialist position.
- Jeff Stringer, University of Kentucky, reported that those attending this meeting got to interact with Steve Bullard, Forestry Department Chairman who moderated the meeting yesterday. Tammy Cushing, who presented "Kentucky Forestland Taxes; Effects and Ramifications" topic Thursday, is a recent addition to the faculty. Two additional Natural Resource positions are open for hire. They received a two million dollar grant for surface mine reforestation. A million dollar grant for the selling of Carbon Credits associated with surface mine reforestation is also in the plans. UK will be conducting a large streamside management zone study involving the sale of 1200 acres in the Robinson Forest. They are working toward FSI and FSC forestland certification.
- Richard Evans reported that the Tennessee Forest Experiment Stations are now being organized into the Forest Resources Research and Education Center.
- Bob Bauer, Kentucky Forest Industries Association, said that they are promoting House Bill 450 – "Bad Actor". Under this bill a logger would have two chances to correct logging site problems after which the Division of Forestry would issue notice to correct the problem in two weeks or be shutdown. The Kentucky Wood Exposition will be held in Madisonville, KY on the third weekend in September.
- USFS Research, Forest Inventory and Analysis, as reported by Jeff Turner, are being done almost continually each year in each state. These data will soon be available upon request.

Old Business:

Don Hodges announced that the ad-hoc committee of "Credentialing Foresters in Tennessee" had not met to develop a system or guidelines but was committed to report by the Summer Meeting in June.

New Business

The Executive Committee, based upon increased student costs and less support from the Federal Government, decide to provide additional funding to qualifying students as follows:

- Resolution #1—Motion by Pat Cleary—“**All income from the Silent Auction is to be retained in the Kentucky-Tennessee General Fund (rather than ½ sent to the National Foresters Fund) for distribution by the Executive Committee**”. Seconded by Jerry Crow and passed by the Executive Committee.
- Resolution #2—Motion by Ed Smith—“**The Executive Committee recommends that the 2006 budget provides up to \$500 each for the Universities of Kentucky, Tennessee, and The South upon request from the Student Chapters**”.

Don Hodges mentioned that Greg Dale had to resign as KT-SAF chairman elect because of the buy-out of the Westvaco Corporation. Don decided to recruit a replacement from Kentucky, Doug McLaren. The Executive Committee voted to support his choice because of his outstanding qualifications and desire to serve. As suggested by some members the appointment of Doug McLaren as Chair Elect would be within bylaw guidelines if this were done prior to vacating the Chairman position, which was accomplished. Upon close of this winter meeting the chair Don Hodges will step-down and Doug McLaren will become the Kentucky-Tennessee Society Chairman.

Adjournment:

The Business Meeting adjourned at about 10:00 AM in preparation for the Field Trip to the Star Fire Surface Mine Reforestation Research Projects.