

ARROWHEAD IMPROVEMENTS ASSOCIATION

Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 17, 2013

AIA Firehouse 3:30 PM

Bobbie began the meeting by asking Doris Grosvenor to give an Invocation. Bobbie then led the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the meeting to order at 3:35PM. Bobbie determined a quorum was present.

Board Members:

Mike Wigent
Al Hale
Barrie Riddoch
John Moseman – excused absence
Sharon Pugh
Linda Squirrell

Presentation by the Gunnison County District Ranger on Logging/Hauling

This presentation was moved ahead of standard meeting order due to visitors from the Gunnison Forest Service office. The presentation concerned the logging and hauling operations that will be going on this winter. Bill Conway, our Forest Manager, moderated the discussion.

John Murphy, Gunnison County District Forest Ranger:

- a. There will winter hauling on the Alpine Plateau Road which is a Forest Service road.
- b. The Forest Service designed the timber sale contract so that both the Forest Service and Arrowhead could write the safety requirements for winter haul into the amended contract.
- c. Montrose Forest Products (MFP) purchased the mill this last year and had no logging contracts at startup.
- d. Keeping the MFP mill running is a major emphasis for the Forest Service. The mill is a tool that the Forest Service is using to try to control bark beetle outbreaks on a large portion of the western slope.

- e. Keeping the MFP mill running is a major emphasis for the Forest Service. The mill is a tool that the Forest Service is using to try to control bark beetle outbreaks on a large portion of the western slope.
- f. There are two timber sales in the works. Spruce beetle kill is one area that will be logged this summer and fall; the second area has beetle infestation and will be logged this winter.
- g. John along with Bill Conway have discovered Spruce beetles on nearby BLM land and smaller numbers on Arrowhead property. John said we could expect a 100% mortality of Spruce trees over the next 5 years. (Because forest management is more intensive at Arrowhead than on federal lands we may be able to keep from having complete spruce mortality.)

The next presenter was Matt Etzanhauser also from the Gunnison County Forest Service Office.

- The Forest Service Plan that will amend the contract is still being negotiated but is expected to be very close to the following. The plan will have three aspects:
 1. Communication:
 - a. Truck drivers will communicate via CB radios, calling out mile markers as they are driving NFSR 867.
 - b. They may also use a Flag System where the first truck going in would setup a flag and the last truck leaving would take down the flag.
 - c. The AIA may provide a few CB radios for use by residents. There would be drop boxes at the beginning of the Alpine and at the winter parking lot. The issue is how to maintain an adequate number of radios at either end of the road. Some training may also be required.
 - d. Questions asked included what happens if an ambulance is on the Alpine? Security and the fire department will act to control traffic prior to arrival of ambulance on the Alpine
 - e. Questions can the Alpine road be improved by the county? The Alpine is a Forest Service road not a county road. Forest Service roads are multi-purpose use. Discussion are ongoing between AIA and the Forest Service to use money from timber sales to improve the road. Gunnison county does not own the road.

2. Enforcement:

- a. The speed limit on the Alpine cannot be changed; the speed limit is 25 mph. MFP will monitor the time, driver, and truck to determine how long each truck takes to reach their destination. If their time is too fast they will warn the driver. Residents can also report trucks going too fast or other truck problems to Linda Squirrell.
- b. MFP will be using chains when snow is on the road.

3. Mitigation:

- a. There will be no hauling during the week between Christmas and New Years. Arrowhead has proposed that on normal weekends, hauling will stop at noon on Friday and begin again on the following Monday morning during peak snowmobiling season. (The exact number of weekends this will apply to is still being negotiated and will be posted on the AIA website).
- b. MFP will be hauling 14 – 18 loads per day.
- c. Will and his crew will maintain the road from the winter parking lot to Highway 50. MFP will be maintaining the road above the winter parking lot. The road will be closed to all non logging related traffic above the winter parking lot by Forest Service order.
- d. Will Hobson will co-ordinate with MFP on plowing and hauling efforts and will notify Lisa Ditmore about the conditions that will be posted on the Facebook page and sent via the blast email list.
- e. Linda Squirrell will co-ordinate with the Forest Service Sale Administrator. MFP will control the trucks. A cooperative effort between residents and truckers is needed. Drivers need to be aware of where the wider spots are along the lower Alpine.
- f. Hauling will start around Nov.1 and continue into March.
- g. MFP expects to complete the logging this winter.
- h. Currently there will not be any logging during next summer but timber sales are still expected for several years to try to control the spruce beetles.

Mike Wigent from the AIA Board was the next presenter:

- a. Issues of safety and noise have been discussed with MFP.
- b. The AIA has requested payment from MFP for additional winter maintenance costs that are expected from the winter log hauling. The amount of that payment is still under discussion. These funds would include money for CB radios on AIA equipment and MFP has also agreed to provide extra gravel for “sanding” the road.
- c. Question was asked about insurance. MFP is adequately insured, as are any sub-contractors that would be working. This is a requirement of the Forest Service contract and state law.
- d. Question was raised about changing the right of way in regards to up hill and downhill traffic. There is currently a sign on the Alpine at Lake Rd that says “Uphill Traffic has Right of Way”. That is in conformance with state law and will not change.

Ron Corder spoke for the Snowmobile Club.

- a. Ron will be doing the upcountry plowing for the log haul and the grooming for the snowmobile club. This will allow him to coordinate these activities.
- b. There was discussion about the up country snowmobile trail. Some grading may be done to the entrance to the trail above Pipe Springs so that the groomer can groom the trail earlier in the season when there is less snow. An effort will be made to create parallel trails on the easement when possible. The section of road from the cattle guard to the pipe springs has trees close to the road and will have to be shared by both trucks and snowmobiles.
- c. The snowmobile club is also working with the BLM to do some adjustment to the snowmobile trail that will allow grooming earlier in the year and make for safer use. Arrangements are being made for the logging company to donate some equipment time to accomplish this work.

Linda Squirrell:

a. Linda read a letter from Marlene Crosby, Gunnison County Public Works Department. Marlene's letter explains the services that Gunnison County provides to the Alpine Plateau Road. A significant amount of money is spent by the county on our Forest Service road. The Alpine is maintained by the county under a Schedule A agreement with the Forest Service. The Alpine is the only Forest Service road that Gunnison County applies mag-chloride treatment and funding. Linda also cautioned residents to advise their friends and service people who might be coming up the Alpine about the log hauling and what to expect

Approval of Minutes – Barrie Riddoch

There were problems with schedules and transmittal of the July minutes to our Webmaster, consequently the minutes were not posted on the website. It was decided to approve the minutes for July at the September meeting.

Review of Financials – Al Hale

Al reported there were no significant items on the financials and they are ready for review.

Board Action Items

A. Unfinished business from previous meeting(s)

a. Approve change to Regulations regarding mitigation. This action was already completed in the July meeting. Barrie reported that the entire Regulation text had been posted on the website with the modifications for mitigation. The tracking changes will be incorporated and the new Regulations posted on the website.

b. Approve Reserve Study - John had reported via email that there were some additional changes needed to the Reserve Study posted on the website. These changes will be discussed in September.

B. New business items

- a. Financial Compensation for Logging/Hauling – Discussed above.
- b. RV Exception Requests – This case was done in Executive Session.

Announcement from the Board

Bobbie introduced the candidates running for the three Board of Director seats.

Announcement from the audience

Carla Vavrick reminded the owners of the cleanup day on Sat Aug 24 from 9-12.

Adjourn

Reception for New Owners

The reception was canceled since there were no new owners in attendance.

Secretary - Barrie Riddoch