

MINUTES

EASTERN RED CEDAR REGISTRY BOARD

Friday, October 7, 2011
10:00 a.m.

Laboratory Conference Room
Agriculture Building
2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

The Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board met in regular session at 10:00 a.m., October 7, 2011, in the Laboratory Conference Room of the Agriculture Building, 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Written notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State and posted on the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry website. A notice was posted on the door of the Agriculture Building 24 hours prior to the meeting setting forth the date, time, place, and agenda for the meeting.

Members Present: Elmer Maddux, President
Gary Bledsoe, Vice President
Bruce Brown
Pat Clark
Dr. Salim Hirziroglu
Dr. Craig McKinley
George Geissler (Proxy for Jim Reese)
Bob Thompson
Mike Thralls

Members Absent: Chuck Battles
Steve Thompson
Steven Glasgow

Others Present: Jase Locke, Bliss Industries
Paul Todd, Aromatic Cedar Association
Nathan Lillie, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Jacqueline Brink-Rosin
David Dyke, OG&E

Mr. Maddux called the meeting to order and a quorum was declared.

Approval of the Minutes

Gary Bledsoe moved, George Geissler seconded, to approve the minutes as presented of the August 5, 2011, meeting of the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board.

Those voting aye: Gary Bledsoe, Bruce Brown, Pat Clark, Dr. Salim,
Dr. McKinley, George Geissler, Bob Thompson, Elmer Maddux. No: None.
Abstentions: None. Absent: Mike Thralls, Steve Thompson, Steven Glasgow

The motion passed.

Presentations

Dr. Salim Hiziroglu, Oklahoma State University, gave a PowerPoint presentation on his research into the possible use of eastern red cedar trees for particle boards, fence posts, mulch and shelterbelt. Objectives of the research is to manufacture experimental composite panels from eastern red cedar, establish initial data about the properties of the panels and to determine physical and mechanical properties of the samples and compare them to those of commercially produced panels.

Jase Locke, BioFuels Application Manager for Bliss Industries, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Bliss Wood Pelleting Process. Bliss Industries, LLC, is a leading manufacturer of processing equipment for industrial, agricultural, food, chemical, wood and fiber industries, specializing in the areas of particle reduction, pelleting and cooling. His presentation related to their process for turning eastern red cedar trees into high quality BTU fuel pellets.

Committee Reports

Funding Committee: Dr. McKinley, Chairman, asked that anyone who has not yet sent in their order for the eastern red cedar tree license plate to do so today. Ms. Brink-Rosen said that today was the last day to order the license plates through the Tax Commission and that the last time she checked there had only been about 25 orders placed out of the 100 orders needed. Ms. Brink-Rosen also stated we could try introducing it again through legislation, which would be the third try.

IT Committee: George Geissler, Chairman, reported he had applied to get a domain name for the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board and that once that has been completed people will be able to go directly to the ERC Registry without going through forestry's website. It was felt that the committee name should be changed to the "Communications Committee" as that would be more descriptive of the true function of this committee.

Registration Committee: Pat Clark, Chairman, asked Ms. Brink-Rosen to give the report. She stated Clay Pope has given permission for the ERC Registry to set up a table at Conservation Day at the Capitol where applications will be available.

Bylaw Committee: Gary Bledsoe, Chairman, reported that the committee met on August 22, 2011 to discuss proposed bylaws for the ERC Registry Board. He asked George Geissler to give the report. Mr. Geissler explained that the proposed bylaws were created using verbiage from the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Act and also tried to give a very clear overview of who the board members were, the terms of the ERC Registry Board officers, current committees.

Approval of the Bylaws

Mr. Brown moved, Dr. McKinley seconded, to approve the proposed bylaws of the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board as presented.

Those voting aye: Gary Bledsoe, Bruce Brown, Pat Clark, Dr. Salim, Dr. McKinley, George Geissler, Bob Thompson, Elmer Maddux. Mike Thralls.
No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Steve Thompson, Steven Glasgow
The motion passed.

New Business

Mr. Nathan Lillie and Mr. Jase Locke were nominated to the Citizens' Auxiliary Board.

Those voting aye: Gary Bledsoe, Bruce Brown, Pat Clark, Dr. Salim, Dr. McKinley, George Geissler, Bob Thompson, Elmer Maddux. Mike Thralls.
No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Steve Thompson, Steven Glasgow
The motion passed.

Ms. Brink-Rosen reported on the four meetings that Representative Richard Morrisette held relating to the Eastern Red Cedar Initiative. A HUD Grant Contracts meeting was held on September 21, 2011 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman. Directors of the Community Action Agencies attended to learn more about the eastern red cedar as a building material. Dr. Craig McKinley gave a presentation on the properties and viability of cedar. Several cutter/harvesters brought samples of the material and milling work.

On September 23, 2011 a meeting was held at the Capitol to introduce USDA and SBA loan coordinators to ERC cutter/harvesters. On September 27th, 2011, Representative Morrisette co-hosted an interim study on storm shelters. A group from HIP Building Systems, a German based company who makes houses able to withstand winds up to 200 miles per hour, met with cedar cutter/harvesters to examine some samples in hopes of making HIB blocks from Oklahoma grown eastern red cedar. On September 28, 2011, a biofuel meeting was held. Dr. McKinley provided forestry management plans for consideration by Warden Vaughan of Key Correctional in Ft. Supply, David Fenster of Johnson Controls, Phillip Fielder of DEQ, and Mr. Nathan Lillie with Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Mr. Bruce Brown stated that in reviewing the legislation forming the ERC Registry Board, Board members are required to provide volunteer hours to accomplish the tasks set before them. The tasks can be summarized under four possible groups.

- A. 1) Establish an Application. 2) Promote signing up on the Registry by landowners and harvesters. 3) Create a harvesting permit and record all harvesting activity. 4) Manage the transfer of donated trees to harvesters. 5) Establish limits on harvesting.
- B. Promote the development of uses and markets for eastern red cedar products.
 - 1) Push state agencies to utilize Eastern red cedar products.

- C. Cooperate with organizations and agencies involved in any aspect of the Eastern red cedar business. Suggest close and intentional contact with Rep. Morrissette and his activities, NCRS, County Conservation, USDA, SBA and The Aromatic Cedar Association.
- D. Contact communities throughout the state to recruit people into the Eastern Red Cedar Business and to assist them in financing their endeavors.

Mr. Brown asked that each Board member become involved in one of these endeavors and stated that he will take on contacting communities and assisting them with financing. It was discussed that we need to have a plan or model to follow. Ms. Brink-Rosen reported that one of the auxiliary members is head of an agency that helps groups form strategic plans and that she felt this lady would be willing to help us. She was not certain of her name, but would locate her contact information and see if she would be interested in attending the next Board meeting.

President Maddux reminded Board members that election of officers will be held at the November meeting.

Mr. Thralls moved, Mr. Clark seconded, that Mr. Nathan Lillie and Mr. Jase Locke be elected to serve on the Citizens' Auxiliary Board.

Those voting aye: Gary Bledsoe, Bruce Brown, Pat Clark, Dr. Salim, Dr. McKinley, George Geissler, Bob Thompson, Elmer Maddux. Mike Thralls.
No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Steve Thompson, Steven Glasgow
The motion passed.

Mr. Geissler moved, Mr. Brown seconded, to move the November 4, 2011, Board meeting to Monday, November 7, 2011.

Those voting aye: Gary Bledsoe, Bruce Brown, Pat Clark, Dr. Salim, Dr. McKinley, George Geissler, Bob Thompson, Elmer Maddux. Mike Thralls.
No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Steve Thompson, Steven Glasgow
The motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

President, Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board

Executive Secretary

