

# MINUTES

## EASTERN RED CEDAR REGISTRY BOARD

Friday, August 29, 2012  
10:00 a.m.

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

The Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board met in regular session at 10:00 a.m., August 29, 2012, 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: Gary Bledsoe, Chairman  
Bruce Brown, Vice-Chairman  
Trent Campbell, Designee of Bob Thompson  
Steven Glasgow  
Elmer Maddux  
Jim Reese  
Mike Thralls

Members Absent: Pat Clark  
Dr. Salim Hiziroglu  
Steve Thompson

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

### Approval of the Minutes

Paul Todd moved, Jim Reese seconded, to approve the minutes as presented of the August 29, 2012, meeting of the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board.

Those voting Aye: Gary Bledsoe, Trent Campbell, Steven Glasgow, Elmer Maddux, Jim Reese, Mike Thralls. No: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Pat Clark, Dr. Hiziroglu, Steve Thompson. The motion passed.

### Presentations

#### Proposed Enid Biodiesel Plant

Mr. Mike Clemmons, President, James Middleton, and Andre Thomas with SR 20, Inc. were in attendance, along with Randy Nance and Mark Grimes representing Flintco and Joey Meibergen from W.B. Johnston Grain to discuss a potential biodiesel plant they hope to open in Enid,

Oklahoma. The plans call for using a combination of the eastern redcedar, waste tires and potentially municipal trash to produce diesel and jet fuel. The process would involve hydrocarbon recovery using the Fischer-Tropsch process. This process converts a mixture of hydrogen and carbon monoxide derived from biomass to liquid fuels and is a proven process and has been done for a number of years.

The company would like Enid, Oklahoma to be their first plant and are currently working with the city to explore possibilities. Their goal is to figure out how to harvest the ERC without destroying the land.

Brent Kisling, Enid Regional Development Alliance, and Joe Meibergen, both discussed the overall economic impact the plant would have if located in Enid. Utilizing the ERC for biodiesel would help reduce the invasive species and would improve the land dramatically and W. B. Johnston already has in place a distribution center to move and store the commodities.

Mike Clemmons said SR 20 will continue to explore their options and are actively seeking financing for the program.

#### Update on Statewide Insurance / Prescribed Burns

Darrel Dominick gave an update on the efforts to establish statewide insurance for prescribed burns. Currently the Prescribed Burn Association is working to find some company to underwrite prescribed burns. He reported that obtaining insurance coverage for prescribed burns is critical to the state and if necessary, we should consider grouping with other states to secure the insurance as he thinks insurance companies may say you have to reduce the risk of the underwriting or you won't be able to secure insurance. Gary Bledsoe reported that with the recent fires and \$6.3 million in losses, some insurance companies are expressing interest in prescribed burns.

George Geissler stated that the Firewise Communities program stresses personal responsibility, building homes in a way so that firefighters can defend the home, how to mitigate and reduce the ERC on land. He also stressed the importance to get this message out to landowners.

#### Langston University's Goat/Cedar Removing Research Program

Dr. Steve Hart, Langston University, gave a report on the university's research program that utilizes goats for controlling brush and ERC. Some of the previous research in this area has included using goats for brush and weed control in an abandoned forestry nursery, to control brush in drainage areas.

The goats readily consume redcedars up to knee high and taller cedars are consumed in December, January and February when essential oils are decreased. Shorter cedars are controlled quicker; a thick stand of taller trees may take 5 or more years to completely control. Improvement is observable after one year of grazing by goats. One of the disadvantages to using goats to control the ERC is that control is not instantaneous and takes several years. You will always have to maintain goats to sustain control and requires additional fencing and predator control.

#### Old Business

There was no Old Business to report.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, November 2, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPS Conference Room at the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Brown moved, Mr. Thralls seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

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President, Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board

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Executive Secretary