



NEOSWA – January Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 29th, 2026

Attendees:

Paul Harlan (President), Jack Kleinhoff (Vice President), Jacob Putney (Secretary), Kelly Johnson, Maurizio Valerio (Board Member; Zoom), Debi Lorence (Board Member; Zoom), Irene Jerome (Board Member; Zoom)

Called to Order: 5:30 PM

Meeting Minutes:

- Treasurer's Report – *Brian*
 - No updates since last report (December)
- OSWA Update – *Paul*
 - Paul's term on the OSWA Board ends this year. Plans to run for second term.
 - Paul noted that Mike Cafferata has been a great addition to OSWA. He has been very encouraging and supportive.
 - 2026 Oregon Family Forest Convention
 - June 25-27th, Roseburg, OR
 - Hosted by the Douglas Chapter
 - 2027 Oregon Family Forest Convention
 - We (NEOSWA) will be hosting in Grant County
 - Tentative dates will be June 17-19th
 - Roje Gootee (Rush Creek Ranch) was recognized as 2025 Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year.
 - We will work with the State OSWA Board to plan the meeting. Need to explore meeting spaces and potential tour location(s) soon.
- NEOSWA 2026 Meetings & Events Planning – *Discussion*
 - Plan to have quarterly gathering/informational events
 - March: Fire Incident Management
 - Invite Firewise Communities
 - Potentially invite Cattleman's Assoc.
 - Brainstorming:
 - Maurizio – Connect w/ Lumber Grading Training Program
 - Plan to time with roll-out of that program
 - Woodland Information Night (Baker)
 - Grants/Funding Opportunities
 - Tentatively late April-ish
 - Jack, Jacob, & Jana to lead

- Heartwood Biomass & Wallowa High School Tour
 - Paul & Maurizio to Lead
- Equipment Demonstration Field Day
 - Saturday, June 20th
 - Maurizio to Host
 - Invite Firewise Communities
- Planting/Reforestation Workshop
 - Potentially in the Fall
 - Precursor event to a seedling sale the following Spring
- Grant County Natural Resource Fair
 - Friday, April 17th
 - Fairgrounds Pavillion, John Day
 - To be held following the ODF Contractor breakfast. Save the Date and details to be available soon.
 - Jack mentioned he would be willing to host NEOSWA Booth
- Other Business
 - Renewals
 - Jacob has compiled a list of NEOSWA members that have not renewed for 2025 and 2026 (attached).
 - Divide & Conquer list. Reach out to folks individually to encourage them to renew.
 - Indicate individual(s) you will be reaching out to, so we don't duplicate efforts.
 - Jack proposed a goal for the Board to add 10 new members in 2026.

Adjourn: 6:45 PM

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, March 25th, 5:30 PM (Board & Member)**
Presentation: Incident Management in Northeast OR
Jana Peterson, ODF