

**MINUTES
ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION
November 30, 2009**

PRESIDING – Melisa Love, Chairman

SECRETARY - Linda Casey, State Forester

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – Melisa Love-Chairman, Don Heath, Jett Freeman, Ken Real, Randy Gilmore and Johnny McReynolds.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION PERSONNEL PRESENT - Linda Casey, Patrick Glass, Tom Conway, Craig Hill, and Regina Miller.

GUESTS - Lee Laechelt, Wayne Williams, Bob Sharp, Reggie Reynolds, Phil Willingham, Mardie Pheiffer, Steve guy, Rick Oates, Jason Davis, Chris Langley, Scott Futch, Randy McRae, Tom Saunders, Jimmy McLemore, Jimmy Johnson, John D(last name illegible), Freddie Tidwell, Chris Potts, Lee Davis, Chris Reynolds, Stephan Tomlinson, Chris Isaacson, Sam Duvall, and Monte Simpson.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Chairman Melisa Love called this special meeting of the Alabama Forestry Commission to order at 10:00 a.m. on November 30, 2009 in the Forestry Commission's Executive Conference Room located at 513 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36104.

ROLL CALL– Regina Miller called roll. All Commissioners except Jerry Smith were present. Miller announced that a quorum was present.

Miller announced that the meeting had been properly advertised.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2009 MEETING – Don Heath made a motion to approve the minutes of the Oct. 6, 2009 meeting. Randy Gilmore seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS – Commissioners discussed each proposed law enforcement regulation and comments received during the Comment Period.

On the recommendation of the State Forester, Commissioners decided to vote on amendments to the three existing regulations pertaining to state forests. Randy Gilmore made a motion to certify as adopted the amendments to the existing regulations as presented on laws pertaining to state forests; 390 - X – 7 - .01 – Use of Facilities, 390 – X – 7 - .07 – Conduct, and 390 – X – 7 - .08 – Prohibited Devices.

Commissioners then discussed the five proposed new regulations and addressed comments on each regulation submitted during the public commit period. The State Forester recommended that the Commission make a final decision on the proposed new regulations at the regular meeting in January. Randy Gilmore made a motion to table a final decision on the five new regulations until the Commission meeting in January.

Jett Freeman asked that the motion be amended to include obtaining an opinion on the constitutionality of the regulations from an independent attorney on the condition that the Alabama Forestry Association pay the legal fees involved. Gilmore amended the motion to include this provision. Don Heath seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

BUDGET – State Forester Linda Casey informed Commissioners that the Joint Legislative Finance Budget Review Committee will hold budget hearings with the Commission scheduled to present our 2011 budget on December 15, 2009.

Casey discussed the agency's funding situation for FY2010/2011. She said the Leadership Team is identifying ways to cut costs such as, no vehicle or equipment purchases, hiring freeze, purchases over \$500 must be approved by the state forester, and reducing in-state and out-of-state travel.

DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING - Commissions decided to hold the regular meeting of the Commission on January 20, 2010 at the Commission's state office instead of Geneva State Forest as previously decided in an effort to cut costs.

ADJOURNMENT - Ken Real made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m. Johnny McReynolds seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.