



Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting July 25, 2025

Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday July 25, 2025 at the Hickory Environmental Education Center. Those Board members in attendance either in person or virtually were: Bill Aiken, Bill Buckel, John Bambacus, Mike Ferguson, Fred Eggleston, Mike Kozier, Will Williams & Melissa Nash. Guests present included Anna Twigg, George Eberling, Gabrielle Oldham and Anne Hairston-Strang.

The agenda was approved following a motion by Bill B and 2nd by Mike K.

A motion to dispense with reading of the minutes and was made by Bill B. and 2nd by John. The motion passed.

Bill Buckel read the treasurer's report. Expenses included the fair booth and our NRCC student. After purchasing the remaining MUCFC planting supplies, we were instructed to keep the \$4.06 for future plantings.

Forestry Board	\$4,985.15
MUCFC	\$4.06
NRCC	\$3,202.26
Scholarship	\$2,349.08
CD	\$10,396.00 (12 month @ 4.4%, matures Sept 2025)

The report was approved following a motion by Fred and 2nd by Mike K.

Volunteer Hours:

The Board's hours since the last meeting were as follows:

Ken – no report	Mike K – 4	Mike F. – 4
Siera – no report	Fred – 3	Derek – no report
Larry – no report	Will – 136	John – 4
Bill B. – 7	Bill A. – 4	Linda – no report

TOTAL 162 hrs

OLD BUSINESS:

NRCC Update

Gabrielle reported 40 students in attendance. They tried a new format for career night this year that worked better than a panel and allowed for 12 participants. They had 8-9 programs participate in college night, and also MCC. This year's group of campers was highly diverse.

MFS Update

Anne explained risks to federal funding with the potential restructuring of state & federal partnerships. She said existing grants are being honored. Region 9 of the USFS is down in staffing approximately 40%. A reorganization plan to eliminate regions at the federal level has been announced. Approximately 80% of MFS funding is state.

She is still waiting to brief with the Office of the Secretary for the proposed Forestry Board restructure and keeping of local accounts.

Tree planting specialist Ted Hoxie will be converted from a contractual to full time employee effective August 6.

Historical Trees

50 people attended the Liberty Tree & Wye Oak planting at the College. This counted as their TreeCampus event for the year.

Will attended the Washington Elm rededication organized by DAR on July 5th. A new stone marker was installed. Melissa has approximately 10 seedlings surviving (from 24 cuttings). She has an opportunity to apply for a Heritage Area grant (deadline 8/31) to help fund pruning and treatment of the tree. Bill B made a motion to apply, seconded by Mike K. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Landscape Webinar

Building a Sustainable Landscape One Yard At a Time webinar will be held Sept 18th at 1pm. Free, but register to receive the meeting link
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ojJ4r25oS36yyT7Y6JqVHA#/registration

Loch Lynn Gateway Park

Melissa and Siera have met with the Town of Loch Lynn about the possibility of developing the small triangle of land at the town sign into a pocket park with an arboretum component. Siera will need a letter of support for various grants relating to the project. John made a motion, 2nd by Mike K. to send a letter. The motion passed.

Mt. Loggers

Next meeting is August 9th at Pine Lodge.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be September 8th at Mt. Nebo.

The meeting was adjourned following a motion by Bill B and 2nd by Mike F.

Upcoming Dates

No August Meeting

8/9 – Mt Loggers @ Pine Lodge 6pm

9/8 – Next regular meeting

9/18 – Sustainable Landscape webinar @ 1pm