Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board
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Minutes of the Garrett County
Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting
January 12, 2025

Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday January 12, 2026 at Mt. Nebo. Those Board members in attendance were: Will Williams, Larry Tichnell, Ken Fisher, Mike Kozier, Linda Harris, Fred Eggleston, Bill Aiken, Bill Buckel & Melissa Nash. Anna Twigg also attended.

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

A motion to dispense with reading of the minutes and approve the minutes was made by Fred and 2nd by Ken. The motion passed.

Forestry Board	$7,017.00
MUCFC	$616.56
NRCC	$4,102.26
Scholarship	$12,825.69

Deposits included a donation from Country Explorers 4-H Club and our 2025 county funding.

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 – 5	Mike K – 7	Mike F. – no report
Siera – no report	Fred – 3	Derek – no report
Larry – 3	Will – 12	John – no report
Bill B. – 5	Bill A. – 3	Linda – 7

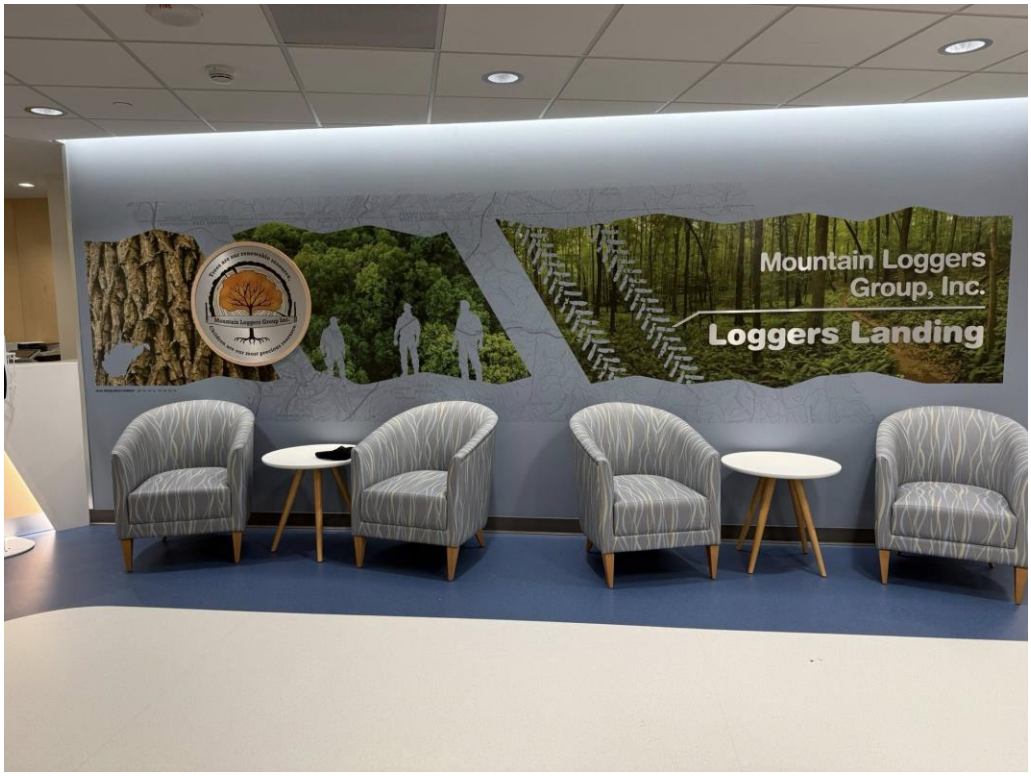
TOTAL 45 hrs

OLD BUSINESS:

Big Tree Measurements
Re-measurement of the Herrington Manor red oak was completed in December. There is a black cherry there that will need remeasured in 2026. Anna suggested talking to the park about possibly placing signage at the trees (MUCFC grants can fund).

Hickory Open House
Will attended and reported it to be a popular event. Many home school students attended.

WVU Childrens
Will attended the Mt. Loggers ribbon cutting for the new waiting area and the tree lighting.



Kitzmiller Tree
Plans to tentatively un-decorate Jan 20th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Watershed
Ken said Molly is doing a good job of trying to get a consensus on modifying the plan and reports. Ken attended the December meeting and expects a draft to be available in the spring. The burden of implementation will likely fall on the county.

Poster Contest
Due date for county entries this year is April 1. Some discussion on how this is problematic with awarding at local Arbor Day events and planting trees with winning schools was held. Melissa will schedule with the county to present awards at the April 21st meeting, since we won't be able to do it when we typically would.

MD Prescribed Fire Council
Melissa shared information on the MD Prescribed Fire Council, the goal of which is to share information about the benefits of prescribed burning.
https://www.marylandprescribedfire.org/

Mt. Loggers
Next meeting is Jan 13 at Pine Lodge. Will and Melissa are on their scholarship committee. They award a $1,500 scholarship each year.

NRCC
There are still just a few applications statewide. Will has been attending planning meetings. We returned the deposit for out 2025 student. Melissa will send the information to schools and 4-H.

Forest Pest Update
Will be held March 4th at New Germany.

Potomac Garrett SF Work Plan
Mike K. attended the advisory board meeting. There were no negative findings on the last audit. The plan focuses on addressing pests and invasive species with some harvesting. They are looking to fill some vacant seats on the board.

There was no word on a SRSF work plan yet.

Tree Canopy Classroom
Hickory is looking for sponsors to donate at least $500 to the tree canopy classroom to have their logo placed on the sign. Ken made a motion to donate $500. Bill A 2nd and the motion passed. Linda shared that a portion of the garden tour funds will be donated, but the amount is unknown until after the event.

Library Window
Ken suggested highlighting partnerships in conservation throughout the county. Items to highlight could be the tree canopy classroom and the garden tour.

Ethics
Fred said he received a notice to file. There has not been any guidance yet on whether it is needed given the coming changes. Anna will look into it and get back to everyone.

Garrett County Fair Dates
The Garrett County Fair announced they published incorrect dates. The fair will be August 1-8. This will make the following changes to our schedule:
7/31 – set up
8/2 – photo judging @ 1pm
8/4 – fry booth
8/8 – present photo awards (time TBD)

Member Update
Ken shared that this would likely be his last meeting. He suggested recruiting younger members going forward and asking other organizations we partner with to share members.

Work Plan
Anna said a template will be available soon and each county will be asked to submit an annual work plan for their board.

Next meeting
The next meeting will be February 9th at Mt. Nebo.

The meeting was adjourned following a motion by Mike K and 2nd by Bill A.

Upcoming Dates
2/9 – next regular meeting
3/4 – Pest Update @ New Germany