West Virginia Legislature Forest Management Review Commission

Senate Members

Senator Rupie Phillips, Co-Chair Senator Mike Caputo Senator Bill Hamilton Senator David Stover Senator Jay Taylor

House Members

Delegate John Paul Hott, Co-Chair Delegate Adam Burkhammer Delegate Evan Hansen

Citizen Members

Mr. Mark Haddix Mr. Stephen Harp Mr. Tom Plaugher Ms. LaDeena Teets Mr. Thomas Hawse Mr. Robert Williams Mr. Harry Vance

The West Virginia Legislature's Forest Management Review Commission, having been appointed pursuant to Article 24, Chapter 5 of the Code of West Virginia, met on four occasions during the 2023-2024 Legislative Interim period to receive testimony and information to accomplish the duties and responsibilities as established by code.

The Commission invited the following individuals to appear before it to offer their expertise and testimony:

May 7, 2023

Mr. Mike Jones, CIA, CFE, CRMA, Audit Manager, Joint Committee on Government and Finance, West Virginia Office of the Legislative Auditor

Mr. Jeremy McGill, Assistant State Forester, Logging & Water Quality, West Virginia Division of Forestry Mr. Eric Carlson, Executive Director, West Virginia Forestry Association

These individuals appeared before the Commission to present information regarding Post Audit Division Legislative Audit Report – Managed Timberland Program (report dated January 8, 2023).

September 13, 2023

Mr. Tony Evans, Acting State Forester, West Virginia Division of Forestry

Mr. Bob Boyles, Executive Director, West Virginia Forestry Association

These individuals appeared before the Commission to present updating guidelines for managing West Virginia's Seven State Forests.

October 17, 2023

Mr. Fred Brooks, Executive Vice President-Chief Lending Officer, Capon Valley Bank

Mr. Mark Haddix, Agribusiness Relationship Manager, Farm Credit of the Virginias, and Citizen Member of the Forest Management Review Commission

Mr. Mark Sturgill, Forester, Huffman Logging, Inc.

Mr. Rich Flanigan, Vice President, Western Pocahontas Properties Limited Partnership

These individuals appeared before the Commission to present information regarding timber harvesting on real property and liens.

[NOTE: Citizen Member, LaDeena Teets resigned via email on October 12, 2023. Governor Justice has not appointed a replacement at this time.]

December 2023

Jeremy Jones, State Forester/Director, West Virginia Division of Forestry Charles Copeland, Assistant State Forester-Stewardship, West Virginia Division of Forestry

These individuals appeared before the Commission and made a presentation entitled "Why Forest Management?" which included the benefits, planning, practices and fire prevention.

For additional information or copies of documentation provided by the invited individuals, please contact commission staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Rupie Phillips, Co-Chairman

Delegate John Paul Hott, Co-Chairman