



MFRC Resolution 2021-3

Minnesota Forest Resources Council Committee Charters and Procedures

July 20, 2021

Background

The Sustainable Forest Resources Act (SFRA) was established in 1995 for the purpose of advancing sustainable management, use, and protection of Minnesota’s forest resources to achieve the state’s economic, environmental, and social goals. Section 89A.03 of the Act creates the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (Council). It is the prerogative of the Council to establish committees, task forces, technical teams, regional committees, and other groups to facilitate the work of the Council provided that such work is conducted in accordance with Chapter 13D, the Open Meeting Law. The Forest Resources Research Advisory Committee also was established under Section 89A.08. The Council Chair is directed to appoint said Committee and its chair with the same Open Meeting Law mandate.

On November 12, 2020 the Council approved a resolution (MFRC Resolution 2020-2) adopting a Council mission and vision, and approving goals, strategies and actions for six Council Committees—Personnel and Finance, Policy Information, Landscape Advisory, Site Level, Communications, and the Research Advisory Committee. Each Committee has acted to update its “charter” to define its purposes, functions and responsibilities. These six Committee Charters, so established, are attached as an appendix to this resolution.

In 2021, the Minnesota Legislature passed H.F. 820 making changes to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. These changes broadened provisions to allow interactive technology to carry out public meetings. They further established that votes and actions taken by a state agency, board, commission or department, or its governing body, committees, and subcommittees be open to the public, and such votes or actions shall be recorded in minutes of that meeting. The Council has previously adopted Roberts Rules of Order for conducting meetings and the Chatham House Rules for recording discussions associated with such meetings. Council and committee meeting minutes are recorded accordingly.

In compliance with the Open Meeting Law, Council and committee agendas and meeting minutes are posted on the MFRC website. Agendas include the meeting date, time and location, and now, a link to the

interactive technological meeting platform that allows remote participation and public access to all meetings. Minutes of Council meetings are posted on the MFRC website upon review and approval of the Council, and committee meeting minutes are posted upon the review and approval of the committee chairs. In addition, agendas and minutes are available to the public upon request.

Motion

Motion approving the Minnesota Forest Resources Council's Committee Charters as presented to the Council on this date as an attachment to this resolution, and further approving Council procedures for conducting and recording Council and Committee meetings in accordance with new 2021 provisions of the Minnesota Open Meeting Law.

AYES (15) Pete Aube, Kim Berns-Melhus, Forrest Boe, Kory Cease, Craig Engwall, Janet Erdman, Katie Fernholz, John Fryc, Mike Birkeland, Keith Karnes, Jim Manolis, Scott Pittack, Kathleen Preece, Deb Theisen, Mike Kilgore

NAYS None

Attested to by:



Pete Aube, Chair, Minnesota Forest Resources Council

07/20/2021

Date