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**MINUTES
EMERGENCY FIRE COST COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
April 13th, 2015**

In accordance with the provisions of ORS 477.455, a meeting of the Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC) was held at the State Forester's Headquarters, 2600 State Street, Salem, Oregon.

Committee Members Present:

Ken Cummings, Chair (conference call: cc)
Lee Fledderjohann (cc)
Steve Cafferata (cc)
Pete Sikora (cc)

Others Present:

Tim Keith, EFCC Administrator (cc)
Doug Decker, State Forester
Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester
Nancy Hirsch, Division Chief, Fire Protection Program
Doug Grafe, Deputy Chief, Fire Protection Program
Charlie Stone, Policy Analyst, Fire Protection Program
Colleen Conlee, Emergency Fund Finance Coordinator (cc)
Jeff Friesen, Willis of Oregon
Mike Dykzeul, Oregon Forest Industries Council (OFIC) (cc)
Marlena Standley, DAS Risk Management
Satish Upadhyay, Administrative Services Division Chief
Dustin Ball, Policy & Budget Analyst, Chief Financial Office (CFO), DAS (cc)
Cathy Connolly, Policy & Budget Analyst, CFO, DAS (cc)
Lauri Aunan, Governor's Natural Resource Office (cc)
Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Analyst (cc)
Gary Springer, Board of Forestry (cc)

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cummings called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Introductions were made with those around the table at Salem ODF Headquarters and with those joining by conference call. He outlined the meeting agenda briefly.

ITEM 2: PROPOSED PURCHASE OF 2015-16 CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE POLICY FOR THE OREGON FOREST LAND PROTECTION FUND [*DECISION ITEM*]

Chair Cummings commented on Kristina McNitt (Oregon Forest Industries Council) and Roger Beyer's (Oregon Small Woodland Association) efforts at communicating with leaders in Salem and consolidating their respective organizations' thoughts in a letter of support to the EFCC for purchase of the proposed insurance policy for the 2015-16 insurance year.

Chair Cummings reiterated that there was a general understanding that if the impending fire season proves costly, total emergency costs could exceed the statutory \$20 million framework or the OFLPP's \$13.5 million annual expenditure limit. This would necessitate a need to address the situation in the February 2016 short legislative session if required to rebalance the fund and reconcile payments.

No other comments were made by the committee or others.

Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Forester, on behalf of the committee, purchase a \$25 million catastrophic insurance policy with a \$50 million retention. The premium will be approximately \$3.75 million plus taxes and fees.

State Forester Decker commented that the agency had a high level of interest and support to purchase the insurance policy at the Ways and Means Agriculture and Natural Resources subcommittee meeting. At the request of a member of the subcommittee, the agency will be documenting thoroughly the insurance purchase finance plan.

Chair Cummings asked Jeff Friesen to convey the committee's thanks to their London Willis representatives for their patience in delaying the decision to bind the policy. He then adjourned the meeting at 1:40pm.