AGM CONVENED BY CHAIR C. MCDONELL

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm, welcoming the members and guest present, and inviting open discussion but noting that only members may vote.

Confirmation of Meeting and Proxies

The Secretary confirmed that notice had been properly served, and sufficient members were present in person and by proxy. The Secretary also reminded the meeting that voting would be on the basis of a weighted voting system ascribing a total vote of no more than 10% to the individual member vote.

The Secretary confirmed receipt of 1 Proxy (organizational member), which was held by Chris McDonell.

The total number of voting members is 21 (13 organizational and 8 individual), thus the total weight of the Individual Member vote is 2.1, versus 13 Organizational votes.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of meeting held June 15, 2002, which had been distributed and posted on the FSC-Canada Website, were reviewed, with the Secretary noting that no comments had been received.

Report from the Chair

The Chair gratefully acknowledged the work and support of the Board members and staff throughout the past year, noting also that a formal report on the past year could be found in the 2002-2003 Annual Report.

In his comments the Chair noted:

1. Continued growth of the organization, nationally and internationally,
2. Maturation of Standards Development in Canada with the accreditation of the BC Regional Standard and the work on the Boreal Standard,
3. Increase in business and public awareness regarding FSC, and
4. Significant uptake of FSC standards across the country on all sizes of forest operations.

Moved by R. Collier, seconded by J. Arnold, that the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

Motion Carried
He went on to note the ongoing challenges for FSC as:

1. Continuing to increase uptake, with particular emphasis on the supply chain participants,
2. Ensuring the active engagement of the Aboriginal communities and forest and tenure holders,
3. Moving the Boreal Forest debate to the ground through active certification activity, and
4. Working to improve the financial viability of FSC.

The members acknowledged the report of the Chair, and the work of the Board on their behalf over the past year.

**Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer presented the audited financial statements for 2002/2003, noting that there was a summary available in the Annual Report, and the complete report was available to the members upon request. He went on to emphasize the ongoing need to secure untied funding, noting that the availability of Foundation funding would likely decline significantly in the future.

**Appointment of Auditors**

The Treasurer recommended retaining the same audit firm of McPherson and McPherson.

**Election of Directors**

The Secretary, Peggy Smith, reviewed the nomination and election process that was followed in accordance with the By-Laws. The elections closed on September 15, and the results were announced as follows:

- Economic: Brent Rabik
- Social: Arnold Bercov
- Environmental: Lorne Johnson
- Indigenous Peoples: Jim Webb

These Directors begin a two-year term, joining the following remaining Directors who are in the second year of their term:

- Economic: John Wiggers
- Social: Jean Arnold
- Environmental: Denise English
- Indigenous Peoples: Russell Diabo

It was moved by J. Wiggers, seconded by J. Arnold, that the auditors report be accepted.

**Motion Carried**

It was moved by J. Wiggers, seconded by R. Collier, that McPherson and McPherson be retained as auditors for the fiscal year 2003/2004.

**Motion Carried**
### Other Business

(1) Report on Actions from 2002 AGM

The Chair reported that the By-Law amendments had been submitted to Industry Canada, and received formal approval March 5, 2003.

The Board had been asked by resolution to develop a decision-making protocol for the management of the National Boreal Standard. The protocol was drafted, circulated for input, approved at a meeting of the Board in October, 2002, and made publicly available.

The Board was asked to consider the issue of regional representation on the Board. After some discussion and debate, the Board agreed that an overall Policy and Procedure for Nominations should be developed, and was to be presented to the members at the 2003 AGM for approval.

Lastly, the membership approved a motion to make a formal motion at the FSC AGA in November, 2002 regarding the need for aboriginal staff at the FSC Headquarters. It was noted that while the motion was not made at the AGA, a motion to strengthen the Social Strategy with particular reference to the need to address aboriginal peoples needs was approved, including consideration internationally of a fourth chamber for aboriginal peoples.

(2) Financial Management Policy

A draft Financial Management Policy had been circulated to members prior the AGM. It was introduced for discussion, noting some minor amendments approved at the most recent meeting of the Board. Following discussion, the members approved the Policy.

(2) Nominations

A draft policy approved by the Board was presented. Considerable discussion followed with particular regard to several points:

- The need for provisions to exclude candidates
- Consideration for changes to only allow FSC members to be Directors
- Consideration of a mechanism for a parallel committee and open call for candidates to ensure openness in the process

Following the discussion, the policy was moved and seconded for consideration. At that point an amendment was proposed regarding the removal of the exclusion terms. With the defeat of the amendment, the original motion was voted and approved with the understanding that the application of the Policy would be reviewed based on

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*It was moved by J. Webb, seconded by D. Brinkman, that the Financial Management Policy be approved as presented. **Motion Carried.**

*It was moved by R. Diabo, seconded by D. English, that the Nominations Policy be approved.*

*It was moved by N. Rycroft, seconded by J. Kazi, that the Policy be amended to remove the provisions for exclusion of potential candidates. **Motion Defeated.**

**Original Motion Carried.**
experience at the next AGM.

(3) Official Languages
The Board approved Policy on Official Languages was presented. The ensuing discussion supported the need for a policy position, but it was noted that it followed the “2 founding nations” theory and gave no regard for Indigenous Peoples. It was recognized that cost implications could be significant, but it was noted that in keeping with the values and intent of FSC, some regard for Indigenous languages should be granted.

(4) Information Management
The Information Management Policy was introduced, noting that Privacy Legislation in Canada requires that associations develop and implement, by January, 2004, the necessary policies and procedures to meet its intent. Some discussion followed for clarification with regard to the obligation of FSC AC in this regard, and it was noted that they have been informed and that FSC Canada would continue to work to ensure that the policy would be met.

New Business

(1) Boreal Report
Martin von Mirbach, Chair of the Boreal Coordinating Committee, formally presented Version 2.1 of the National Boreal Standard to the FSC Canada Board and members for public discussion and support. The official Letter of Transmittal, signed by all BCC members, was read into the record (attached). In addition, all of the groups participating and contributing to the development of this standard were acknowledged.
Supportive and congratulatory comments were offered, including unanimous acknowledgement by the members present of the leadership role of Martin von Mirbach.
On behalf of the members and the Board, Chris McDonell called this achievement a tremendous accomplishment, welcomed input, support and practical experience from all interested parties across Canada and around the world, and offered that this is an excellent starting point to bring the document to life and improve forest management in the Boreal forest.

It was moved by R. Collier, seconded by D. English, that the Policy be renamed “Languages”, and that it be approved in principle subject to the review and development of statements giving recognition to aboriginal languages and subsequent services.
Motion Carried.

It was moved by R. Collier, and seconded by P. Smith, that the Policy be approved.
Motion Carried.
The timelines and process for public review and accreditation were summarized:

1. Public review closes October 31, 2003
2. Consolidation of Input to be completed by November 30, 2003
3. Second National Boreal Forum and Board Meeting December 3-7, 2003 (Winnipeg)
4. Reconciliation and Completion of Process by end of December, 2003, including Technical Peer Review for clarity and incorporation of small and low intensity guidance materials.
5. FSC AC accreditation to be initiated January 2004.

K. Baltgailis, Yukon Conservation Society, raised a specific regional concern regarding the treatment of unallocated boreal forest, but noted that recent discussions among the conservation community indicated optimism that a possible national solution could be found through FSC’s strength of cross-sectoral debate and consensus.

(5) Protecting the Land – Algonquins of Barriere Lake
Steven Price publicly acknowledged the excellent work by the Algonquins of Barriere Lake in raising awareness and addressing the need for partnerships to resolve critical community issues and reconcile forestry use with the traditional Algonquin way of life, noting that it could serve as a model for FSC Canada to develop similar materials.

(6) Retiring Board Members
Steven Price called for the membership to acknowledge the tireless work and contribution of Chris McDonell, Peggy Smith and Martin von Mirbach on its behalf. Their efforts were recognized with a standing round of applause.

Next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM will be held September 18, 2004 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Adjournment

There being no other business the Chair declared the AGM closed and welcomed members and guests to a members reception.