

**National Forest Advisory Board (NFAB) Meeting**  
February 21, 2007 – 12:30 p.m.  
Forest Service Center, 8221 South Highway 16, Rapid City, SD

**Members Present:**

Jim Heinert, Vice Chair; Douglas Hofer, Ron Johnsen, Bob Paulson, Jim Scherrer, Nels Smith, Linda Tokarczyk, Aaron Everett, and Matt Hoobler.

**Forest Service Representatives:**

Craig Bobzien, Dennis Jaeger, Frank Carroll, Craig Kjar, Dave Thom, Jane Eide, Bob Thompson, Mike Lloyd, Rhonda O'Byrne, Steve Kozel, Tom Willems, and Twila Morris, Recorder.

**Others:**

Approximately 20 Congressional representatives, media, and other members of the public were in attendance.

**Members Absent:**

Tom Blair, Theresa Two Bulls, Jim Margadant, Everett Hoyt, Patrick McElgunn, Bob Kloss, and Paul Valandra.

**Outgoing Members Awards Ceremony:**

**Bobzien:** Time to say thanks before a new board starts in March. This is a time to recognize some people who have served with the board and have done a fantastic job. Linda Tokarczyk & Druse Kellog were presented a plaque and appreciation from Craig & the Board. Other outgoing members receiving awards, but unable to attend the meeting are: Karl Burke, Mike Carter, John Cooper, Joe Lowe, Jim Margadant, and Paul Valandra.

**Welcome and Roll Call:**

**Vice Chair Heinert:** Quorum present.

**Heinert:** The board appreciates the help and hard work of Craig Bobzien, and for the record would like to second the appreciation of members and alternates service on the board.

**Bobzien: Introductions:**

- Dennis Jaeger ~ Deputy Forest Supervisor
  - Formerly the director at the Boxelder Job Corps Center.
- Rhonda O'Byrne ~ Northern Hills District Ranger
  - Formerly the District Ranger at Camp Crook on the Custer National Forest.

**New Board Members Being Seated in March:**

- Hugh Thompson ~ Wyoming Delegate
- Donovin A. Sprague ~ Crazy Horse Memorial, Tribal Government
- Matt Hoobler ~ Wyoming Department of Agriculture
- Becci Jo Rowe ~ Norbeck Society
- Senator McCracken ~ South Dakota State Senate.

**Comments to the Chair:**

**Carroll:** This is the last meeting of the 2005 Board, and the March meeting is the first meeting of the 2007 Board.

**Approve Minutes:**

**Vice Chair Heinert:** Are there any changes to the January minutes?

**Scherrer:** Motion to approve the January minutes as reported.

**Paulson:** Second the motion.

**Heinert:** Motion carried, the January minutes stand as reported.

**Approve Agenda:**

**Vice Chair Heinert:** Are there any changes to the agenda?

**Paulson:** Was the letter on Open Space sent to Tom Blair for signature and forwarded to the Regional Office?

**Carroll:** Will follow up on the letter, and address this at the March meeting.

**Hofer:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Tokarczyk:** Second the motion.

**Heinert:** Motion carried, the agenda stands as presented.

**Housekeeping:**

**Bobzien:** Reviewed the layout of the building.

**Meeting Protocols - Issues:**

No additional comments.

**Hot Topics**

**Deer Valley, The Gateway, and Administrative Land Sales in Support of Continuing Forest Consolidation ~ Kjar:**

**Kjar:** Efforts started in the 90's to consolidate the seven Black Hills National Forest Districts in to four. The reason for the effort is to consolidate our offices, update facilities, and provide better services to Black Hills National Forest customers. National legislation gives us the ability to sell administrative sites, and apply the money to other administrative needs.

Properties that are being looked at for possible sale, will be sold, or have been sold are:

- Hill City office – direct sale to the City of Hill City.
- Deadwood garage – sold to Lawrence County last fall.
- Rapid City office – to be auctioned in an online auction (GSA).
- Spearfish, Deadwood, and Newcastle houses – to be auctioned in an online auction (GSA)
- 100 acres of land East of Hill City – to be sold.
- 112 acres of land adjacent to the Supervisor's Office in Custer – surplus and is being evaluated.
- Allen Gulch House – we still use.
- Hardy Guard Station – under agreement with the SD GF&P and still in use.
- Pactola Work Center – to be sold.
- Custer office of the Hell Canyon District will be sold after the new office is constructed.

As properties are sold, the proceeds will go back into an account to build a new office building for our Hell Canyon Ranger District office in Custer. The location of the new office will be on the grounds of the current Supervisor's Office. The completion date for the new office is 2010.

The authority is specifically for administrative sites. Legislation for the Black Hills in South Dakota is limited to South Dakota sites, and limited to applying the money to the development or maintenance of Administrative sites on the Black Hills in South Dakota.

The other legislation, the Pilot Conveyance Program, was a test case that allowed us to sell a limited number of sites a year which included the Newcastle house, and the administrative site in Custer. There was legislation passed last year that extended that program and made it a permanent program.

**Heinert:** What is the time line for the disposal of the properties?

**Kjar:** The sale of the Hill City office building to the City of Hill City should take place this spring. The Deadwood property is sold. The Rapid City office building should sell this spring. The three houses will go up for auction this spring or summer. The Custer land is still being evaluated. The Pactola Work Center will go up for auction this fall or winter. The land East of Hill City will go up for auction this fall or winter.

**Heinert:** What are the rules for disposal?

**Kjar:** Generally auction is the best way to go, to get the best value for the government.

**Heinert:** Are there any more questions? If not, we will move on to the next topic.

### **Secure Rural Schools – The President’s Budget for 2008 ~ Jaeger:**

**Jaeger:** Set up by the Federal Government to supplement communities that saw a decrease in their payments because of a decrease in timber revenue. The Presidents proposed FY08 budget proposes to go another four years.

The National Forest would sell isolated parcels of National Forest land, 50% of the money would go to support the Secure Rural Schools initiative, the other 50% would go back to the forest where the funds were generated to be used for conservation programs, easements, etc. The Secure Rural Schools initiative has nothing to do with the administrative site sales that we currently have. This proposal is estimated to bring in 800 million dollars.

**Scherrer:** Can you give an example of the property that would be sold?

**Jaeger:** 13,000 acres have been identified. On the Wyoming side, there are approximately 7,000 acres; the rest is on the South Dakota side. The acres are all isolated tracks, less than 160 acres, mostly surrounded by private land.

**Carroll:** The first initiative was to sell the land and all the money would go to the Secure Rural Schools, but that plan was not adopted.

**Hofner:** These isolated tracks are also the same lands that would most likely be available for trade. It seems to be putting school funding against the open space initiative.

**Johnsen:** Have there been any projected dollar figures for the sale of the South Dakota lands?

**Jaeger:** The only projection is the 800 million, and the land would be sold at the appraised value.

**Hofner:** Is there a formula for distributing the money back?

**Jaeger:** This all goes back to timber revenues declining. Communities were in a bind, so they came out with this program to assist.

**Heinert:** Is it their position that the sale of these lands would adequately support the payments for the next four years?

**Jaeger:** Appropriated directly from Congress. The amount of land they've looked at would generate 800 million dollars, which would mean 400 million to go to Secure Rural Schools. It may fall short.

**Everett:** There will have to be a recalculation of the formula. Currently the program distributes 400 million a year. This year we are back to 25% of the timber receipts.

**Heinert:** So this is significantly less than in past years.

**Smith:** This is the first time that something has been on the table that would really get open space preservation or the reasonable disposal of Forest Service land that is not manageable, to build a bank account in which to buy in holdings that could more properly be managed. Putting those isolated pieces, that land that doesn't fit in the multiple use program, into private ownership and in to the tax base, and using the money to buy more appropriate pieces of land is the right thing to do.

**Thompson:** Bob passed out a report that shows the dollar amounts paid to Counties since 1986.

**Everett:** Up until 2001, the payment was 25%, after that, it went to level funding. Most of the schools took the level funding.

**Hofer:** Would part of the sale be used to pay the difference between the 25% and a schedule that is greater?

**Heinert:** It would be the difference.

**Bobzien:** It is more than just timber; it includes all revenue including recreation, grazing, timber, etc.

**Everett:** There are certain recreation fees that are not included.

**Bobzien:** That is correct. It used to be just 25% of the gross receipts, now there are some detailed exclusions such as some of the recreation fees and stewardship contracts. The bulk on the Black Hills is from timber.

**Heinert:** Are there any more questions? If not, we will move on to the next topic.

**Administrative Realignment and Introduction of New Staff and Ranger Roles ~ Bobzien:**

**Bobzien:** As of the first of February the Black Hills National Forest Leadership Team is fully staffed. A realignment of the Staff was done to level workloads, and address merging areas. You won't see huge changes, just some differences in the way things are set up. Craig Introduced the Staff and their new titles and duties:

- Dennis Jaeger ~ Deputy Forest Supervisor
- Craig Kjar ~ Physical Resources Staff Officer
- Dave Thom ~ Renewable Resources Staff Officer
- Jane Eide ~ Customer Services Staff Officer
- Frank Carroll ~ Planning & Public Affairs Staff Officer
- Twila Morris ~ Executive Assistant
- Rhonda O'Byrne ~ Northern Hills District Ranger
- Steve Kozel ~ Bearlodge District Ranger
- Bob Thompson ~ Mystic District Ranger
- Mike Lloyd ~ Hell Canyon District Ranger

Craig Kjar will be handling the engineering, lands, minerals, and soils areas. Dave Thom will be handling the fire, range, timber and wildlife areas. Frank Carroll will be handling the public affairs group, and planning, which involves the travel planning. Frank is also the NFAB Committee Management Officer. Jane Eide will be handling the budget, recreation, heritage, customer service – internal and external, and partnership areas. Partnerships will be a major focus because of the benefit to all on the National Forest.

**Paulson:** What do you mean by partnerships, can you explain?

**Bobzien:** We expect to accomplish more work through partnerships. Jane Eide will be assessing our current partnership program and how the program can grow.

**Bobzien:** Thanks to Bob Thompson for hosting the NFAB meeting at the wonderful Mystic District office.

**Heinert:** I have been very impressed with the Forest Service folks who come before the board to give presentations, and advance the cause. I and the Board appreciate all they do.

**Enlightenment Ride ~ Bobzien:**

**Bobzien:** The Black Hills National Forest hosted the Enlightenment Ride in January. The group that organizes the ride is the American Council of Snowmobile Associations, Inc. which is headquartered in Michigan. Their goal is to “enlighten” the Chief of the Forest Service, and others at the Regional and Forest level of the issues and amenities on particular Forests. Unfortunately, because the Chief was in his last few days before retirement, he was not able to attend.

This was a great opportunity to talk about partnerships, particularly the way the state of South Dakota is working with the state of Wyoming to groom snowmobile trails. This was a chance to see how the grooming was financed through registrations and off highway fuel tax, local governments, communities, and private businesses. If you take away any one of those partnerships, it wouldn't work as well as it does with all the partners in place.

The state of South Dakota negotiates to secure partnerships and agreements with private landowners who own open meadows and park areas where snowmobile trails cross. Doug Hofer will give an update on the things he is taking a lead on.

**Hofer:** The Enlightenment Ride was a good opportunity for the South Dakota Parks & Recreation to highlight the snowmobile program and the partnerships they have. There are long term issues associated with the trails, and they are similar to the “open space” issues. You may not think about snowmobiling that much when you are considering open space, but because of the fragmented nature of the Black Hills, the 350 miles of trail crosses private land time and time again. Annual leases and agreements are getting increasingly difficult to put together especially with more and more subdivisions popping up.

A planning effort was started over a year ago and in the next six to eight months; we plan to develop a list of priorities to work toward a more permanent solution to the easement issue. Our dialog has already highlighted the fact that one program itself will never have enough money to solve all the problems; it will take partnerships with others who have the same goals and objectives. We are looking for corridors that will connect trails. Mountain bikers, horse back riders, off highway vehicle users, and a variety of other users face the same issues.

Users themselves were at the Enlightenment Ride as hosts, and it was good for them too, being able to have discussions with Agency leaders.

**Heinert:** Are there any more questions? If not, we will move on to the next topic.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### The President's Budget, FY 2008 ~ Bobzien:

**Bobzien:** The President signed our Fiscal Year (FY) 07 budget on February 15, 2007 as a continuing resolution from last year. There were not a lot of details, but we expect to know more by March 12, 2007. The Black Hills will be able to move forward in fuels, timber sales, and travel planning.

In FY08 the challenges get bigger. The President's budget is focused on the war on terror and reducing the Federal deficit. The Forest Service has a decrease over all. As an Agency, our approximate four billion dollar budget will be reduced by 200 million dollars.

An area of concern is the increase in fire suppression costs. For 2008 the fire suppression budget has been increased to 1.6 billion. In 1991 the fire suppression share of the Forest Service budget was 13% nation wide. The projected share for 2008 is 46%.

There is much discussion on the cause of the fire costs increases, such as drought, and 100 years of fire suppression, etc. Since 1991, 8.4 million new homes have been built in the wildland interface, which translates into higher costs of protecting people, and property. Most program areas are seeing decreases to make up for the fire budget

As an Agency, we are trying to get a handle on this. Cost containment is the priority, to look at everything we can, how are we treating fuels, how are we managing the Forest, what are the roles we have and the roles the states and counties have?

The Land acquisitions program has an eight to 16 million dollar budget. The Forest Service isn't going to bring a lot of money to the table, which is why we are looking toward partnerships to try to make things happen.

**Paulson:** What percent of the Land & Water Conservation Fund (of 1965) is being funded? It is much lower than in the past. Royalties are not being applied because it is not being funded.

**Smith:** The Fund was amended so the States assured amount was removed, and all of it ended up going to the government. A statutory change removed protection.

**Hofer:** At least since 1980 there have been budgets in which the states side of those funds have been zeroed out, it is zeroed out currently. The Federal side of it has been going down consistently.

**Everett:** The 109<sup>th</sup> Congress passed a bill that included funding for the Land & Water Conservation Fund.

**Hofer:** 12% of the new money is dedicated to the Land & Water program. The majority of it is going to costal states for environmental work. This will keep the state side of the funding alive. The Federal side just isn't very much. Nation wide it might all add up to 100 million, which, with the price of land these days, isn't much.

**Bobzien:** This would just about fund one of our number one priorities on the Black Hills.

**Heinert:** Four billion dollars nation wide for the budget, that is congressional appropriations. How much of the operating revenue is supported by user receipts?

**Bobzien:** Trust funds on the Black Hills are about 35%.

**Everett:** KV funds, brush disposal, range betterment are all included.

**Everett:** How much of the four billion dollars goes to the Washington Office vs. how much goes to Forests?

**Bobzien:** That's a good question, the FY08 budget is launching a reduction to the Washington Office & Regional Office by 25% starting in FY08 and running through 2010. As much money hasn't been going to the ground while the higher level budgets continue to go higher, the goal is to reduce the organization.

**Tokarczyk:** Does the new Interagency Recreation Pass have any adverse impact on the Black Hills revenues? Now the Black Hills is not selling all of their own passes.

**Bobzien:** Perhaps, however, I feel it's just better government to have interagency passes. There will always be arguments about someone getting shorted, but we'll all just figure out how to account for it and make it easier for the customer.

**Heinert:** Are there any more questions? If not, we will move on to the next topic.

### **Travel Planning ~ Bob Thompson, Tom Willems, & Doug Hofer:**

**Carroll:** This board has been active with us for three years now. Many of you have attended meetings, etc., and we appreciate your support.

**Thompson:** The Travel Planning Team has collected a lot of data, social data that the Advisory Board and Subcommittee has helped bring together. We have gotten more social input on this than probably most anything else we've worked on. We have received a lot of route inventory, Forest system roads, unclassified roads, unauthorized roads (roads which are not on our official system). We've also collected additional route inventory from user groups that we did not have on our inventory.

Tom will be showing that we have over 9,000 miles of routes on the National Forest. A lot of this data the Forest Service has brought together, along with the information from the public. We are getting ready to prepare a proposed action and environmental impact statement. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposal that comes out this spring. We will use the comments to develop alternatives. We will keep the Advisory Board and public well informed.

**Willems:** Implementation Date: September 2009

**Travel Management Vision:**

A Forest wide transportation system – that is environmentally sustainable, economically viable, and socially acceptable.

An OHV trail system consisting of a main arterial (backbone) system connecting BH communities, with multiple scale loops branching off the main system that are well distributed throughout the Forest, while providing for non-motorized users as a conscious, proactive choice.

A spectrum of uses: Solitude and nature , dirt trails; backcountry getaways, equestrian loops; social outdoor, trails to popular attractions; natural environment, short, hard surfaced loops for learning; motorized backcountry, hard surfaced back country getaway; mountain bike loop, test skills and thrill seekers; single track motorized route, test skills and thrill seekers, hard surfaced routes, motorized social get-togethers outdoors.

This board started the collaboration process three years ago. The public involvement began before the rule was published in 2005. The process we are entering into right now depends upon this collaboration. The public involvement is like nothing this Forest has seen.

Travel management OHV user route inventory input:

- Existing NFS Roads: 2466.5
- User created routes: 786.4
- Unclassified roads: 457.5
- Total: 3710.4 miles

Actual Use represented by inventory:

- 4x4 (trucks, jeeps) Routes: 892
- ATV Routes: 1398
- Single Track (motorcycles): 34.6
- 4x4 Single Track 1.4
- 4x4 ATV single track routes 205.4
- ATV single track routes 136
- 4x4 ATV routes 1043

As we see it today:

- Existing NFS Roads: 5507.88 miles
- Unclassified Routes: 3257.63 miles
- User Created Routes: 786.40 miles
- Total: 9551.91 miles

Six Steps From Vision to Motor Vehicle Use Map:

1. Existing travel management direction
2. Assemble resource and social data
3. Travel analysis
4. NEPA – Proposed Action
5. Motor Vehicle Use Map
6. Implement and monitor

**Everett:** Will this be a Forest Plan amendment that will require further NEPA for project level decisions?

**Thompson:** No, this will be a project level decision that also results in a Forest Plan amendment. The goal is to have a decision that provides for flexibility over time. The user map is the order for each year, and the user map will change as conditions change.

**Willems:** We have a number of routes where the analysis has been completed; monitoring will be a big part of the process.

Main Project Components:

1. Travel Analysis Process
  - a. Minimum road system
  - b. Motorized roads, trails & areas.
2. NEPA - Route and Area Designation Process
  - a. EIS (Forest Plan Amendment & Designation)
    - i. Environmentally sustainable
    - ii. Socially acceptable
    - iii. Economically feasible.
  - b. Mixed Use Analysis
  - c. Motor Vehicle Use Map
3. OHV – Trail System
  - a. Short & long term planning
  - b. Cooperators, partners
  - c. Additional funding
  - d. New construction, reconstruction

**Paulson:** Would like to point out that there is an item missing under number three which is restoration.

**Willems:** That is correct, that is an oversight.

**Smith:** Restoration to pre-trail status or obstruction?

**Willems:** It would be a combination of both restoration and obstruction.

**Heinert:** Would rehabilitation be taking it out of the system?

**Willems:** It could be.

**Paulson:** More money could be spent rehabilitating the user created trails that have been there for many years, than is available for the whole program.

**Hoobler:** Have there been any areas identified for new construction?

**Willems:** No, not at this time.

**Hofer:** Where does enforcement fall into this?

**Willems:** Administration

**Hofer:** There has been a Task Force appointed by the Governor to look at legislative framework for off highway vehicle use. The Task Force has a goal to meet with the Governor prior to the 2008 legislative session. The group will have their second meeting March 19, 2007 in Pierre.

From the beginning we can anticipate discussion about state wide registering and licensing, from there, the group may discuss legislative framework to establish user base funding sources dedicated to OHV programs and activities. The Black Hills is the epicenter of OHV use in South Dakota. Legislative framework will focus on what is economically viable.

Public safety is another issue that will be looked at by the task force. The legislative process is an open process with a lot more room for public input. The process is moving forward, but it may take several years to get everything addressed and a comprehensive piece of legislation put together.

**Paulson:** Will the infrastructure and budgeting stand points be looked at in the Forest Service analysis? What can the Forest Service afford to administer?

**Bobzien:** The budget is not there for all of the public demands, and yes it will be looked at during the analysis period. This is an area we will need help from partnership and users.

**Smith:** We know there is never enough money, the costs are so high. Is the Forest Service going to identify the ideal, then go for the reality? Or will they just plan with the money they have now?

**Bobzien:** This plan will be a dynamic plan; it will evolve as we go along.

**Smith:** Hopefully you'll only have to go through this expensive process once. Would it be more efficient to say this is the ideal, and use the resources you have and prioritize from there?

**Bobzien:** Question for the board: How do we make the systems mesh? We have the Forest Service portion; Doug talked about the State portion. Tribes, local governments, gateway communities all need to be considered. Even though this is the Black Hills National Forest, we have to edge match pretty well with private and state lands. The County Commissioners are in this with us as well. Where is the best place for which kind of trails? How do we structure meaningful input and anything further from other jurisdictions, and tribal government?

**Paulson:** Typically each County has someone assigned to each special interest group, but they don't seem to be with this topic. Should find out who are specifically assigned to this topic.

**Everett:** "Rubber Chicken Circuit" - meet with every group out there, talk to the chambers, anyone who will listen. You've involved the interest groups, now the outer groups should be involved.

**Bobzien:** Lawrence County assigned a group to report to the National Forest Advisory Board.

**Scherrer:** Lawrence County came to the subcommittee and presented a resolution that the County Commissioners established to formalize their participation.

**Hofer:** Tackle the tourism business in the Hills at large. Black Hills Badlands and Lakes Association membership make up the people who need to be contacted.

**Heinert:** Might be of some benefit to work with them separately as well as individually.

**Scherrer:** An entry point into this process for those folks will be better defined when the Forest Service is in a position to release the Motor Vehicle Use Map. Until you have something specific for them to look at, until you can start showing them where the trail system will interface with the County road system, and what the upsides and downsides are, they will not have much incentive to be involved.

**Hoobler:** Did the Forest Service collect any demographic information?

**Willems:** yes, we did pull that in from the public meetings.

**Hoobler:** The Forest Service can initiate a cooperator role for other government entities, during the NEPA process.

**Willems:** Yes, we made many contacts before we started the NEPA process.

**Smith:** Steve Kozel has been more than diligent in keeping in touch with the Crook County Commissioners. The other thing that helped was the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), and when that runs out, if there is anyway to come up with replacement committee, that would help. General public involvement, no one gets too excited till there is a crisis. Working relationships have been good with the County and Forest Service.

**Bobzien:** Thank you for the comments.

**Heinert:** Looks well thought out and systematic to this point. Is the Board's role to help interpret the decision that comes down and how to apply it to the Black Hills?

**Bobzien:** I see the Board's role as being more broad and strategic. For example, the Board provided the recommendations, to build the long term vision for travel management on the Black Hills National Forest. The second part is incremental advice, advice and input along the way related to our broad vision. We're starting to get into the finer details at this point and we could use task forces to answer more detailed questions as they arise.

**Heinert:** I am glad to hear the Supervisor say that our role is strategic in nature rather than all the minutia.

**Scherrer:** What exactly do you want from us? Tom did a great job, but I don't think we need to get the level of depth that we have gotten into today. We should coordinate the information in a timely manner when we have real solid steps going forward. We should take advantage of the impact the Advisory Board has had to put the message out. The media and Congressional contacts that this board has are beneficial, and I would not want to loose the momentum.

**Smith:** Commend the Forest Service and Tom Willems particularly, this has been a real go to the public and get input kind of an effort, it doesn't always work that way.

**Open Space Subcommittee~ Bob Paulson:**

Defer this to next month.

**BRAG Trends & Currents ~ Frank Carroll:**

**Carroll:** Most of the committee members are not here today. There have been reports in the media about the use of ethanol and bio-fuels, and if bio-fuel will be a viable fuel source. There are a whole lot of mixed results about the costs, etc. At the next meeting the BRAG Committee will bring forward what is happening in this area.

**Everett:** Large diameter piles along HWY 44 in the Shanks Timber Sale are being chipped in a contract between Baker Timber Products, and Nieman's Sawmill. Big piles can be reduced by about 75% with this process. The chips go to Meralot, who employ 300 people, and have been making kitchen and bath cabinets since 1980. Meralot is the number two cabinet supplier in the United States.

**Carroll:** Thanks to Aaron and his organization for the weed identification guide for each member of the Board.

**Public Comments:**

**Vice Chair Heinert:** If anyone from the public wishes to address the Board, please do so.

**Patty Brown, Off Road Riders:** Question for Mr. Paulson and Mr. Willems; please clarify your statements about restoration vs. reconstruction.

**Paulson:** My take is that there are a lot of trails that were left behind out there. There is only a certain amount of revenue for OHV and part of that obligation will pay for the damage that was done before. Reconstruction of a trail is different. There are ruts from long ago that someone will have to fix, and the revenue will have to be used to fix damage or restoring the land to its previous condition. All the new money coming in might be used for new trails, etc., rather than restoration.

**Brown:** Does that come before the construction of new trails? If we don't establish the new trails first, then the old trails, that someone is trying to restore, will continue to be used.

**Paulson:** Yes, a portion of the money at first would go to restoration, and as we go, more money would be spent for the restoration. Once the new trails are put in the expenditure of the money would shift.

**Brown:** This is where I see partnerships coming into play.

**Paulson:** Want to stress that rehabilitation has to be a part of the Forest Service presentation.

**Nancy Kile, Association for Mato Paha Preservation:** Concerned about how the sale of the land address a fragmented land issue. Also how is funding schools being hooked on to that, and what is the initiative number?

**Jaeger:** The Secure Rural Schools initiative is in the Presidents FY08 proposal, and we would have to sell Federal lands to fund the initiative. The other legislation is for the sale of administrative sites, and does not impact the Secure Rural Schools initiative.

**Smith:** If you look at a map of the BHNF that shows the private land within the National Forest boundary, you can see how much difficult to administer properties there are. It would help if the Forest Service had money available to buy some of these.

**Jaeger:** To answer Nancy Kile's question, the Secure Rural Schools Initiative number is, Public law 106-393 which expired and is looking to be reinitiated with the Presidents 08 budget.

**Paulson:** Expired as planned.

**Scherrer:** Have the meeting dates for the balance of 2007 been decided? Could the date of the next months meeting be added to the bottom of the current months meeting minutes?

**Adjournment:**

**Vice Chair Heinert:** If there is no other business to come before the Board, I will ask for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

The next NFAB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21, 2007, at the Forest Service Center in Rapid City, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

- April 18, 2007
- May 16, 2007
- June 20, 2007
- July 18, 2007
- August 15, 2007
- Summer Field Trip – To Be Announced
- September 19, 2007
- October 17, 2007
- November 21, 2007
- December – No Meeting