



Randolph Community Forest

Sustainable forestry & traditional uses on 10,000 acres in Randolph, NH

Date: August 6, 2025

Location: Randolph Town Hall

Members Present: Mark Kelley, Laura Brockett, David Willcox , and Tim Mather

Guests Present: David DeGruttola from LandVest, Jamie Maddock, Alex Roberts, Josh Gleiner, and Shelli Fortin, Minutes

Mark Kelley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

David Willcox, alternate member, was appointed to sit in for Walter Graff.

- I. Review Minutes of June Meeting
On a motion by Laura Brockett, seconded by Tim Mather, the Commission voted to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2025, meeting as presented.
- II. Rental of the Farrar Farm Garage
Jamie Maddock was in attendance to ask about using the Farrar Farm garage for the storage of some farm implements. Mr. Maddock offered to provide mowing services a couple times per year in exchange for the use of the space. Mr. Maddock advised he would provide a letter stating that the Town and the Community Forest would have no liability for damage to or theft of any of the equipment. The Committee was in favor, and Mark Kelley will speak to the Town about what will be needed to facilitate the arrangement. Mr. Maddock advised it would be for two to three years, until his garage is built.
- III. Financial Review
 - A. Invoices Received
Three invoices were received. One invoice was received from LandVest for \$13,537.50, for their work in June, which includes the \$10,670 that LandVest paid to JML on behalf of the Town. An invoice was received from Elise Lawson of Watershed to Wildlife in the amount of \$1,687.50 for work from June through August. An invoice was received from Leo C. Jellison for mowing in the amount of \$450.00. All invoices were approved for payment and signed.
 - B. Payments Received

There were no payments received.

C. Financial Review

Mark Kelley reviewed the income and expenses this year, noting that they are ahead of what was budgeted for income due to extra from timber sales and the maple lease. They are currently \$80,000 below budget on expenses.

IV. 2025 Annual Forest Day Report

Mark Kelley advised that Forest Day was very successful, with about 20 guests attending. David DeGruttola advised that they were able to show the history on Google Earth of the changes in Israel's River. Jamie Maddock advised that you can also see the same information on Granite View, which provides aerial views of NH back till 1990.

V. Warrant Article

David Willcox presented the Warrant Article for the Town Meeting next year to removed 4.5 acres from the Community Forest and return it to the Town. The Warrant Article reads:

“To see if the Town will vote to remove a 4.5-acre piece of land, identified at Tax Map R14 Lot 5, from the Community Forest and return it to the control of the Selectmen for the purpose of operating an emergency communications tower.”

Jamie Maddock stated that he would like to see a stipulation that nothing else can be built on it, other than the tower.

VI. 2025 Project Planning

A. Jimtown Logging Road

David DeGruttola advised that he is planning to speak with NRCS representative Kelly Eggleston and NH Trails Bureau representative Clint Savage again. He still needs to walk the road and measure the culverts. Mr. DeGruttola advised that the largest part of this project will be converting the culverts to bridges. Since this may be government funding, they will need engineered plans. The project may need to be done in phases, hopefully beginning next year.

B. Gates

David DeGruttola advised that the gates will be ready soon and the second payment will be due. JML will be doing some road work to get ready for winter, and will install the gates at the same time.

C. Pond of Safety Road

David Willcox asked about Forest Services help on the Pond of Safety Road. Willcox advised that he will reach out to them to see if they are able to do some work on the road, as part of it needs gravel.

D. Emergency Communications Tower

Mark Kelley advised they will install cattle gates to keep vehicles from driving up the road once the work is done.

VII. Forester's Report

David DeGruttola advised that the knotweed has been cut and treated with Roundup. An additional area noticed on the quartz mine trail was also noticed and treated.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that the NH Timber Owners Association has requested that the Randolph Community Forest be part of a field day workshop that they will be holding for landowners on October 15 in Jefferson.

Mark Kelley advised that he and Mr. DeGruttola will be working on the map for mowing, as rates have increased.

Mark Kelley advised that they will be working through the tax bills for the timber tax payments. This payment, in addition to the payment in lieu of taxes to the Town will be made before the end of the year to come out of this budget

When asked about the beaver, it was noted that it has moved.

Mr. DeGruttola advised that he will have to reach out to Mr. Campbell again about clearing the transects, as he has not heard back from him yet.

VIII. Other Business

There was no other business.

IX. Executive Session

There was no executive session needed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm by general consensus.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Randolph Town Hall.