

**MINUTES OF THE
CURRENT USE BOARD**

Rulemaking Hearing

DRAFT

DATE: January 6, 2014

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: NH DRA, 109 Pleasant Street, Concord

BOARD MEMBERS:

Senator David Pierce ~ *Absent*

Stephan Hamilton, NHDRA, Chairman

Tom Mullin, NHAAO, City Official

Gary Karp, NHAAO, Towns <5,000

Nik Coates, NHACC

Lindsay Webb, NH Fish & Game ~ *Absent*

David Tellman, Public Member, Forest Land ~ *Absent*

Representative Janet Wall ~ *Absent*

Lorraine Merrill, Dept. of Agriculture ~ *Absent*

Scott Bartlett, NHAAO, Towns >5,000

Jon Wraith, UNH Life Science & Agriculture

Susan Francher, NH Forests and Lands

Chuck Souther, Farm Land ~ *Absent*

Thomas Thomson, Public Member

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Chairman Hamilton convened the rulemaking hearing at 1:25 p.m.

Introductions

Chairman Hamilton briefly summarized the rulemaking process.

Chairman Hamilton summarized the initial proposals to readopt with amendments Current Use Administrative Rules Cub 304.07, Cub 304.08, Cub 304.13, Cub 304.14 and Cub 309.04, to be effective April 1, 2014. The amendments are as follows:

Cub 304.07 Assessment Ranges for Forest Land Categories. The assessment ranges for forest land categories without documented stewardship shall be as follows:

- (a) The category of white pine shall be [~~\$118 to \$177~~] **\$105 to \$158** per acre;
- (b) The category of hardwood shall be [~~\$43 to \$65~~] **\$40 to \$61** per acre; and
- (c) The category of all other shall be [~~\$31 to \$47~~] **\$30 to \$45** per acre.

Cub 304.08 Assessment Ranges for Forest Land Categories with Documented Stewardship. The assessment ranges for forest land categories with documented stewardship shall be as follows:

- (a) The category of white pine shall be [~~\$87 to \$134~~] **\$63 to \$95** per acre;
- (b) The category of hardwood shall be [~~\$21 to \$32~~] **\$24 to \$36** per acre; and
- (c) The category of all other shall be [~~\$10 to \$15~~] **\$18 to \$27** per acre.

Cub 304.13 Assessment Range for Unproductive Land. The assessment for unproductive land shall be \$[~~10~~]**18** per acre.

Cub 304.14 Assessment Range for Wetland. The assessment for wetland shall be \$[~~10~~]**18** per acre.

Cub 309.04 Form CU-12, Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for Current Use Assessment

(b) Form CU-12 shall be accompanied by:

(3) A summary of all information required by Cub 304.09(a)(3)[b]c.

Chairman Hamilton asked for comments from the Board pertaining to the proposed amendments. Mr. Thomson asked for clarification that the proposed changes to the assessment ranges presented are the same as those proposed and voted on at the November meeting. Chairman Hamilton confirmed they were. Mr. Thomson ***motioned to proceed into final rulemaking with Cub 304.07, Cub 304.08, Cub 304.13, Cub 304.14 and Cub 309.04, as proposed.*** Mr. Bartlett ***seconded the motion.*** Chairman Hamilton called the motion. ***All approved.***

Chairman Hamilton stated a 10-day public comment period would follow to receive comments pertaining to the proposed rule changes. If comments are received, the Board will need to meet in order to finalize the rules going forward.

Mr. Bartlett ***motioned for the Board to allow Chairman Hamilton to move forward with the rules into final rulemaking after the comment period closes on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, if no additional comments are received.*** Mr. Thomson ***seconded the motion.*** Chairman Hamilton called the motion. ***All approved.***

Chairman Hamilton welcomed Mr. Nik Coates who has replaced Ms. Andrews on the board as the representative for the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC). In addition, the board thanked Mr. Mullin for creating an enlarged image of RSA 79-A:1 Declaration of Public Interest, for use at future meetings. This RSA represents the spirit of the current use program and the work of this board.

Ms. Francher ***motioned to adjourn.*** Mr. Bartlett ***seconded the motion.***

Chairman Hamilton adjourned the rulemaking hearing at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Stephanie Derosier
NH Department of Revenue Administration – Municipal and Property Division

Documentation relative to the Current Use Board may be submitted, requested or reviewed by:

Telephone: (603) 230-5955
Facsimile: (603) 230-5943
Web: <http://www.revenue.nh.gov>

In person at 109 Pleasant Street, Concord
In writing to: NH Dept of Revenue Admin.
Current Use Board
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