

MINUTES OF THE  
CURRENT USE BOARD  
Forestry Subcommittee Meeting

**DRAFT**

**DATE:** Thursday, October 3, 2019      **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Department of Natural & Cultural Resources, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Susan Francher, Tom Thomson, Rick Evans

**CURRENT USE BOARD MEMBERS:**

Susan Bryant Kimball, Norm Bernaiche

**MEMBERS of the PUBLIC:**

Jasen Stock, NH Timberland Owner's Association; Robert Johnson, NH Farm Bureau; Matt Leahy, Society for the Protection of NH Forests; Jon Horton, NH Forests and Lands; Rusty Keith.

Susan Francher convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion took place about the proposed forestry values for tax year 2020. The proposed values indicate a small increase in all categories. Subcommittee members suggested that model input adjustments regarding the stumpage pricing should be made prior to next summer. Jon Horton will look into the following:

- Include Aspen, Basswood, and Beech in pallet pricing
- Red Maple pricing should be looked at separately (currently the same as aspen, basswood and beech)
- Review Fir and Red Pine sawlog prices
- White Oak and White Ash prices should be the same

The subcommittee agreed to recommend that the Board approve the proposed forestry assessment ranges for presentation and comment at the public forums.

Mr. Keith expressed concern about how forest land is valued for current use vs how land is valued when sold. Mr. Evans stated that current use assessment ranges are not meant to reflect land sale market values but the (forestry or agriculture) income-producing capability of the property. Mr Keith used rental properties to point out that house rental properties are not taxed based on how much rent can be generated from the property, they are taxed on their market value. Mr Thomson replied that the declaration of public interest make the current use assessment intent clear, adding that trees are taxed when harvested.

Ms Francher adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.