



## NFLA - Membership Meeting Minutes

Sunday July 12, 2026

Location: Community Hall

Host: Jim Rittenburg

Attendees: All Members invited

6:30 pm: Guest Presentation:

ALERT (Advanced Life and Emergency Rescue Team) – Ken Justus

8:00 pm: Membership meeting

**Jim Rittenburg**

**Jack McFarland**

**Beth Ulrichsen**

**Kevin Ulrichsen**

**Cheryl Crane**

**Ruth Kinsolving**

John Stone - not present

John Zardis - not present

**Betsy Holycross**

1. Call to order at 8:18pm
2. Welcome and Opening Remarks
  - I. Welcome – Jim welcomed all to the meeting
  - II. Friends and Neighbors, we lost, upcoming memorials - Jim shared that there will be two memorial services this summer. One for Heather Matthews and the other for Ray Hart

June 14<sup>th</sup> Membership Minutes – Short summary (copies available online) (Beth)

- a) Beth shared a summary of the minutes
3. Treasurer's Report -Jim shared that we have received \$4,146 in donations to date, this is a bit more than last year. We have \$42,603 in the bank, mostly in CDs. We have 338 members.
4. Committee Reports
  - I. Sunshine – Bonny reported that since October of 2025, 117 cards have been sent, plus 26 Facebook greeting. She also shared that Kevin Ulrichsen's mom passed away, Ray Hart passed away, Eric Kirvel passed away, Ed Nenneman's sister passed away, Lisa Smith's sister passed away, Lee Davis passed away, and Heather Matthews passed away.
  - II. History -Lois shared the attached History update
  - III. Maintenance (Dan/Jim) – No report available
  - IV. Welcome -Beth shared that their list continues to grow and encouraged all to welcome their neighbors and invite them to join the many activities on the calendar.
  - V. Fire Mitigation - Allen Chrisman presented the CWPP NF Appendix for approval by the board. Ruth made a motion to accept the CWPP NF Appendix, Betsy seconded it, all were in favor. The Board approved the CWPP NF Appendix.
    - i. Suzane Hildner shared the importance of completing the "Count Me In" form for Firewise. The form helps you keep track of the hours and money spent on making your property more fire ready.
5. Organization Reports (Non-NFLA)

- I. North Fork Patrol (Mark Heaphy)- no report available
  - II. Polebridge Bear Smart -Suzanne Hildner shared that there have been two very successful trainings in Polebridge and a couple landowner visits. There has been a sow and cubs at Home Ranch Bottoms, Justine was excited to hear about them. Bear Smart is trying to obtain a remote-control bear for bear spray practice. Trash cans are still available for purchase and the “unwelcome” mat is available for loan. She also reminded all that the bear spray recycling bin is available on the porch of the Hall.
  - III. NFPA- Suzanne reminded all that the annual meeting is on August 23, Dan Fagre is the guest speaker.
  - IV. NF Trails -Bill Walker reported that they are getting busy. Chain Lakes trail has a large root ball that folks need to skirt around, it was too large to move.
  - V. NFLUAC -Randy Kenyon shared the text amendment that has been proposed, and that the NF LUAC opposed it. Will Hammerquist agreed to table the proposed amendment and withdraw the proposed text amendment. A follow up meeting will be held with the public and Polebridge townsite.
    - i. The Trail Creek Helicopter Pad has been determined to be a violation of our zoning, the county will be notified. The county is aware of our concern of a violation
  - VI. Fire Chief -Lynn Ogle reminded all that there is no open burning. If you have a campfire be sure to have a hose and bucket of water, don't let it get away from you. He also shared that the blow downs from the December storm will pose a fire hazard, all should try to clean them up and burn piles when permitted
6. Old Business
- I. Membership suggestions for speakers for next summer – ideas are welcome
  - II. Outhouse improvements -Jim thanked John Stone for all he has done to make this project a success. The work is completed. New plexiglass for privacy, grab bars, fresh paint on doors, and the outhouse bolted down have all been accomplished
  - III. Fire Mitigation Improvements at Hall- Kevin shared that that the 2,500 gallon tank was installed, it has enough water to last 104 minutes. The project was funded with the Carol Daly donation. Cartridges to foam the building if needed were also purchased, as well as a pump, hoses and sprinkler heads.
    - i. Jim shared that Dick Leigh has offered to drill a water well as a charitable donation through his son's drilling company next year
  - IV. Weed and Insect treatment at the Hall -Jim shared that both treatments have been done. The weeds seem to starting to die and the mosquitoes are less.
7. New Business
- I. NFLA Bylaws- Jim reminded all that if they would like to make changes to the bylaws they must put it in writing today at this July meeting to be voted on at the August Membership meeting. The request is submitted in July and voted on in August.
  - II. NFLA August Elections- Cheryl Crane and John Stone are the only two positions NOT up for election. All other positions are open for nominations. President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, 1 south director and 1 north director.
8. Community Events Update – Beth shared that Pizza Night will be on the last Friday in July, the 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a change from the published calendar date.
- I. Calendar review and updates
9. Member Comments- Paul Marotz shared a concern that the new deck off the back of the Hall no longer has a ramp. People needing the outhouses would need to go all the way around the building if they could not use the steps. He suggested installing a ramp out the back.

10. Next Membership Meeting

- I. Sunday August 9th, 2026, at **7:00pm** with North Valley Search and Rescue – Mark Heaphy

11. Adjourned at 9:32pm

7/11/26

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION®

800.272.3900 | alz.org®

Qtda Sunshine Committee  
since 10/12 / 25 meeting  
Lynn + Benny Ogletree

Birthdays 84  
Get Well 14  
Graduation 1  
Anniversary 4  
Thank you 3  
Thinking of you 4  
Sympathy 7  
total cards 117

Plus 26 Facebook Meetings  
Kevin Buchanan's Mom  
Ray Hart, Eric Kirvel,  
Ed Pennerman's sis,  
Lisa Smith's sis + Les  
Davis all passed away.

Income Statement  
North Fork Landowners Association  
For period ending

|                                | 5/30/26 | 6/30/26 | 12 month<br>8/31/25 |                                              |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Full time members              | 261     | 296     | 307                 |                                              |
| paid in advance for next year  | 24      | 12      | 30                  |                                              |
| Life Time members              | 2       | 2       | 2                   |                                              |
| Paid in previous year          | 30      | 24      | 24                  |                                              |
| Associate members              | 21      | 14      | 15                  |                                              |
| Total members                  | 338     | 348     | 378                 |                                              |
|                                | 5/30/26 | 6/30/26 | 12 month<br>8/31/25 |                                              |
| Dues                           | 4,215   | 4,580   | 4,900               | 4,895                                        |
| Dues next year                 | 270     | 180     | 300                 | 300                                          |
| Donations                      | 4,146   | 3,965   | 3,500               | 4,379                                        |
| Carol Daly one-time donation   | -       | 7,500   | -                   | 7,500                                        |
| Donated service                | 441     | 741     | 588                 | 888                                          |
| NF Patrol contribution         | 252     | 168     | 190                 | 168                                          |
| Fundraisers                    | -       | -       | -                   | 3,348                                        |
| Half rental                    | 125     | 875     | 875                 | 950                                          |
| Interest/Dividends             | 592     | 581     | 1,100               | 1,083                                        |
| Total revenue                  | 10,042  | 18,590  | 11,453              | 23,511                                       |
| Insurance                      | -       | (153)   | (2,332)             | (2,416) 3% increase assumed                  |
| Mag Chloride                   | -       | (2,178) | -                   | (2,178)                                      |
| Newsletters - printing/postage | (1,542) | (590)   | (1,254)             | (1,217) 3% increase assumed                  |
| Paypal fees                    | (102)   | (149)   | (200)               | (157) Increased usage assumed                |
| Propane & rental               | -       | (606)   | (800)               | (1,126) 23/24 we filled in spring            |
| Office supplies & postage      | -       | -       | (100)               | - 24/25 we filled spring & fall              |
| Repairs & maint                | (385)   | (159)   | (300)               | (159) 0.0%                                   |
| Fire Mitigation Committee      | (48)    | -       | (1,200)             | -                                            |
| History Committee              | (185)   | -       | (150)               | - Archival supplies                          |
| Social Committee               | (469)   | (402)   | (1,000)             | (630) \$275 t-give & Xmas + \$360 pizza 2025 |
| Sunshine Committee             | (125)   | (315)   | (400)               | (340) + 353 Pizza parties 2024               |
| Welcome Committee              | -       | -       | (150)               | -                                            |
| Supplies                       | (142)   | (379)   | (800)               | (795) several 1x expenses 2024               |
| Property tax                   | (90)    | (90)    | (100)               | (90)                                         |
| Misc.                          | -       | (300)   | (100)               | -                                            |
| Interlocal meeting             | -       | -       | (50)                | -                                            |
| PO Box rental                  | -       | -       | (170)               | (166)                                        |
| Safe Deposit box               | (30)    | (30)    | (30)                | (30)                                         |
| IT expenses                    | (91)    | -       | (400)               | (360) 2 year renewals in 2023                |
| State Annual fee               | -       | -       | (20)                | -                                            |
| Patrol/Poaching passthrough    | -       | (125)   | -                   | (125)                                        |
| Treasurers Stipend             | (441)   | (441)   | (588)               | (588)                                        |
| Total ordinary expenses        | (3,650) | (5,917) | (10,143)            | (10,377)                                     |
| Ordinary income (loss)         | 6,392   | 12,673  | 1,310               | 13,134                                       |
| Improvements expenses          | (4,578) | (2,446) | (1,000)             | (5,178)                                      |
| Net Income/(Loss)              | 1,814   | 10,227  | 310                 | 7,956                                        |

Balance Sheet  
North Fork Landowners Association  
For period ending

|                       | 6/30/26       | 6/30/26       |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Checking              | 4,591         | 15,915        |
| Paypal account        | 60            | 258           |
| Poaching fund savings | 2,138         | 2,144         |
| Emergency fund CD     | 18,620        | 17,913        |
| Improvement fund CD   | 7,100         | 6,831         |
| New CD                | 10,095        | -             |
| <b>Total assets</b>   | <b>42,603</b> | <b>43,061</b> |
| RE                    | 40,789        | 32,834        |
| Current profit        | 1,814         | 10,227        |
| <b>Total equity</b>   | <b>42,603</b> | <b>43,061</b> |



**NORTH FORK HISTORY PROJECT**  
July 2026

A fellow named Davis Paul, a law student at the University of Montana and a member of the university's Environmental Law Group, reached out to Roger Sullivan and Suzanne Hildner, who in turn referred him to me. As part of his research on the Elk-Kootenai Watershed he wants to do a case study on the Cabin Creek coal mine in British Columbia that threatened our Flathead Watershed in the 1980s. He knew that John Frederick and the NFPA had been involved, so he reached out to see if I had any of their documents that he could research. I sent him a rough outline of the documentation I have, and he may make a visit to go through those files.

Ryan Powell, the Forest Service archeologist, spent a day at the Ford Schoolhouse outlining the restoration work they'd like to complete this summer. Rob Rego went up to help him, and the two of them did some substantial work building a large beam to support the subflooring that will be installed soon. They will put out a call for volunteers when they're ready to continue with the project. The Forest Service is always grateful when we have manpower to contribute.

Ray Hart's sons Morgan and Bracken visited his place recently and employed a few North Forkers to begin organizing and clearing out the buildings on the property in preparation for selling it. I'm still hoping to find the antique school desk that Ray said he had and wanted to donate to the schoolhouse restoration project. No luck so far, but Randy Kenyon and I are still on the case.

Now that my trusty assistants, Rob and Trish Rego, are here for the summer we're back in accelerated research mode. Between us, we've put together some really good information about Madge Terrian. Rob has also done some very nice genealogical research into the Tacheny family. There were four Tacheny brothers, including Peter Moore's uncle George, all World War I-era veterans, who came here from Minnesota and filed on homesteads in the Red Meadow Creek area. These are among the handful of properties that are still in the original family hands over a hundred years later.

The Regos and I will be returning to the Park archives to compile more North Fork references from the *Hungry Horse News* bound volumes. In addition, some of you who still have homestead-era structures on your property may be receiving a call from Rob to come document those buildings. I'll be going back to Larry Wilson's soon—I still have 11 photo albums to go through and scan North Fork-related photos. There's never a dull moment in the history world!

For those of you who weren't able to attend Coffee with the Ogles last month, I have the recording of that session and a transcript of it. Bill is getting ready to post those to the NFLA website. We have Coffee with Ray Brown coming up on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at his place. Bring your chair, a coffee mug, and your insect spray.

Lois Walker, Historian