

## **Enactment and Advocating on State Legislative Forestry Issues**

Since the 2018 PFFA annual meeting, we were successful on numerous legislative issues in Harrisburg impacting the PA forest products industry. In late October of 2018 we were able to have language amended into two different pieces of legislation to extend letters of local determination (LOLD) for another five years to avoid the sunset of this provision on December 31, 2018. Governor Wolf signed both of these bills into law in late October of 2018.

- 🌲 PFFA will continue to aggressively push for permanent LOLD in 2019-20
- 🌲 The 2019-2020 State Fiscal Year Budget passed by the legislature in late June and signed by Governor Wolf included a \$474,000 line item funding the PA Hardwoods Development Council. This \$50,000 increase was aggressively “pushed” by PFFA to increase funding for HDC and their efforts to support and promote the PA forest products industry.
- 🌲 PFFA continues to oppose the creation and enactment of a natural gas severance tax which could include additional taxation on timber harvesting. Governor Wolf continues to push for this tax and continues to travel the state advocating this new tax.
- 🌲 The legislature created a Forestry Task Force in the Joint Conservation Committee in recent years to explore the impacts of the DCNR State Forest Management Plan; the impacts of invasive forest pests; the relationship between industry and municipalities; and the decline of timber harvesters in the state. PFFA continues our working relationship with DCNR State Forester Ellen Shultzabarger and other DCNR senior staff along with Secretary Dunn to promote and further support forest products industry in Pennsylvania.
- 🌲 PFFA will continue its strong efforts working with the PA Attorney General’s office on ACRE Act Enforcement. Since PFFA’s meeting in late May of 2018 regarding members’ concerns with certain municipalities passing/enforcing ordinances that violate the state ACRE Act, the Office of Attorney General has become very aggressive in addressing these filed complaints.

## **Governor’s Green Ribbon Task Force on Forest Products, Conservation and Jobs**

The Green Ribbon Task Force Report, including input from PFFA, was released on October 25, 2016. It contained 15 major recommendations on job creation, conservation and workforce development issues impacting the PA forest products industry. Several PFFA members were part of the Green Ribbon Task Force (GRTF). Along with PFFA and other GRTF members, we continue to meet on important issues included in the report such as conservation easements and other issues important to the PA forest products industry.

## **Expanding Timber Harvesting Production on DCNR, PGC and ANF Lands**

PFFA continues efforts with legislators, DCNR, the PA Department of Agriculture, the PA Game Commission and the ANF to find ways to have more timber harvested in the most responsible way from the Allegheny National Forest, PA Game and state lands and increasing the ongoing necessary timber harvesting from these forest lands. Legislation was passed years back that would allow the state to help manage the forest through timber harvesting, promoting forest regeneration and restoring or improving habitats. PFFA greatly appreciates our continued strong working relationship with all of the aforementioned entities to increase the amount of timber harvested in a responsible manner on state land and private land throughout the Commonwealth.

## **Representing the Industry in Harrisburg**

PFFA continues to be the strongest voice in Harrisburg representing the forest products industry on all issues both legislative and regulatory impacting the industry and our members. We also continue to work closely with numerous members of the PA Congressional Delegation on those federal issues impacting the industry in Pennsylvania. PFFA is recognized as one of the strongest “voices” in Harrisburg in advocating for their members’ interests/concerns.

## **PA WoodMobile Continues to Support the PA Forest Products Industry**

Through mid-September of 2019, the PA WoodMobile, which has been strongly supported by PFFA members since its creation, has participated in 55 events with 29 events still scheduled for this year throughout the Commonwealth with thousands attending these events.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

As of 9/19/19, the balance in the PFFA General Operating Account was \$156,357. For the period October 1, 2018 to September 19, 2019, revenue to the unrestricted general operating account was \$430,463 and expenses were \$397,763, resulting in a net profit of \$33,699. The balance in the reserve/ restricted accounts was \$371,617. The balance in HLMA Educational Inc. was \$33,562. Revenue for HLMA Ed. Inc. was \$2,136 and expenses were \$4,772 for a net loss of \$2,636.

## Membership Report

On September 19, 2019, PFFPA membership included 263 companies, individuals and organizations. Since October 1, 2018, PFFPA has added 11 members and lost 23 members, for a net loss of 12 members.

## Pennsylvania Forest Products Association Board of Directors

Chairman: Norm Steffy, Cummings Lumber Co., Inc.  
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## Staff

Executive Director: Brian Rider  
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Membership Representative: Bob Long  
PA SFI Program Manager: Chuck Coup

## Pennsylvania Forest Products Association

301 Chestnut St., Suite 102, Harrisburg, Pa 17101

Tel: (717) 901-0420 • Fax (717) 901-0360 • [pfpa@paforestproducts.org](mailto:pfpa@paforestproducts.org)

[www.paforestproducts.org](http://www.paforestproducts.org)

## 2018-2019 Annual Report Pennsylvania Forest Products Association



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