**California Licensed Foresters Association**

Minutes September 22, 2018

Granzellas, Williams CA

CLFA President Harlan Tranmer called the meeting to order at 9:30 am

Directors present: Harlan Tranmer, Chris Dow, Jason Wells, Ariel Thomson, Kieran O’Leary, Ron Hutchinson, Paul Violet, Emil Mason, and Elicia Goldsworthy

Directors absent: Ricky Shurtz, Tony Gomez, Alex Stone, Sara Taddo Jones

Others absent: Kathleen Burr

Jason Wells moved with a second by Emil Mason to approve the August minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence:** Harlan Tranmer reported that Roger Sternberg (consultant) is concerned about SB 901. Harlan pointed Roger to the exemption portion of the bill as a viable tool, but Harlan is not sure that was sufficient.

Chris Dow – Jim Davies is concerned about diameter limits being (too small). Issues continue to revolve around diameter limits making SB901 less useful. Discussion among directors continues.

Diane Dealey Neill is short on foresters for the El Dorado Forestry Challenge (Thurs. Oct 25th).

Kieran O’Leary – CLFA received a lunch invitation from California Forestry Association’s President, Rich Gordon to discuss legislation for 2019 on October 23rd along with Association of California Loggers, Forest Landowners of California ), California Women in Timber , Loggers Association of Northern California . **ACTION**: Harlan will let Rich know CLFA will send someone.

Eric Carlson, Association of California Loggers contacted Kieran O’Leary to discuss the LTO/RPF issue and perhaps schedule a follow-up meeting with CAL FIRE and CLFA. CAL FIRE feels that this issue has been resolved per the redistribution of the forest practice enforcement policy and program expectations; memo dated July 14 2017 to the inspectors who have been instructed to contact the LTO and providean explanation (two attempts to contact); plus revision of CFPR to require RPF to meet with LTO prior to commencement of operations. ACL wants opportunity to appeal the violation prior to the issuance. There is currently no pre-issuance appeals process for the LTO.

Elicia Goldsworthy – Yana Valachovic UCCE asked for the opportunity to speak at the spring meeting on the topic of Oak Woodland Exemptions in SB901 and how the woodlands Exemptions have been implemented in 2018 (4).

Treasurer’s Report: Jason reported that Kathleen Burr requested to transfer $10,000 from the money market into the checking account, to cover September bills, and asked for $30,000 to be transferred from money market into the checking account to cover the upcoming Gaia costs for the October 5-day initial archaeology class. Chris Dow asked if the funds have been dispersed for the Harold Biswell scholarships (not reported on sheet). What is the plan for dispersal?

Membership – Chris Dow reported no new members. He is hoping that membership will pick up in the next month or two with the Forestry Challenge and UCB events upcoming. New membership applications are normally slow this time of year.

Committee Reports

EDUCATION

2018 Fall Field Days: There was a discussion among board members to direct the tone of the workshops as hosting an open discussion regarding; 1) where we need to go from the rules we have now, 2) what needs to be adjusted, 3) input from multiple landowners, 4) to make sure that the tone is not just industry driven, and 5) needs to incorporate all of the landowners affected. The conversation is about identifying the appropriate spacing and developing tools for managing forests in various districts.

**ACTION:** Ariel Thomson and Elicia Goldsworthy will work with Sara Taddo-Jones to get a final flyer and agenda. The Education Committee agreed to charge $25.00 per attendant, and approved to have registration up to the day of the events. Sierra Pacific Industries will attempt to fill out a group waiver for CLFA for the portion of the tour on their lands. The intent is for workshop participants to provide feedback to the Board In an attempt to have a deliverable report to the Board of Forestry (BOF). The Flyers will go out with October newsletter. **ACTION:** Elicia will send Ariel hotel information for the coast meeting.

**MOTION:** Paul Violett moved with a second by Jason Wells to spend $350 to purchase a table at the CWIT auction dinner on November 2nd and that board members attending the event will be seated at the table. **ACTION:** Elicia will work with Kathleen and Jason to complete the task.

Chris Dow suggested that we make a reservation at Sierra Nevada Brewery to secure a spot for the fall workshop in 2019 because it fills up so quickly. Kieran O’Leary suggested November 8th, 2019 as date for fall workshop. **ACTION:** Chris will follow up with Kathleen to schedule the 2019 Fall Workshop.

Archaeology Class and Refresher – Jason Wells reported that the February initial archaeology class is nearly full.

Exam Prep – HT reported nothing new

OUTREACH

Harold Biswell Scholarship – Chris Dow reported that one student has verified proof of enrollment in college and will confirm with Kathleen that the funds have been distributed. Chris will report who the winners are in the October newsletter. Chris requested that the board generate questions for Roy Richards and the CLFA Scholarships. Questions need to be submitted by mid to late November. It is best if awards can be delivered during the spring conference.

60 Second Forester – Ron Hutchinson reported that he has begun to prepare a grant application for SPI grant funds to be used for public outreach. Application is online.

Forestry Challenge – Harlan reported that the Forestry Educators Incorporated (FEI) has asked if we would partner with the group FEI on a Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) grant application; to which SFI asked if CLFA would let SFI use their logo. There is no support for this from the CLFA board due to [murky] issues with associating with SFI specifically.

Future Farmers of America (FFA) Program – Harlan reported that the FFA would like a forestry certification. **ACTION:** Harlan and Emil will follow up with Alex about forestry curriculum and the certification process. There is support for this from the CLFA board.

FOREST PRACTICE

Report from Chris Dow

Board of Forestry – August 2018

Report of the Chairman / Report of the Director / Report of the Executive Officer

2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California

The BOF voted and approved to adopt the 2018 Strategic Fire Plan – recommended by Matt Dias to start dovetailing resource protection issues for the Board with the Strategic Fire Plan.

Emergency Declaration and Regulation for Properties within the Carr and Mendocino Fires

To be brought to the Board at the September meeting, will likely mimic the emergency regulations that were used for the Sonoma fires. Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest

Voted and approved the draft initial study and negative declaration for the Boggs Mountain.

Voted and approved the 10-year management plan for Boggs Mountain.

Pacific Union College

Voted and approved securing the working forest lands of Pacific Union College.

Cumulative Impacts Assessment Checklist TRA #2

Voted and approved final rule text of TRA #2.

Forest Practice Committee

Report to Legislature on Emergencies and Exemptions NSO – This report emphasized that the movement on this is in reaction to the trials and tribulations of small landowners.

Watercourses – CLFA presented draft testimony to the BOF on allowing harvesting equipment within watercourses.

Board Comment – Analytical tools used during the first iteration of WLPZ etc. were rough at best and given new analytical techniques, better decision making processes can be made now to address this issue.

Board Comment – Water Quality issues, soil compaction, are issues

Board Comment – Blodgett Research Forest data can be used, as well as possible use and analysis on state demonstration forests

Update on CAL TREES - initial roll out moved to October 1st. Option for improving synchronicity between Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) 1600 and Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR). Move to CAL TREES by January 1. The debate is ongoing. Paul Violett noted that if this issue is not resolved swiftly, CLFA will need to submit written letters and appeal to the BOF. It was agreed among the board that we will submit a letter. ACTION: Paul will draft a letter, circulate with YG and coordinate with Harlan for signature, and submittal of letter.

LEGISLATION

Jason Wells reported SB 901 was signed. SB 720 was signed. Most approved legislation followed what CLFA supported. There was discussion regarding SB 901 among board members. Paul Violett noted that the BOF has the authority to authorize exemptions now that they have been identified in SB 901.

LICENSING

Harlan reported that we are waiting to hear from Ricky Shurtz. **ACTION:** Chris will follow up on email distribution to the October RPF exam applicants. **ACTION**: Elicia will follow up with Ricky and Jim Hawkins (PFEC) to request more locations for future exams and ask membership to help find locations and proctors for the exams at no cost to the PFEC.

WATER AND WILDLIFE

Elicia Goldsworthy reported there is no new information.

COMMUNCATION

Ariel Thomson demonstrated the draft version of new website. Comments are listed below:

* Harlan Tranmer would like pictures to be relevant to the forestry profession, supports coordinating breakfast group activities, and will follow-up with breakfast group information with Kathleen.
* Jason Wells wanted a bolder CLFA logo, requested that the employment announcements have filing and expiration dates.
* Kieran O’Leary wanted the mission statement to be updated and consistent with the strategic plan, and to ensure the membership application is on line.
* Chris Dow requested a link to a paper version of the registration form as an option.
* Elicia Goldsworthy will contact Kathleen about sharing membership lists with breakfast group leaders. ACTION Elicia will coordinate breakfast group leaders to get updated information which groups are still active.

**MOTION** – Paul Violett moved to change the website platform from Scorpion to Squarespace and email as well, and to have it effective December 01, 2018. Second by Chris Dow. Motion passed. unanimously.

NOMINATION/HEADHUNTER COMMITTEE

Kieran O’Leary reported that by October 30th the committee will have a GoTo Meeting to discuss potential candidates for next year’s Board of Directors

OLD BUSINESS

Harlan reported that there is nothing new to report about the regulatory representative.

The Strategic plan will be unveiled with the website. The intent to revisit it annually prior to the seating of the new board during the March business meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion regarding changing board member term to three years instead of two years; concern is there could be less interest in serving.

Ariel Thomson reported on the Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC) meeting. A Field trip looked at (2) EMC funded projects: 1) snag decomposition rates and use by wildlife (John Battles) – what are decay rates and useful life of snags 2) watercourse treatments (equipment use) in WLPZ for fuel treatment and species diversity; control in reserves (no action); Forest Practice Rule treatments. The intent is to be pilot studies that could be replicated in other districts.

Task Force Management Committee – Forest Regulations Working Group – Harlan is a member. Forest Management and Restoration working group will be attended by Jason Wells and may be accompanied by Chris Dow.

Spring Conference Topics – permit synchronicity; SB 901 implementation; CAL TREES presentation and demonstration; oak woodland special prescription and maintenance; use of exemptions for fuels treatment; expect to follow-up on stocking. **ACTION**: Add field trip to cogeneration plant. KO will coordinate.

Fall 2019 Workshop Topic – technology and preliminary WLPZ findings

Paul Violett – CLFA needs to support BIOMASS as part of the sustainable energy industry. California needs a viable biomass industry and feels that it should be part of our baseload.

The Board moved into closed session

Paul Violett motioned to return to regular session, Emil Mason second. Motion passed unanimously.

No actions were taken in closed session

Chris Dow motioned to adjourn, Second by Jason Wells. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elicia Goldsworth