CALIFORNIA LICENSED FORESTERS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – 6:00 pm

GoToMeeting

Board Minutes

Jason Wells called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

Members present: George Gentry, Matt Bissell, Jeremy Wright, Charll Stoneman, Matt Bissell, Joe Starr & Ricky Shurtz

Board members absent: Bob Broderick & Mark Pugsley

Others present: Kathleen Burr, Andrea Eggleton, & Christen Eggleton

No members attended this board meeting.

Joe Starr moved with a second by Charll Stoneman to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Charll Stoneman moved with a second by Ricky Shurtz to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report – Kathleen Burr reported:

* Profit & Loss – Net Income $65,636.79
* Balance Sheet – Total Assets $342,053.03
* Managed Accounts:
  + Archaeology - $22,014.55
  + CLFA Scholarship - $30,805.52
  + Roy Richards - $10,407.04
  + Hazel Jackson - $7,573.69
* Memberships are coming in and not many changes on the P&L or budget vs. actual.
* Currently memberships are:
  + 22% behind last year on associate members – 45 paid members
  + 10% over last year on contributing members – 22 paid members
  + Sustaining is at 100% of budget – 10 paid members
  + Voting is at 71.5% of budget – 229 paid members
    - Currently CLFA is at 75.85% of total membership paid to date from budgeted numbers.
* Charll Stoneman moved with a second by Rick Shurtz to approve the financials as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence – Joe Starr

* Diane Dealey-Neill – thank you note to Board
* Alyson Erney – Placer RCD and on the committee for Forestry Education – looking for a grate and asking for a letter of support from CLFA. This is a work force development grant.
* Ricky Shurtz is also working on a CCI grant and would like a letter of support as well. He will check with his group and let Jason know.

New Members:

* Jenny Tserg
* Nick Dutch
* Claire Combredet
* Faith Hutson
* Usha Hippensiel
* Mikayla Blair
* Natalie MacMillan
* Emily Rogers
* Jack Joeng
* Amber Lennon
* Nathaniel Rogness
* Hannah Rochford
* Ian Castro
* Tatum Luoma
* Simone Stevens
* Hope Gale-Hendry
* Connor Ryan
* Quinn Bossellman
* Quinn Albert

George Gentry moved with a second by Joe Starr to approve the new student member. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathleen did not receive contact information for the new RPFs. Kathleen will reach out to Dan Stapleton to obtain this list and send out emails for their one-year free CLFA membership.

Executive Director/Archaeology: Kathleen Burr reported:

* March 5-day class is full
* October 5-day class is full with a waiting list
* Starting registration for March 2023 5-day class
* Kathleen reached out to Len Nielson regarding the MOU. Kathleen asked the Board if they would like to proceed with CLFA retaining 18% or drop to 12% and send MOU to Len.
* Board members will reach out to comments addressed on membership updates from members.

Licensing Prep class held on February 4, 2022 went very well. 20 people attended. Feedback from students was very positive.

YG has over 50 students in his study group class for the prep exam.

Education – Joe Starr reported:

* Date is scheduled for May 20 & 21, 2022.
* Joe and YG have been reaching out to the speakers and have some difficulty in speakers responding.
* Kathleen requested to have the flyer information by March 1st to send out by March 15th.
* Charll suggested contacting Jim Chapin to see if FLC has any overlapping speakers for CLFA from their conference.

Noticing Native American Groups – Board discussion – Matt Bissel

* Matt received an email from Ben Harris regarding January 21, 2022 Native American Contact list. Matt feels there are numerous add-ons of people who need to be noticed. This could be tied into the Jackson Demonstration Forest. Matt is concerned when Forest Practice Rules are not cited and additional items are added into permits. According to the Forest Practice Rules the contact list is updated every January and July. Additional notifications should not have anything to do with a harvest plan submission. The local tribe had not been receiving notices due to an issue with wrong emails for the tribe. Jason asked Matt to pass the email from Ben Harris onto the CLFA Board members. YG reviewed the current Forest Practice rule. YG also informed the board that it is Cal Fire’s responsibility to update the list received from the Native American Heritage Foundation and to notify RPFs. Cal Fire must also explain and justify why “others with demonstrated knowledge” have been placed on the list. Currently there is an increased sensitivity to this issue of notification. The rules are very specific that you cannot just add folks ramdomly. The Native American list was updated on January 1, 2021 and not updated again until January 25, 2022. If you do not have the current address to notice the tribes and it is returned you are not properly noticed. If you do not receive it back, you are considered to be noticed.

Outreach – Jeremy Wright reported:

* Jeremy Wright and George Gentry have been communicating on their study groups.

Forest Practice

* Board is dark in February and will not be meeting until the first week of March.
* YG noted that Andrea’s synopsis in the newsletter was very complete.
* Wet meadows and other areas received quite a bit of pushback. It was originally intended for a clarification rule only. Water quality wanted to insert their definition, comments were received from Andrea & YG to name a few, and the Board stuck to their original intent and it has been put out for a 45-day notice.
* Timberland conversion – it has rotated between the utility situation and back to the less than 3-acre conversion. The current focus is on the less then 3-acre conversion. The original intent of the board was to simplify for people just removing trees around your house. This then implies if you try to sell them to a mill, what is your intent. YG has been working on this for 15-years and no simple solution has been reached. This is just a general situation now where many counties who have “zoned for other use” are saying “why do we have to comply with the Forest Practice Rules”? But any time you abandon the Forest Practice Rules you open up the possibility that the county will impose its own. The board had a workshop in February on the conversion with no solution. Charll asked if anyone has ever approached the conversion being limited to timberlands within the forest landscape. YG offered this as a possible solution. Conversion only applies to timberlands. Forested landscape has not been defined. We are talking about a crop of trees. Andrea reviewed some of the issue her county has been dealing with regarding this issue.
* Board members discussed examples they are/were dealing with regarding this issue.
* YG feels the RPF should be involved in/able to make the determination.
* Ricky feels the counties are stating the county ordinances are taking precedence over the Forest Practice Rules.

Legislation – Joe Starr reported:

* Not many updates since the February newsletter came out.
* Joe reported Senator Brian Dahle attended the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference and will be running for governor.

Licensing – Ricky Shurtz reported:

* Nothing new to report
* Christen Eggleton reported that the board approved the new licensees.
* Currently there are no active items to review.
* Christen introduced the Robert Little proposal to the Licensing Committee.
  + Certified Forester Specialist. YG has been working on a proposal for the last year or two and call it Apprentice Registered Forester. This would allow a certain pathway for people to become a forester. Robert feels the 3-year experience requirement prior to sitting for the exam is too long.
  + YG’s proposal recommends that the someone would take a certified program run by CLFA and once they passed this program the 3-year experience recommendation could be abbreviated.
  + Robert Little proposed that someone should be able to sit for the exam once someone obtains his/her degree.
  + YG does not feel sacrificing experience for expediency does not behoove things.
  + Charll recommended that while attending college a student could be working under an RPF to obtain the necessary experience.
  + The Board discussed various scenarios and options that could become options.

Water & Wildlife - Nothing new to report

Communications – Nothing new to report

Scholarships – Charll Stoneman reported:

* Howard Biswell scholarship announcement is in the Google Drive. Charll would like to have this go out to the community in the newsletter and sent to Diane Dealy-Neill.
* Charll noted to the Board that with the CLFA and Roy Richards scholarships should be targeted to the RPF community who may have a second generation of upcoming foresters.

Elections – people who will be applying for a Board position:

* Brita Goldstein
* Cory Munger
* The Board reviewed members who will be coming off the Board and the timeframe for bringing on new Board members.
* Joe noted that CLFA could hold a nomination meeting on one evening to accept nominations from the general membership.
* Board members will reach out to their breakfast groups for potential members.

Ricky Shurtz reviewed his CCI grant and the Board will be supporting this with a letter of support. Ricky will send the Board information with his grant.

Next board meeting will be a GoToMeeting to be held on March 15, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Newsletter articles are due to Kathleen March 28, 2022.

Joe Starr moved with a second by Ricky Shurtz to end the meeting at 8:42 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Burr

Executive Director