**California Licensed Foresters Association**

Minutes August 21, 2018

GoToMeeting

CLFA President Harlan Tranmer called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Directors Present: Chris Dow, Ariel Thomson, Ricky Shurtz, Paul Violett, Kieran O’Leary, Jason Wells, Emil Mason, Ron Hutchinson, Tony Gomez, and Elicia Goldsworthy

Directors Absent: Alex Stone, Sara Taddo Jones

Others Present: Kathleen Burr

Minutes – Tony Gomez moved with a second by Emil Mason to approve the July minutes as revised. Motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence – Harlan Tranmer reported: None**

**Treasurer’s report – Kathleen Burr reported:**

Kathleen reviewed the year to date financials:

* Balance Sheet - $270,866.61.
* Profit & Loss - $57,677.83
* Budget:
  + Income is at 94.55% of budget
  + Expenses are at 45.21% of budget
    - Expense have not been paid for the upcoming October 5-day initial archaeology class
* Kathleen also reviewed the Associations Balance sheet for the last five years
* A few memberships are still coming in.

**Executive Directors Report – Kathleen Burr reported:**

The October 5-day Archaeology initial class is full with 43 students. A member of the Pala Tribe will be attending using one of the annual scholarships.

Due to the 18 students on the waiting list for this class, Kathleen requested to hold an additional class in February 2019 at the Gaia – February 25to March 1, 2019 was selected as the date. Currently this class has 15 open spots. No other classes have been scheduled for 2019.

Gerrit Fenenga has requested the refreshers be held at the Gaia, due to problems with the set-up at Granzellas. The Gaia will be more expensive.

CLFA will again meet with Cal Fire in January 2019 to review the previous year.

**Education – Harlan Tranmer & Elicia Goldsworthy reported:**

2018 Fall Field Days:

* Coast will be at Green Diamond on November 2nd
* North will be at Blodgett on November 9th - Ariel just needs to finalize the details with Chris Dow.
  + Agendas for both workshops will be finalized at the September Board meeting.
* The 2019 spring workshop focus discussion will be tabled to the September Board meeting.
* Kathleen recommended $25.00 for fall workshop registration.

**Membership – Chris Dow reported:**

Chris Dow moved with a second by Tony Gomez to approve the following new members:

* Robert Aguero – voting – Coast – new RPF
* Dana Dysthe – student – Coast
* Michael Esposito – voting – Coast – new RPF
* Allison Erny – associate – Northern
* Richard Keller – voting – Southern – new RPF
* Kyle Mills – associate – Northern
* Brita Rustad – voting – Coast – new RPF
* James Woodside – voting – Southern – new RPF
* Ryan Wimmer – voting – new RPF

**Outreach – Chris Dow reported:**

Howard Biswell scholarship has been reviewed by the scholarship committee and due to the close scoring they will be awarding two $1000 scholarships.

**Forest Practice Committee – Harlan Tranmer and Chris Dow reported:**

**Update on reporting to legislature on Exemptions and Emergency Notices**

39 of 50 voluntary sites are completed, 5 of which have no harvesting. Of the sites, 60% were 10 acres or less, largest was approximately 300 acres. Further information should be available by September Board meeting, as well as a possible case study of 1038(c) that is located within the footprint of the Carr Fire.

**Northern Spotted Owl**

Proposed concept of Technical Rule Addendum No. 6 with an outline for performance based approach that gives a basis to review.

Provides guidance and the goal is to streamline the process through conclusion based, evidence supported treatment of NSO. CAL FIRE believes in having a small land owner approach with this document, instead of for large industry, as the industrial side can use attachments A and B.

**Further Forest Practice Committee assignments**

NSO and Stocking Standards are absolute priorities, but will take extensive time to address. The Forest Practice Committee are going to move next to Watercourse and Lake Protection Rule Review, most notably whether mechanical feller-bunchers should be classified as “heavy equipment” in WLPZ’s. CLFA wrote and presented a letter of support at the August Board of Forestry meeting on this subject.

**Management Committee**

Updates to NTMP and Exemptions – Some or all of existing exemptions should be allowed on NTMP.

Mapping requirements and other non-substantive changes to reflect and match WFMP.

Further discussion into changing singularity of WFMP when it comes to landowner(s) etc.

The CAL FIRE nursery program is being upgraded. Some personnel won’t need fire academy. New climate controlled green houses will grow a greater variety of species for rehabilitation projects. More staff is being hired. Partnership with federal nurseries is being developed. The seed zone map is being revised/updated using GIS.

**Effectiveness Monitoring Committee**

Information from Russ Henley on Class II-L being summarized and will be presented to Forest Practice

Committee as soon as it is available

September 18 for project approval, and possibly throughout the year with the new funding protocol.

**Legislation - Jason Wells reported**

Final week for bills to be confirmed by both the Senate and Assembly to get approved.

* AB1954 Patterson bill has made it to the Governor’s desk. This bill will extend the sunset date for the 150-300 foot defensible space exemption 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6). This will eliminate CAL FIRE’s reporting requirement related to the exemption.
* Further update on bills will be presented in the September newsletter.

**Cal TREES** – Harlan Tranmer reported - no update.

**Permit Synchronicity** – Harlan Tranmer reported

The next meeting will be held August 30th. Elicia, Harlan, and Kieran will be attending. Kieran suggested that permit synchronicity could be a possible topic for the March panel discussion – Russ Hall was in favor of that topic. Kieran will extend an invitation to Russ to attend the September Board meeting to further this discussion.

**Licensing – Ricky Shurtz reported:**

PFEC meeting is Thursday, August 23rd and Ricky will be attending. The emeritus status is on the agenda to be discussed.

**Water and Wildlife – Elicia Goldsworthy reported:**

Nothing new on water.

The Fish and Game Commission - The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met June 20-21 in Sacramento where they received the Department’s request for a six-month extension of time to submit its status review report on the petition to list foothill yellow-legged frog as an endangered or threatened species under CESA. The FCG also received the Department’s one-year status review report on the petition to list Humboldt marten as an endangered species under CESA.

The next FGC meeting will be held on August 22-23 in Fortuna, when the Commission will determine whether listing Humboldt marten as an endangered species is warranted.

Foothill yellow-legged frog **-** On December 14, 2016, FGC received a petition from the Center for Biological Diversity to list foothill yellow-legged frog as a threatened species under CESA. On June 21, 2017, FGC voted to accept the petition for further evaluation and to initiate a 12-month review of the status of foothill yellow-legged frog in California. On May 21, 2018 DFW requested that FGC grant a six-month extension of time to complete its review. FGC staff recommended to approve DFW’s request on June 21, 2018 thus changing the due date for the Department’s report to January 7, 2019 (18 months from the date the candidacy filing were published). The FGC will consider the petition, DFW's evaluation and other information submitted to determine if listing is warranted at its April 2019 meeting.

Humboldt Marten **-** In June 2015, FGC received a petition from the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) and the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) to list Humboldt marten as an endangered species under CESA. FGC designated Humboldt marten as a candidate species at its February 11, 2016 meeting. Final consideration is scheduled for the next meeting on August 22-23, 2018.

The status review report represents DFW’s final written review of Humboldt marten and is based upon the best scientific information available to DFW. DFW hand-delivered the status review report at the most recent meeting on June 20-21, 2018.

Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog **-** The USFWS has announced that the *Endangered Mountain Yellow-legged Frog Draft Recovery Plan* is available for public comment. Comments and information will be accepted until September 17, 2018.

Western Pond Turtle **-** Listing status is currently under review with the USFWS. An initial working group meeting has been scheduled to determine population status and conservation needs. Updates will be provided as they become available.

Upper Klamath-Trinity River (UKTR) Chinook salmon Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) - National Marine Fisheries Service is currently conducting a status review to address the petition to list the UKTR spring run Chinook salmon ESU as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA); or, alternatively, to create a new ESU to describe Klamath Spring Chinook salmon and list the new ESU as threatened or endangered under the ESA. The Petitioners also request designation of critical habitat concurrently with the listing. The public comment period closed on April 30, 2018.

**Communication – Ariel Thomson reported:**

The communications committee will have a new website preview prepared for the September Board meeting. Kathleen recommended not launching the new website until December after all 2018 events have been completed.

There was a discussion on creating a member log in for members only to know what breakfast groups are discussing.

Several ideas were presented regarding breakfast groups:

* Hold a GoToMeeting breakfast group once a month for those members who do not have an active breakfast group in their area; and,
* Create a section on the new website where members can type in their zip code and be directed to the local breakfast group in their area.

**Outreach**

CLFA Brochure – Jason Wells reported there has been no progress to date as updating the website is a priority. Emil offered to help print the brochure and he will work with Jason on this project. Jason & Emil will work on creating a brochure for the Board’s review at the September Board meeting.

**Nomination/Headhunter Committee –** Kieran O'Leary reported:

No new updates. The committee will meet in October to discuss narrowing down the list for 2019 Board nominations.

**Old Business –** Harlan Tranmer reported:

* The new regulatory representative will be coming on board in December 2018.
* Strategic plan will be sent to Board members for review and discussion at the September Board meeting.

**New Business** – Harlan Tranmer reported:

* The Board discussed the lack of successful media contact for op-ed publishing.
* Wildfire Conference Committee of the legislature – which was born out of SB901 – dealing with public utilities and wild fire. CFA is involved with this legislation and is seeking a CEQA exemption with fuel reduction. CLFA is involved with Brian White’s support at the hearing. Paul Violet let the Board know a hearing was cancelled today and rescheduled for August 23, 2018. Paul felt the real debate is, “can active forest management reduce the damaging effects of wild fire”. A letter from Harlan will reiterate that we can affect wild fire through management .
* Next meeting will be October 22nd at Granzellas at 9:00 am.
* Newsletter articles due August 27th.

Tony Gomez moved with a second by Elicia Goldsworth to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Burr

Executive Director