**CALIFORNIA LICENSED FORESTERS ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**GoToMeeting**

**February 23, 2021**

**6:00 pm**

**Board Minutes**

Ariel Roughton called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Members Present: Chris Dow, Jason Wells, George Gentry, Joe Starr, Gwyndolyn Ozard, Mark Pugsley, Matthew Bissell, & Jeremey Wright

Members absent: Robert Little

Others present: Kathleen Burr & Andrea Eggleton

**February Meeting minutes**

George Gentry moved with a second by Chris Dow to approve the January Board minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurers –** Joe Starr & Kathleen Burr

* Profit & Loss – Balance as of $47,123.73
* Balance Sheet – Total liabilities & Equity - $335,100.19
* Managed Accounts:
	+ Archaeology – Balance $33,333.17
	+ CLFA Scholarship – Balance $37,268.88
	+ Hazel Jackson – Balance $1,898.61
	+ Roy Richards – Balance $9,920.77
* Companies continue to pay for employee memberships.
* Individual memberships are a little slower coming in this year than last.

**Correspondence** – Ariel Roughton

* Jim Marty – correspondence regarding LTO’s and YG will reach out to Jim.
* Nicholas Dennis – Not renewing membership retired and moving out of California
* George Johnson – correspondence last month – Jason Wells contacted George and received an excellent response.
* If correspondence is sent to Kathleen, she always reaches out to let the member know their correspondence was received and forwarded to the Board.

**Membership** – Roughton

Jason Wells moved with a second by Chris Dow to approve the following new members, motion passed unanimously. New member are Evan Jones, Kevin Trotter, Rachael Wehrman, & Amanda Ma.

The Board approved change to Brita Goldstein’s membership from voting to student status. George Gentry will be her sponsor for the status change.

**Spring Conference** – Roughton

* Speakers are all confirmed.
* Registrations are coming in via the website and online registration.
* Raffle ticket sales continue.
* Robert Little’s tree artwork will be a live auction item.

**Education & Outreach:**

Archaeology – Dow & Burr reported:

* Chris Dow reported that Len Nielson informed him that the course will go on “in person” this year.
* Kathleen works with people who are registered and have expressed a concern about attending the class in person. There are not a significant number of people who express any concern in taking the class. Last year there were two. For these people, Kathleen refers them to Len and he reaches out to each individually.
	+ Mark Hannon was one individual.
	+ The second individual was not concerned about Covid. We had cancelled the spring classes and he had a conflict with surgery for the fall classes.
* Jason Wells feels that CLFA should not – under no circumstances – hold an in person class. He does not feel it is serving our membership and the refresher classes should be held on line. Employers should not have to pay for employees to attend. The potential ramifications of holding this class far outweigh the benefits. It is irresponsible for CLFA to even be having this discussion. Jason feels that everyone who is required to refresh this year should be offered to extend one year. No one should have to attend this refresher class in person.
* Kathleen reminded the Board that we held classes in September, October, & November 2020 with approximately 120 students attending classes with no issues. Both CLFA & the Gaia took extreme safety issues.
* Ricky Shurtz asked who had the final decision in making the decision onto whether the classes are held or not. Cal Fire is the decision maker and has the authority to grant extensions on the refresher class. CLFA is the sponsor and administrates the classes.
* Ariel feels it is CLFAs responsibility to notify members that they can extend their refresher for a year due to concerns of Covid. As it stands right now, it appears that we are forcing people to attend in person.
* Chris informed the Board that Cal Fire is in the process of restructuring the entire course both 5-day and refreshers.
* YG feels that all students need to be able to make a fully informed choice as to what they want to do. He does see that something is lost in terms of connection between Zoom and in person. More importantly if we have a number of people defer who want to defer, we will have to do more planning for next year and this could create a logistical problem.
* After much discussion, it was agreed that Chris Dow will set-up a meeting with Len Nielson and Kathleen Burr to discuss the options for the refresher to be on-line and how to notify those people currently registered in the May classes that that they have an option.
* Kathleen informed the Board that both classes for 2021 are completely full and a registration list is currently be started for the spring 2022 class.

**Outreach** – Chris Dow reported:

Kathleen will be sending out welcome letters to all the new RPFs who recently passed their licensing test that CLFA offers them a free 1-year membership.

**Scholarships** – Kathleen Burr reported:

Scholarship received are:

* One for Howard Biswell
* One for Roy Richards
* One for CLFA

The same person submitted for Roy Richards & CLFA.

The following people would like to be on the review committee – Chris Dow, Jason Wells, & Ricky Shurtz.

Scholarships are sent out to all members several times, linked on our website, sent to all universities, Diane Dealey Neill also sends out to all of her contacts.

**Legislation** – Joe Starr reported:

The legislation committee will be meeting with Brian White before the spring conference for CLFA’s annual leg conference. Kathleen will send out the doodle pole to the group of invitees.

**Forest Practice –** Andrea Eggleton reported:

There was no BOF February meeting. The agenda has been released, but the binder materials have not. The Management Committee meeting is going to cover the less then 3-acre conversion exemption and the utility right-of-way conversion exemption.

**Water & Wildlife** – Mark Pugsley reported:

The Northern Spotted Owl Stakeholder Forum is set to take place February 25th from 9am-5pm via teleconference.

The bumble bee was struck down by a superior court judge.

**Licensing** – George Gentry reported:

The PFEC will be meeting on Thursday. They will be discussing the forester in training program in open session and discussing the new exam in closed session. The exam prep seminar had 30 people apply and 30 people attended. This year was virtual. George recruited 9 potential students and holds a study group on Sunday afternoon. He recommended that if this study group works, for the future, the students who participate would be required to become associate members.

**Communications** – Gwendolyn Ozard reported:

Gwyn posted on Face Book and Instagram about the spring conference.

**Old Business –** None

**New Business**

The Board will meet on March 23rd at 6:00 pm with a GoToMeeting.

Board member nominations – Board members need to continue working on this.

The following Board members will be coming off the Board:

* Chris Dow
* Gwyndolyn Ozard
* Ricky Shurtz – off unless we are short Board members
* Ariel Roughton – will stay as past President

Members applying for the Board:

* Bob Broderick – Southern District
* George Gentry

George will reach out to Mark Andre to see if he is available to serve on the Board.

Executive committee will also need to be selected. This is customarily done in May when the new Board members come on.

New letter articles are due February 25.

It is unknown at this time if the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference will take place.

Chris Dow made a motion with a second by Jason Wells to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Burr