**JULY 2019 CLFA BOARD MEETING – JULY 27TH, FORTH BRAGG, CA**

Attending online, Paul, Gwyn, Joe, Rob, Kathleen

Attending in person: Elicia, Chris, Harlan, Ricky, Ariel, Jason

Opening Remarks: Thank you Lyme Redwood for use of facility

**JULY MEETING MINUTES:**

* Correct 'new' members - first line under membership (corrected by Kathleen)
* Water and Wildlife - add that our level of concern with bumble bee listing is how it will impact herbicide, etc. from Elicia - Added by Kathleen. Robert added need to address level of significance
* **Motion to approve by Jason as recently amended. Second by Ricky. Approved**

**TREASURER REPORT**

Kathleen-

* Little change other than Kathleen, Brian White, and Andrea expenses.
* Paying for November conference next expected expense.
* Some membership dues have come in since last meeting

Paul-

* Board representative will go above budget, $3,500 in budgeted expenses that will not be used have been identified to cover additional costs in part. Amount in red will not be terribly high.

Chris -

* Will see reduction in costs and time when current issues on board settle down( stocking standards, emergency, etc). Andrea has been invaluable representing us when others can't be at meetings.

No other questions or comments

**ED REPORT**

Kathleen - working on day to day things, email, November workshop. Things are quiet.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

* Chris with Matt Dias.
* Letter to membership updating on CLFA activities and encouraging payments.
* Letter of support for CalVTP - will be posted on web site
* Roger Sternberg regarding bumblebee and yellow-legged. Followed up telling him we are working on it.
* Stephan Birdman with FSC wanted us to vouch for Red River and Beaty project. No current knowledge of the area he was interested in. FSC and SFI reach out to organizations to ask questions of practices.
* Letter of support for Arch program - will be posted on site
  + letter well received by board. Highly unlikely they will be able to reschedule the initial class for the fall, but working on shoring up program
* Letter from Matt Greene for FLC to sign onto it if we chose. Need to decide today, Matt Greene would like to have already submitted it.
  + Jason- directly submitted edits and suggestions to Matt. Appears to attack some NGOs including FireSafe Council's which we are wary of, but supportive of the idea of permanent funding source for CFIP.
  + Harlan - Didn't read in the same way as Jason, but could see how that may be the interpretation. Thought 3 pages was long and redundant in places. Elicia, Paul, and others agree. Would still sign without change due to importance.
  + ACF and FLC letter.
  + Chris - volunteer to tie in with Matt Green and make updates before we sign on.
  + Jason - CFIP fills a need that isn't filled with grants and is a programmatic approach. Argue for need to fund the program instead of current direction of letter.
  + Chris agrees with crafting a positive letter and the way that would be received.
  + Robert - Gov needs to be reminded that CFIP is a long standing program under Department of Forestry not CalFire. Has support inside and outside Department that can execute for small private parcels better than RCDs. Could be short and to the point.
  + Draft our own letter presented as an option.
  + **Robert will work on letter that presents our comments today in one page with help of Harlan. Will work with Matt Green. Edits to letter will be submitted to Chris and Harlan**

**Andrea Eggelton Present**

* Andrea welcomed CLFA work on shortening letter and suggested working with Matt. Appreciated Jason's comments. Would like letter available to leg when they come back from break. ACL also interested in signing letter.

**MEMBERSHIP**

* Kiefer Johanson and Steven Gilster (SPI) sponsored by Michael Thrush
  + **Jason motions to approve two new members Ricky second - approved**

**FOREST PRACTICE**

FULL BOARD MEETING

1. CLFA presented a letter of support for the CAL FIRE Archaeology program to the Board of Forestry. The letter outlines the successful training program that CLFA and CAL FIRE have built together and the challenges in continuing this program with the low level of staff that CAL FIRE has to support the Initial Training Course. The CLFA Board will continue to work with CAL FIRE towards solutions for continuing to provide archaeological training to the RPF community.

CLFA’s letter to the Board is posted on the CLFA website and on the Board of Forestry website: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8848/full-12-clfa-archaeology-support-letter.pdf>

1. Results of the April 2019 RPF Exam were announced and certified – congratulations to the 12 new RPFs!

Available at <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8843/full-11-c-ii-april_2019_rpf_exam_results_.pdf>

COMMITTEE MEETING

1. Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction
   1. The rule package was adopted for emergency rulemaking and can be found at the following link: <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/regulations/proposed-rule-packages/>
   2. CLFA urges the membership to make use of this amended Emergency Notice during the short period that it will be valid as emergency rules. This provides expanded opportunity to implement fuel breaks in an effective and efficient manner. Extensive use of the Emergency Notice (EM) will send a strong message to the Board that this type of regulatory relief is effective in encouraging “increasing pace and scale” of fuel treatments. Please also submit comments to CLFA if you encounter challenges in utilizing the EM so that we may provide the feedback to the Board of Forestry.
2. Revised Stocking Standards for Basal Area Standards and the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast and Marin County
   1. This will be the next major regulatory effort for the BOF Management Committee
   2. CLFA Regulatory committee will work to formulate specific recommendations on BA stocking standards revisions with the William Main group at UC Berkeley
3. Utility Exemptions – Major Woody Stem Exemption (14 CCR 1257, PRC 4293)
   1. This exemption is being revised for consistency with CPUC General Order 95 and to update references to outdated overhead electrical equipment.
   2. Other exemption sections for minimum vegetative clearance around overhead electrical equipment are undergoing revisions as well.
   3. It is expected that these revisions will undergo additional significant consideration and will not be brought for a vote of the Board for many more months.

The current plead text can be found at the following link: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8813/workshop-4-utility-right-of-way-draft-rule-plead.pdf>

BASAL AREA STANDARDS - CLFA needs to determine how to approach and how we will participate in the discussion. This will require more work than point count.

* Harlan - Everyone should come up with their opinions on standards to be discussed.
* Robert/Chris - Attempting to achieve a stand density that will be survivable given wildfire. Aim for historic stocking levels that can survive major disturbance (fire, drought, etc). Not compatible with MSP.
* Andrea - developing the narrative, but what do we actually want to see?
* Pete - Cautioned attempting to deal with MSP. Remember due consideration is part of MSP. Basal area can be seen as an attempt to log more, suggests if anything RPF explain and justify alternative. Highlighted difference with coast and interior. Don't have the need on the coast, may result in more issue.
* **Continue in a committee setting - Jeremey Right, Ricky, Chris, Bill Stuart, Ariel**
  + **Meeting with Bill Stuart either Sonoma or Blodgett area.** **Ariel will follow up**.

Arch Program

* Board very receptive and supportive of preserving the arch program and dealing the current understaffing. Helge was directed to have an update at the next meeting. CLFA, Helge, Chris Browder meeting before or scheduled by August meeting.
  + **Chris will schedule meeting with Helge - Robert requested being involved**

AB5 - not mentioned in leg report to board. Board is aware.

BUDGET - Board of Forestry received major increasing in funding. Does this have implications for licensing fee increase? No. Separate funding sources and accounts.

WORKSHOP - to review importance of professional responsibility - good panel discussion for future workshop.

CalTREES

* Some documents still not available. Chris working with Dan Craig to solve issue.
* Several plans had to renotice due to incorrect URL due to CalFire website changed

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE

* June 25th Regulations Meeting - Harlan
  + Forest health support hub for public. Essentially the purpose of UCANR extension.
  + Eliminate CNDDB subscription fees and pay for arch records check for small landowners only.
    - Board raised concern over making CNDDB public.
* Management and Restoration Working Group
  + Jason - recommended coming up with a position similar to watershed coordinator position. Coordinator positions, longer term position. Concerns about that position being an RPF due to desire to coordinate and design different fuel treatments. Want position to be more of a community organizing position. Jason will follow up to insure the wording is considerate of any implimentation outside of defensible space requiring RPF for silvicultural decisions.

**EDUCATION**

ARCH - KATHLEEN

* Refresher Classes set for November 6th and 7th with guarantee they will go forward.
* CalFire demonstration cancelled
* Chris and Kathleen will work on MOU

FALL CONFERENCE

* Kathleen- November 15th date set with the Gaia, this does not match with our CLFA calendar. Board meeting set for day before. Going with November 8th for workshop due to confirmed speakers.
* Speakers - Brandi, Mike, and Melanie. Joe confirming on Mike Mitzel
* Tour - chipping, mastication, not a ton going on in that area close by.
  + Chris - looking into wellerbrater and perhaps biochar.
  + Grazing demonstration? - Harlan will ask Brandi
  + **Chris and Joe will work on field tour.**
* **Deadline for flyer and agenda - September 1st**

SPRING CONFERENCE

* **Finalized by December 15th**
* Saturday morning professional responsibility panel
* Conference - Back to the Basics to cater to younger RPF community.
  + **Survey the membership for what fundamentals folks would like reviewed - Ariel**
    - mensuration (cruise design), stream classification (if documents ready), interpretation of recent guidance, geologic evaluation. Won't revisit topics from the last 2 years. Feedback from CalFire's monitoring program or inspectors. What are the agencies struggling with?

FFA PROGRAM

* Emil communicating with Matt Patton regarding CLFA certification for students completing FFA forestry contests.
* Proposed Certification Program
  + CLFA will certify those who score 75% or higher on the test (send certificates of CLFA’s Forest Technician Endorsement) to do so we would need the following;
    - What is the deliverable for our certification? Will Our logo and a statement of approval on a certificate suffice? What File Format would you like it delivered in?
    - Test and Results Continuously. (We would need the dates and times of the test and the results) [we would only be looking for the names of those students that scored 75% or better]
    - Schedule of events so we can attend/volunteer as well as audit if need be. We probably will not attend every event.

BISWELL SCHOLARSHIP - One application, deadline pushed back to September 15th.

**OUTREACH**

MEMBERSHIP

* Non-renewing members have been contacted.
* Purge list for next meeting

**LEGISLATION**

* AB5 - worker’s status for independent contractors.
  + Submitted letter describing role of contractors in forest operations.
* Omnibus Budget Bill - signed on to letter raising concerns.
* Neutral position on AB 69 amended to include essentially all existing rules.
* **Legislation letters will be posted to the CLFA website under What’s New – David Booth**

**LICENSING**

* Exams results out - 24% pass rate. 51 applicants
* **Letters will be sent to new RPFs offering free 1.5 year membership by licensing committee**.
* Need to find proctors for Fall test. Need a coastal location as highest priority.
  + **Elicia will follow up with Dan Stapelton, Yana Valachovic, and Ricky**

PFEC MEETING JUNE 27TH AND JULY 10TH

* + Drafted fee proposal at $350.
  + Discussing basic bi-annual increase in fees to adjust for inflation.
  + Revisiting and revising professional foresters law
    - Want to add fire reduction and management with fire into the law and update to the times.

Exam prep date set for November 14th.

**WATER AND WILDLIFE - GWYN AND ELICIA**

* North Coast Water Board hasn’t met since June when adopted Order no R1-2019-0021 pertaining to HRC.
* Next meeting scheduled for August 14-15th. Further discussion of order was not listed as an agenda item.
* Wildlife
  + No new information on petitions or listings from June concerning Steelhead or bumble bees
  + Next Fish and Game Commission meeting will address petition to list San Bernadino kangaroo rat. Yellow-legged frog not on the agenda.
* CBD and the mountain lion foundation submitted a petition to list the mountain lion in the southern region including San Bernardino mountain and Santa Cruz.
* Need to watch the bumble bee.
  + At some point may want to touch bases with ag communities and others regarding implications for herbicide use and other practices.
  + Questionable if Fish and Game Commission has authority to list an insect.
  + Watch Farm Bureau response to see what they respond with and if they respond with challenge. Contact Farm Bureau to see if they have acted or plan to. From there decide to sign onto a letter or not. **Gwyndolyn will contact Farm Bureau**
* Harlan - Yellow-legged frog split does CLFA support? We support good science and evidence and what that recommends. Discussion followed.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

* New Gmail presidents email working.
* Website - need to post letters of support.
* Issues with email of newsletter need to be resolved. Should re-send newsletter to membership.

Sierra Nevada Forest Summit meeting with SAF Meeting - 8/7/2019 Chris will attend

**Harlan motion to adjourn, Elicia second - approve**