CALIFORNIA LICENSED FORESTERS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Williams, CA and Zoom

Saturday, June 19, 2021

9:00 am

Minutes

Jason Wells called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.

Board members present: Robert Little, Jeremy Wright, Mark Pugsley, Ricky Shurtz, Jason Wells, Joe Starr, Matt Bissell, Robert Broderick, Carll Stoneman

Ariel Roughton, George Gentry via Zoom

Board members absent: None

Others present: Katherine Benedict via Zoom

With unanimous consent, the Forest Practice Report was moved to the beginning of the meeting, given the difficulties inherent in a remote (Zoom) presentation.

Forest practice Committee- Katherine Benedict

Matt Dias is leaving the Board as Executive officer.

(See attached report)

June Agenda- Mark Pugsley moved with a second by Robert Little to approve the June Agenda, as amended. Motion passed unanimously

Insertion

Board Meeting minutes – Charll Stoneman moved with a second by Jeremy Wright to approve the May Board minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report:

Profit & Loss – Net Income - $14,187.91

Balance Sheet – Total liabilities & Equity - $314,311.92

Managed Accounts:

* + Archaeology – Balance $33,335.41
  + CLFA Scholarship – Balance $31,499.49
  + Hazel Jackson – Balance $6,648.69
  + Roy Richards – Balance $9,806.37

Charll Stoneman moved with a second by Robert Little to approve the June Financials. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence –

No correspondence received by Board, but members offered the following:

Comments were received regarding the archeology program (to be discussed later)

Jason Wells discussed information regarding UCANR Workshops for landowners who were funded for an additional three years and offered a general description of the program.

Robert Little discussed the need for more remote capability to encourage member participation. Robert said that “some members” believed the Board acted independently, without member input.

Charll Stoneman offered a comment that more GoToMeeting link should be broadcast in an additional email.

Written Comment from George Gentry in comments: Need to acquire speaker and microphone for efficient communication.

Membership -

Considered the application of Parsa Arjomandi for Student Membership. Moved by Robert Little, seconded by Rickey Shurtz to approve applicant for membership. Motion passed unanimously.

Education-

Discussion of Committee Chair, and committee assignments generally. Robert Little to be Education chair. Jeremy Wright to be chair of Outreach. Jason Wells and Matt Bissel to be added to the Audit Committee with Charll Stoneman as chair. Add George Gentry and Matt Bissell to the Licensing committee. Add Jason Wells and Matt Bissell to the Communication committee. Add Joe Starr to Education and Outreach committees. Add Robert Little, Ricky Schurtz, and Jeremy Wright to Archaeology Liaison.

* Fall Workshop

Poll on topics pointed to Technical Rule Addendum 2. Number two topic was CEQA/VTP. Number three was inventory. George Gentry offered that we could use Cal Fire ‘s approach utilized in the Basic Forest Practice Program, which was very informational, and we could incorporate CEQA compliance. This could foster better communication between plan submitters and the Department. The Board discussed how to focus on the most important aspects of TRA2. Further discussion was had on possibly recording such a presentation for future reference. Also discussed was a general desire of the membership to have more technical, basic forestry presentations to support younger foresters. Jason Wells advocated for a VTP workshop, due to its overall importance.

Further discussion was had regarding generating more input from the membership (polling/voting) and the merits of an inventory workshop. Also discussed was the possibility of using “breakout sessions” running concurrently.

* CALFIRE Archaeology Program Update

Nothing for Program Report. However, correspondence was received regarding issues related to archeology. The request from Cal Fire appeared to request EVERY artifact to be recorded (versus the site) which is not the standard procedure. This was in relation to an Emergency Notice. The Board desired more detail to understand the exact nature of the issue. Robert Little advocated for resolving at the lowest level (field) possible. Jason Wells would like to know if this is a habitual issue, or isolated.

Robert Little noted that RPFs have a responsibility and that this is a privilege that should not be taken lightly. RPFs should be part of the cadre for Arch training.

* Scholarships

The Board discussed questions development for scholarship applicants. Charll Stoneman offered assistance but wanted more history on each scholarship to assist in question development, to ensure that appropriate questions are asked. The example used was the Biswell scholarship. Jason Wells noted that that scholarship is directed at junior college and high school students, so questions are not necessarily highly technical, or discipline directed.

Award amounts were discussed. What procedures are needed to adjust them? Of interest is generating more applicants. It appears that there is no impediment in the by-laws to awarding higher amounts, at the discretion of the Board.

As a 501 entity, we are limited in investment strategy, and discussion was had about adding additional flexibility to generate more income.

Jason Wells stated he believed the scholarship amount was not the critical factor in interest in scholarships, but rather lack of direct contacts with schools and covid-19.

Outreach-

Discussion was had regarding non-renewals for CLFA membership, and the spreadsheet was reviewed. Jason Wells suggested everyone taking some of the names and contacting them regarding renewal.

Governor’s Task Force-

No meetings have been held

Legislation – Jason Wells reported on the recent CalTag (California Timber Advisory Group) meeting. In addition, an update was provided on AB431, Patterson (300’ defensible space bill) and

Licensing-

Exam results are anticipated for the next Board of Forestry meeting, and the PFEC has two new members, Yana Valachovic and Danielle Lindler.

Water & Wildlife – Mark Pugsley reported that the Commission has voted that listing for Upper Klamath-Trinity River Spring Chinook salmon and Northern California Summer Steelhead was warranted, despite the Department’s findings to the contrary.

Communications – The Board discussed adding articles for the website, as well as bios for the Board. Discussion was then had regarding content approval. Generally, this is done via approval of the President and Committee Chair. It was moved by Gentry and seconded by Stoneman to have a separate meeting to demonstrate web site creation and curation. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business-

Strategic plan still needs discussion and review. Discussion will be continued until July meeting.

Ricky Schurtz discussed review of the Cal Fre THP form and wants CLFA to suggest edits to the Department.

Moved by Joe Starr, seconded by Ricky Schurtz to adjourn to executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

Matt Bissel moved with a second by Ricky Shurtz to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

George Gentry

Secretary