

## CALIFORNIA LICENSED FORESTERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes – May 21, 2016  
Granzellas, Williams, CA

CLFA President Clayton Code called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Robert Galliano, Jack Harvey, Colin Noyes, Kevin Conway, Jay Fazio, Nick Knipe

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jan Caster, Stacy Stanish, Mitch Hunt

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathleen Burr, Harlan Tranmer, Christopher Dow, Kieran O'Leary, Mike Bacca, George Gentry, Sara Taddo Jones, Stewart McMorrow, Ron Hutchinson

Clayton welcomed everyone.

Current and new board members introduced themselves.

Minutes – Kevin Conway moved with a second by Jay Fazio to approve the April 23, 2016 minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Financials – Robert Galliano reviewed the current financials. The membership refund program reflected in this month's membership income totals.

- Balance sheet assets & liabilities = \$214,692.29
- Profit & Loss = \$78,319.94
  - \$17,500.00 is income from the five day initial archaeology class that will take place in November. Due to the class being full, Kathleen has requested all payments must be received well in advance of the class. There is currently a waiting list for this class.
- Budget vs. Actual:
  - Income - 90.64% of budget
  - Expenses – 44.83% of budget

Correspondence – Bob Carey with Yreka Fish & Wildlife Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contacted CLFA with an interest in attending the Weed breakfast group. Kathleen referred his request to Dennis Nicholas, breakfast leader, who said he would contact Bob directly.

Chico/Orville breakfast group – Kieran O'Leary informed the board that Jessie Barnett will be starting this breakfast group, which has not met in many years, up again. Jessie will be the group leader. Kathleen will send Kieran current members who resided within this breakfast group area.

### **Old Business:**

Clayton reviewed current and ongoing board activities:

- ACELLA – The BOF has not moved forward with this database platform as there are regulatory word changes that need to be addressed, as well as, issues with confidential information within the GIS and shape files. There are numerous details that need to be worked out. Clayton has expressed to both Russ Henley and Dennis Hall, CLFA's concerns, and that the Association is interested in continuing to be involved in the development of the ACELLA program and remain a viable stakeholder.
- USFS & RPF Contracting: During CFA's annual conference in Napa, ACL discussed with Bernie Gyant, Deputy Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region (5) what opportunities are available for RPF/LTOs to work on federal lands? Bernie discussed the need for professional services and Clayton has been involved in several discussions looking into how much work RFPs would be capable of, as well as, identifying and fixing existing barriers that currently prevent this.
- CLFA Website: CLFA launched our new website in April, 2016. There is still some content issues that need to be looked at and resolved.
- 60-Second Forester: Jan Caster continues to be the key person on this project. CLFA secured a \$10,000 education grant from the American Tree Farm. Jan reviewed scripts and audio files of over 300 existing radio spots. CLFA recently hired an audio-visual contractor to assist in upgrading 10 of these audio files to YouTube videos this year. Clayton would like to see this program thrive and develop into a multi-year project with CLFA seeking additional funding and new partners.
- Less than 3 acre conversions: This is an issue that has been brought up by Bill Condon, but only in passing. The concern is, what is the cumulative impact on less than three acre conversions? The pace of these conversions has dramatically increased due to marijuana cultivation. There is nothing more to report at this time.
- 2017 Spring Workshop/Conference: Lion's Gate is booked the first weekend in March, 2017. The board directed Kathleen to look into a new venue for this year, possibly one of the casinos located near Sacramento.
- GoToMeeting: Clayton would like to see the board continue with regular board meetings, potentially meeting more often through conference/virtual meetings. These meetings would be intermingled with face-to-face board meetings.

Committee structure has broken down over the last couple of years. In an attempt to rebuild committee strength, committees could meet virtually for a short meeting prior to board meetings. This would enable committees to work on items as a subgroup, helping to engage all board members, and then committee chairs would report to the board.

Meeting virtually could open up discussions with breakfast group leaders and board members. This type of meeting would also allow CLFA members to attend a board meeting.

- Archaeology refresher classes: CLFA worked with Chris Browder in finding a solution for those RPFs who did not refresh in 2015, due to the limited number of refreshers offered.

After many options were discussed, CALFIRE approved those RPFs to attend 'only' a 2016 refresher to be recertified. The RPF who let their certification expire, cannot function in the capacity of a certified archaeological surveyor until (s)he has completed the 2016 refresher.

- RPF/LTO: This issue has been ongoing for over a year. ACL brought this issue before the Forest Practice Committee, the committee referred it to the PFEC to investigate and return with recommendations if warranted. Matt Dias and Cary Japp reviewed old violation records for instances where the RPF & LTO could be culpable. What they found was that details contained in violation reports were very vague, making it difficult to ascertain the details on how the violation occurred. A two year search found very few violations where both the RFP & LTO appeared to have a part in leading to the violation.

After several month of discussion, it became clear to everyone that; 1) there was need for better communication amongst ACL, CDF, & CLFA, 2) there was a need for LTO's to better understand CDF's chain of command, and 3) a need for better cross training.

ACL continued their quest for changes to the rules and an appeals process. The PFEC considered ACL's proposed revision to 1035.3 LTO responsibilities which essentially absolves the LTO from receiving a violation when the violation occurs as a result of incomplete or inaccurate field work by an RPF.

CLFA supported the rule change, CDF did not. PFEC's recommendation focused on non-regulatory solutions as outlined in a letter to Ken Pimlott. The Forest Practice Committee did not want to discuss changes to 1035.3 because it did not have CDF support.

At this point in time, Clayton feels there is a better solution by allowing ACL & CLFA to submit revisions to the Policy Manual. CLFA supports ACL and it is our belief that all RFPs and their supervised designee should be doing their preparatory work accurately and completely.

- EMC: [http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board\\_committees/effectiveness\\_monitoring\\_committee/](http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board_committees/effectiveness_monitoring_committee/)

This project proposal was submitted in 2016 from the BOF Strategic Plan, and can generally be characterized as testing whether a specific rule is being implemented and is the rule, as designed, having the intended environmental benefit. The one exception Clayton saw was Dre Coe's post fire monitoring.

CLFA needs to ensure that monitoring actually tests the rule, and the link between findings and the rule are real. CLFA also needs to be involved; as much if not more, than the BOF itself. Rule revisions may become a possible outcome of this effort. If that happens, the EMC will be able to say that their recommendations to the BOF have been developed in an open and transparent process with buy off from all stakeholders. If the rule revision recommendations are unfavorable, it will be too late to counter them once it reaches the BOF. CLFA needs to refute bad recommendations and/or have our objectives be on record with the EMC.

A detailed review by CLFA needs to be accomplished with CLFA's concerns put into context. Clayton recommends the board make this a priority.

- Watershed Pilot Project: <http://resources.ca.gov/forestry/>  
This is a program created directly by AB1492. The main focus of this program is to evaluate information used for conducting CIAs, electronic plan submission, online GIS mapping submission, and watershed restoration.

Progress has been slow. The BOF Forest Practice Committee is already taking up electronic plan submissions, though contracting arrangements between CDF and ACELLA have not been finalized yet. Dennis Hall indicated that Exemptions and Emergencies will be the first attempt at implementation.

Clayton places this in the same category as EMC – CLFA needs to be involved. Any products that are developed through these projects, will be the result of an open and transparent process with stakeholder buy off. CLFA needs to be involved from the beginning.

- WFMP: This rule package was returned from OAL with only minor revisions. CLFA needs to watch and ensure conversations don't stray from already negotiated text, and exiting interpretations of statute and regulations remain.
- TMTE: Clayton has been monitoring the full task force meetings, the Regulation Group, and Forest Health & Resilience. Key areas of concern right now are:
  - Funding
  - Compliance with regulations not address by the Governor's proclamation
  - Equipment and manpower
  - Outlets for removed material
- TA #2: Clayton was able to take the "teeth out" of everything discussed while Sue Britting was still on the board. Currently, they are looking at GHG and interest in programmatic approach to waning. Clayton will take another stab at this, but likely we will end up with guidance outlining what is already being done.
- CFA-AB 1492 Team: Earlier this year CLFA was invited to participate on CFA's AB1492 Team. On January 26<sup>th</sup>, Clayton attended the first meeting, with additional meetings to be scheduled every six months. Since AB 1492 was CFA's bill, they are keenly interested in seeing the implementation through. The main focus of this team is agency personnel training and THP review efficiency. Clayton volunteered CLFA to assist with trainings, but nothing has occurred as of yet. CLFA will also be assisting a team looking into the nuts-and-bolts of the THP review. Particularly methods of communication between agencies to speed up the process of allowing RPFs time to get first review responses in with time for agencies to decide if their participation on the PHI is necessary.

Participants of this team include top names in industry and agencies. Clayton advised that this is an important issue to participate in, and whoever the board sends, will be someone on or closest to the front line of THP reviews.

## **Legislation – reported by Colin Noyes**

Nothing new that was not already reported in the May newsletter.

## **Audit Report**

Kevin Conway reported the outcome of CLFAs annual audit review to the board:

- All accounts were verified for monthly consistencies
- Checks & transfers went to the correct accounts
- Exception of two miss-coding errors – miss-coded deposits in QB
  - Kathleen will correct the two miss-coding errors
- Audit recommendations:
  - Transfer requests will be in writing to the Treasurer – this can be via email.
- Kevin Conway moved with a second by Jay Fazio that the ED will document, with the treasurer, all transfers into the checking account. Copies of all transfer requests will be attached to the corresponding month's bank reconciliation. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Election of board officers**

Kevin Conway nominated Jay Fazio for the position of CLFA Board President with a second by Jack Harvey. Motion passed unanimously. Jay thanked Clayton for all his years of service to CLFA. Clayton will remain on as a consultant to the board for the coming year. Jay presented Clayton with a Certificate of Appreciation and a CLFA engraved pen.

## **Ratify new board members**

Kevin Conway moved with a second by Jack Harvey to ratify the 2016 board elections. Motion passed unanimously. The following are duly elected members of the 2016/2017 CLFA Board of Directors:

- Coast – Harlan Tranmer
- North – Mike Bacca, George "YG" Gentry, Kieran O'Leary
- South – Christopher Dow, Ron Hutchinson

Stewart McMorrow & Sara Taddo Jones were asked by the board to fill the two open coast seats for the year May 2016 through May 2017. Colin Noyes moved with a second Nick Knipe - motion passed unanimously.

Jay recognized the outgoing board members and presented each of them with a Certificate of Appreciation and a CLFA engraved pen. Outgoing board members are – Jack Harvey, Colin Noyes, Robert Galliano, Kevin Conway, and Mitch Hunt (not present).

The board then went on to elect Vice President and Treasurer.

Nick Knight expressed interest in the position of Vice President – Mike Bacca made a motion with a second by George Gentry to nominate Nick Knipe for the position of Vice President – motion passed unanimously.

Stacy Stanish expressed interest in the position of Treasurer – Stewart McMorrow moved with a second by Ron Hutchinson to nominate Stacy Stanish for the position of Treasurer – motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee assignments**

The following board members volunteered to hold CLFA Committee Chair assignments:

- Forest Practice – Mike Bacca
- Legislation – Nick Knight
- Water & Wildlife – Stacy Stanish
- Education – Steward McMorrow w/help Sara Taddo Jones
- Outreach – Christopher Dow
- Audit – Jan Caster
- Licensing – George Gentry
- Communications/AV – Kieran O'Leary
- Social Network – Harlan Tranmer

Board members will email Kathleen with two/three committees they would like to serve on.

The board reviewed the possibility of holding several virtual meetings throughout the year. This will not only save the Association money, but make travel for some board members easier. To ensure the full benefit of virtual meetings, board members will need to conference in with a microphone headset. Stewart McMorrow moved with a second by Harlan Tranmer that each board member will be reimbursed up to \$50.00 on their purchase of a microphone headset. Motion passed unanimously.

Board meeting schedule:

- June 21<sup>st</sup> – virtual meeting – 6pm
- July 23<sup>rd</sup> - location TBD
- August – 27<sup>th</sup> – location TBD possibly Fort Bragg

The board discussed holding a meeting at SPI in Redding, November would be a virtual meeting, and Stewart McMorrow offered to hold a meeting in Davis.

Kathleen will look into the purchase of a Polycom so that board members who are unable to physically attend a board meeting can conference in.

George Gentry moved with a second by Stewart McMorrow to adjourn the meeting at 3:36 pm – motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Burr  
Executive Director