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BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Sacramento, CA
April 8, 2015

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Keith Gilles, Chair
Bruce Saito
Rich Wade
Mike Miles
Stuart Farber
Mary Rickert
Susan Husari

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS ABSENT:

BOARD STAFF:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
Matthew Dias, Executive Officer, Forester's Licensing
Thembi Borrás, Regulations Coordinator
Laura Alarcon-Stalians, Analyst
Edith Hannigan, Analyst
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant
Stephen Lerner, Esq., Board Counsel

The Board's Mission:

To lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

Reconvene

Report of Actions Taken in Executive Session

Stephen Lerner, Esq., Board Counsel gave a status update on pending litigation involving:

- a. Brown, et al. v. State of California, San Diego County Superior Court (Small Claims Division), Case No. 37-2014-00310580
- b. Christ v. California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection, et al., Court of Appeals (3rd District), Case No. C076957
- c. Rancho Guejito Corp. v. Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. 27-2014-00027683
- d. In the Matter of Michael D. Ryan, Office of Administrative Hearings, Case No. 2013080783
- e. White v. Pimlott, et al., Court of Appeals (3rd District), Case No. A141475
- f. White v. Walters, et al., Court of Appeals (3rd District), Case No. A142886

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

December 2014 and January 2015 minutes were approved by acclamation.

MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Report of the Chairman.

No Report

Report of the Director/Department. Janet Barentson

- The department is continuing their efforts with succession planning with retirements throughout the Department.
- Fire Stats, are above the 5year average. January – March set records for lack of rain across the state on record. Snow content is less than 5%. Governor Brown issued a drought proclamation with additional water usage restrictions. Both regions are accessing water availability for firefighting. The department has developed plans that include Forest Practice rules that will allow for landowners to address their ongoing tree mortality needs. The information will be provided on the Cal Fire website and Resource Management will be looking at way to get the information to landowners. Most areas have significant tree mortality as a result drought conditions and pest infestation. The department is working with the forest service to perform a aerial survey in April, information from the survey will be forthcoming.
- Regions are accelerating staffing due to conditions that are 45 days ahead of normal. Peak staffing will occur May 18th, which is earlier than normal.
- Green House Gas and SRA Grant applications were sent out. Cal Fire continues to work with ARB on greenhouse gas accounting methodologies.
- SRA billings continue and currently in the counties who's name starts with the letter M.
- Budget hearings continue so far there is good support from the administration and the legislature.
- The department has completed their third effort in the Supervision 5 class, where they take a group of supervision candidates and walk them through the budget process.

Report of the Regulations Coordinator

Coordinator Borrás gave a status update on current and pending regulations.

Report of Executive Officer.

Reviewed draft meeting dates for 2016
Reviewed priorities and draft reports

Report of the Standing Committees.

Forest Practice,

- Presentation on ACCELA
- Discussion of AB 1867 rule development.
- Discussion of Technical Rule Addendum #2, Cumulative Impacts Assessment.
- New and Unfinished Business, 2015 Priorities.

Resource Protection, Bruce Saito, Chair

- Discussion of monitoring requirements for the Forest Fire Prevention Pilot Project Exemption.
- Update on Board's Grant Program, review of potential grant regulations.
- Discussion on "Active Notice" relating to harvest activities near utility lines
- Santa Barbara County Safety Element Assessment Response
- Safety Element Assessment Version Methodology
- Vegetation Treatment Plan Update.
- Range Management Advisory Committee
- New and Unfinished Business, 2015 Priorities.

Management Committee, Stuart Farber, Chair

- Development of the Working Forest Management Plan Regulations.

Report of Board's Advisory Committees

- Forest Pest Council- Katie Harrell
Forest Pest Conditions Report presentation
- Monitoring Study Group- Pete Cafferata
- Effectiveness Monitoring Committee- Stuart Farber

Public Comment

Richard Gienger: Key problem with unclear goals in terms of funding and projects. There's a intermingling of the process of timber regulation and forest restoration in the 1492 process. He believes there is a conflict of purpose with EMC moving too quickly on specific issues.

- Range Management Advisory Committee- Kevin Conway
- Professional Foresters Examining Committee –Matt Dias.

SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS

Presentation by James Harrington and Cajun James. An approach to monitoring using the SWAMP Protocol a standardized method for direct site assessment of channel hydrologic and geomorphic conditions, stream and riparian habitat type, water chemistry, and benthic macro invertebrate and algal community composition.

Public Comment.

Richard Gienger: Thought the approach might have merit, interested in a pilot project.
Ed Struffenegger: is supportive of the proposal.

Russ Henly: spoke to the 1492 program that was mentioned, he has participated in carbon discussion meetings and is a worthwhile area to look at with this measure. Is working on getting funding for a pilot project.

CONCLUSION

Public Forum

Richard Gienger: Reiterated the need for pilot projects

Eric Carlson: mentioned the Redwood Region Logging Conference. He was a part of a 11 member delegation with Associated California Loggers Met with members of congress and other federal officials via the American Loggers Council in Washington DC..

Mike Tadlock, CLFA, announced that he will no longer represent CLFA but will attend Board meetings representing Campbell Global.

New and Unfinished business. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:



George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

Keith Gilles
Chair

Copies of the attendance sheets can be obtained from the Board Office.