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BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Sacramento, CA
January 28, 2015

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Keith Gilles, Chair
Mark Andre
Bruce Saito
Rich Wade
Mike Miles
Susan Britting
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.

JANUARY 27, 2015, 4:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Presentation on the Civil Penalties Process. Cary Japp, CAL FIRE.

Mr. Japp reviewed Department policy (5501, et seq) and Public Resources Code (4601, et seq). He described the determination criteria for the penalties. The Board members expressed a desire for additional information on the statistics related to civil penalties.

Adjourn to Executive Session

JANUARY 28, 2015, 8:00 A.M.

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.

Deferred by Board for later discussion

MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Report of the Chairman

No report given

Report of the Director/Department, Ken Pimlott

- Staffing changes:
 - Christine Thompson to Unit Chief, Tehama Glenn Unit effective February 2, 2015
 - George Morris III to Unit Chief of the Nevada Yuba Placer Unit, effective December 12, 2014
 - Darren Feldman to Unit Chief for the San Bernardino Unit effective December 29, 2014
 - Dave Teter to Deputy Director, Fire Protection,
 - Gabe Shultz to Staff Chief of Resource Management, Northern Region, effective January 12, 2015.

- Fire activity, reported on how weather conditions and the lack of precipitation will affect the 2015 fire season. As a result of three years of draught conditions Cal Fire is in year around fire season and has maintained strong staffing throughout the regions to support increased fire season. Fires in San Mateo, Placer and El Dorado have already been reported in January.
- Budget: The Governor’s budget allowed for added staffing to bring firefighters and engines on early based on weather conditions. The budget also allows for procurement process to replace 12 helicopters, over a multiyear process.
- Grants: Working on a monthly report with ARB on methodology’s by which carbon are identified will be meeting with ARB to continue discussions. Concept proposals were received and the department has begun soliciting action grant applications from those selected.
- The first Forest Climate Action Team (FCAT) public meeting is on February 20, 2015 to be hosted at the Resources building and will be broadcast via webinar. Russ Henly is spearheading the efforts. Additional meeting will occur in March. The FCAT website is active and can be found on the Cal Fire website.
- A significant achievement was made with Usal Redwoods Forestlands being transferred to Cal Fire to the Public Works Board in December. Approximately 50,000 acres will be transferred to the Forest Legacy Program.
- The Fire Resources Assessment Program (FRAP) was moved from the Fire Marshal’s Program to the Resource Management Program. FRAP will continue to support the same services. Chris Keithly is the acting lead at FRAP.
- Mentioned the loss of several members of Cal Fire in 2014, including Pilot Craig Hunt and Firefighter Roger Gonzalez. The Director Iso reflected on the 10th anniversary of the loss of Eva Scheike who was assigned to Columbia Helitack 404. Cal Fire local 2081, the Honor Guard and Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit gave a fitting tribute at the memorial site.

Report of the Regulations Coordinator.

Thembi Borrás Gave a status update on current and pending regulations. She requested action on one item.

01-15-01 Member Saito moved to approve SRA Fire Safe Regulations 15 day notice. Member Andre seconded the motion.

01-15-02 Member Britting moved to amend with the edit, “the driveway fuel modification area shall also apply to turnouts and turnarounds associated with driveways” page 10, line 20 Member Rickert seconded.

Member Wade requested that the notice be modified on page one to include a reference to page nine for clarity.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

(note: item should have received a vote on the amendment first, then the main motion, but the members indicated they understood what was being voted on)

Report of Executive Officer

- Priorities 2015 discussion
 - Priorities are finalized and will form the basis for the annual report
- State Responsibility Area updates
 - SRA mapping updates will be considered at the March meeting
- Annual report will be completed based upon the 2015 Priorities.

Report of the Standing Committees

Forest Practice, Sue Britting, Chair

No action Items. Topics discussed were:

- Technical Rule Addendum #2, Cumulative Impacts Assessment.
- Sensitive Watershed Rule and a Presentation by State Water Board on the TMDL process.
- AB 1867 rule development.

Resource Protection, Bruce Saito, Chair

One action Item proposed. Topics discussed were:

- The State Responsibility Area Mapping review, 2015
- Monitoring requirements for the Forest Fire Prevention Pilot Project Exemption.
- The Board's Grant Program, with a review of potential grant regulations.
- CAL FIRE Local Use Planning Program. Pete Monoa.
- Range Management Advisory Committee:
 - Prescribed Herbivory Treatment Paper
 - Upcoming committee vacancies

01-15-02 Member Saito moved to approve the Forest Fire Prevention Pilot Project Exemption. Member Husari seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

Management Committee, Stuart Farber, Chair

No action items to report

- Report from the State Forest Program.
 - Review of the Jackson Demonstration Forest Research Plan.
 - Review of the Jackson Advisory Group's proposed Charter Amendments.
- Presentation on Issues Related to Timberland Conversion.
 - Definitions "Available For", "Capable Of", "Crop of Trees"

- Discussion of PTEIR for Carbon Sequestration for Fuel Reduction Program, and Potential Rule Language.
- Discussion of Small Landowner THP approach.
- Develop priority regarding Emergency Harvest of burned trees (i.e. Boles Fire)

Report of Board’s Advisory Committees

Forest Pest Council

Ms. Harrell notified the Board about additional Sudden Oak Death finds in the vicinity of Redwood National Park. She also announced the plans for the 2016 Sudden Oak Death Symposium. She will update the Board in March on the Firewood Task Force.

Range Management Advisory Committee

01-15-03 Member Saito moved to approve extending Bill Burrows and Ed Anchordoguy’s terms for 1 year and to nominate Bart Creamers for a four year term. Member Rickert seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

Professional Foresters Examining Committee –Matt Dias.

Mr. Dias updated the Board on the status of the new grader contracts. He then presented the successful applicants for Registered Professional Foresters for the Board’s approval:

Name	RPF Number
Anastasia Stanish	3000
Erin Kelly	3001
Andrew Fitzpatrick	3002
Andrea Hardlund	3003
Cornel 'Ray' Wedel	3004
Brian Broznitsky	3005

01-15-04 Member Miles moved to accept RPF’s. Member Andre seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye

		Gilless	Aye
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The motion passed unanimously

Monitoring Study Group

Mr. Cafferata reported that the MSG had a presentation and discussion regarding the new Road Rules Handbook, as well as a discussion of FORPRIEM.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings (deferred from earlier)

Ms. Britting expressed concern that the minutes did not accurately reflect the discussion regarding the Board’s letter to the Air Resources Board regarding forestry protocol changes. She also felt the letter itself had “substantive references” and felt that the letter did not reflect her desire for a more general approach. The Chair asked the Executive Officer to modify the December minutes to reflect Ms. Britting’s request regarding the letter accurately.

SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS

Report of the Department on the State Responsibility Area Grant Program. Sam Walker, CAL FIRE.

Mr. Walker outlined the evaluation criteria and outlined some of the issues in developing the grant program.

Report from the State Forest Program. Dave Loveless, Pam Linstedt CAL FIRE.

- a. Review of the Jackson Demonstration Forest Research Plan.
- b. Review of the Jackson Advisory Group’s proposed Charter Amendments.
- c. Consideration of Nominations to the Jackson Advisory Group.

01-15-05 Member Farber moved to approve the JDSF research plan. Member Miles seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

01-15-06 Member Farber moved to make proposed changes with amendments as stated. Member Andre seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

01-15-07 Member Farber moved to accept Kim Rodriguez to the Jackson Advisory Group. Member Britting seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Saito	Aye	Britting	Aye
Andre	Aye	Wade	Aye
Husari	Aye	Miles	Aye
Farber	Aye	Rickert	Aye
		Gilless	Aye

The motion passed unanimously

Carbon Sequestration and Inventory Issues. All presentations are available on the Board’s web site.

- Dr. John Battles, “California Forest and Rangeland Greenhouse Gas Inventory Development”.
- Dr. William Stewart, Update on the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, and a comparison of inventory methodologies.
- Mark Rosenberg, FRAP, update on the AB 1504 process.

Presentation from the winners of the 2014 Forestry Challenge, Amador High School. Diane Dealey Neill.

The Amador High School team made the presentation that they were awarded for. They were presented with certificate for “Foresters in Training” from the Chair.

CONCLUSION

Public Forum.

Eric Carlson, Associated California Loggers reported on the ACL annual meeting held in Reno with record turnout and noted that the Sierra Cascade Logging conference will be held in February.

Bill Banka, spoke on his concerns with TPZ Zoning in Placer County.

Richard Gienger, suggested a carbon sequestration workshop and spoke on AB 1492 and upcoming SRF Conference March 11-14 .

Mike Tadlock, CLFA, spoke on the importance of forestry.

New and Unfinished business. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

ATTEST:



Keith Gilles
Chair

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