

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION FULL BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING

Sacramento, CA
May 2, 2012

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stan Dixon, Chairman
Bruce Saito
Mark Andre
Jim Ostrowski
Susan Britting
J. Keith Gillless
Mike Miles
Richard Wade

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS ABSENT:

BOARD STAFF:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
Matthew Dias, Executive Officer, Forester's Licensing
Eric Huff, Regulations Coordinator
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:

Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dixon called the May 2, 2012 meeting of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No session held

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deferred. Executive Officer Gentry will disseminate minutes to Board members electronically.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR – Janet Barentson

- Director Ken Pimlott and Fire Marshal Tonya Hoover were recommended for confirmation by the Senate Rules Committee with a 5 to 0 vote.
- Fire activity is above average. There have been 768 fires reported compared to 265 reported last year. The Department is anticipating higher fire activity this fire season.
- Delaying opening stations as a result of the \$80 million budget reductions. The department is looking at weather conditions and activity to determine where savings can be made.
- The department has started hiring at the Southern units, they are experiencing significant drying conditions.
- Preparing for Wildfire Awareness Week, May 7th will be the kick off date at McClellan. There will be five events throughout the state during the week, May 7 - 11.
- Emergency fund expenditures are down for what was budgeted for. In anticipating possible trigger cuts, the department is looking at a \$60 million impact if the tax initiative does not pass in November.
- CDCR has released their budget plan. Cal Fire is evaluating the plan to determine what the impacts will be on Cal Fire camps and inmate availability. Cal Fire is in direct dialogue with the Governor's office, Department of Finance and CDCR on alternatives. The general consensus is that there will be a reduction in inmate availability. The department is looking at offsetting the shortage through the local Sheriff's department or local counties contracting through CDCR to provide inmates back into the system.
- Bill Snyder gave an update on the THP pilot project.
 - 100% desk review of THPs that fall within the Central Valley Quality Control Board area.
 - Coordination of pre harvest inspection process.
 - How to be more efficient in generating pre harvest inspection reports. The Cal Fire inspector will be responsible for preparing the standard sections of the report, including the location, THP number of participants and PHI that are common to all agency reports. They will also be responsible for collecting recommendations from agencies so that they are included in one report.
 - A management team will provide oversights and help with resolutions to issues that may arise during the process.
 - There are 9 THP's and amendments that are going through the process. The department anticipates having a report by next month on its progress.
 - Committed to working with the Board and the Committee on Criminal Trespass. They are focusing on a presentation for the June Board meeting.
 - Working on Draft policy for Zone of Infestation and committed to responding to the Board by September. They plan to include declaration of the zone of infestation.
 - Committed to continue working with the Board on GSOB and SOD issues.

REPORT OF THE REGULATIONS COORDINATOR – Eric Huff

Work is ongoing on the 1270 Fire Safe, 1299 Clearance and SOD regulations. SB 617 has added new tasks in preparing and reviewing regulations. Considering May 24 as a possible date for a Road Rules workshop.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ishi Exercises are on May 9. EO will be attending the Forestland Owners meeting, May 12, in Chester on behalf of the Board. Community Services District Association will have their annual meeting on May 17. Mr. Gentry was asked to speak on SRA fees.

Forest Practice – Mark Andre

No Action Items

There is continuing work on the Road Rules package. Road Rules meeting May 24, 2012. Hoping to resolve the Class II L potential rule change and put out for 45 day notice this summer.

Resource Protection – Bruce Saito

No Action Items

There is a lot of work ahead during the month of May with the review of the VTPEIR. The plan is to make changes, edits or comments to the VTPEIR by the end of May and have the administrative draft available for the June Board meeting. There was also a discussion on SRA fees, George Gentry gave tentative dates and locations for field meetings. Tentative dates and locations are San Diego May 16, Redding, May 23 and Madera, May 30.

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEES

FOREST PEST COUNCIL

CALIFORNIA OAK MORTALITY TASK FORCE (COMTF) – Katie Palmieri

See Report in binder

MONITORING STUDY GROUP – George Gentry

Next MSG meeting is June 13, 2012 in Tehama County, Red Bluff. They will discuss and review road conditions, road improvement, water course crossing and upgrade work in the Judd Creek Watershed.

RESEARCH AND SCIENCE COMMITTEE – George Gentry

The committee has prepared a letter with recommendations for the Strategic Research Plan for JDSF, and it will be agendaized for the June Board meeting. Working on the Adaptive Management Program, hope to attend the Sierra Nevada Dialogue (topic: Adaptive Management) meeting to gather information to present to the committee for review and comment.

CRIMINAL TRESPASS COMMITTEE

Cal Fire will be working with George Gentry on preparing a presentation on LE and safety issues related to resource management and fire personnel. Mr. Gentry hopes to be in contact with additional agencies, notably Department of Fish and Game and the Department of Justice. Senator Chesbro's bill that targets irrigation equipment being transported through public lands, and whether or not law enforcement has the right to stop and inspect them, seems to be moving forward. EO met with Mrs. Melo to discuss various issues. The EO feels the Jere Melo foundation effort in Mendocino could serve as a pilot project to develop similar groups in other counties.

RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RMAC)

The department will assist in staffing RMAC. George Gentry will be staffing the committee in the interim; he plans a meeting for June. The plan is to have RMAC on a quarterly schedule and have additional conference calls as necessary for the working groups.

PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS EXAMINING COMMITTEE (PFEC) – Matt Dias

PFEC meeting June 21, 2012

Received a request for a 4 year PFEC license withdrawal from Bill Fielder.

05-02-01 **Member Ostrowski moved to accept a four year license withdrawal for RPF Bill Fielder. Member Miles seconded the motion. All members were in favor of the motion.**

SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

Presentation on the Cal Mapper Project, and Update on Fire Plan Implementation. Phyllis Banducci.

PUBLIC FORUM

Rob DePirna noted letters that were sent to the Board regarding Class II L and Cumulative Effects. He hoped the information shared in the letters will give the Board ideas and hopes to see these issues brought up in future Board meetings

Richard Geinger, shared concerns regarding the future of the forests in light of budget constraints. He complimented the Cal Mapper Program on the tools it will provide for California forests.

Bill Key mentioned that with the help from NorCal SAF, CLFA and the University of California are sponsoring a series of tours at Blodgett Forest Research Station. Legislative tours will be June 29 and August 10, 2012, media tours have not been scheduled yet. He hopes to be able to do the tours on a multi year basis.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing to report

ADJOURNMENT

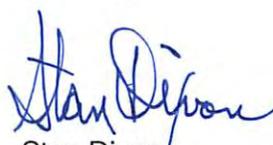
The Chairman adjourned the May 2, 2012 meeting of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,



George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

ATTEST:



Stan Dixon
Chairman

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