

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS REGISTRATION**

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**Professional Foresters Examining Committee (PFEC)****DRAFT OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES****August 23rd, 2012**

Resources Building, 1416 9th Street
15th Floor Large Conference Room, No. 1506-12
Sacramento, California

Members Present: Doug Ferrier, Chairman
Otto van Emmerik, Vice Chairman (by phone)
Ray Flynn
Jerry Jensen
Bill Frost
Keith Gilless
Kim Rodrigues

Staff Present: Matt Dias, Executive Officer Forester Licensing

Members of Public: None

1. Introduction of New PFEC Member: Keith Gilless

Dr. Keith Gilless is newest appointed member of the PFEC. Dr. Gilless comes to the PFEC as a current seated public member of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Dr. Gilless is currently the Dean of Natural Resource at UC Berkeley.

2. Approval of Open Session Minutes of February 23, 2012 Meeting.

08-12-1 Member Flynn moved to approve the open session minutes and Member Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Reports of Chairman and Executive Officer.

Chairman Ferrier deferred to the Executive Officer for meeting Report.

Executive Officer, Matt Dias, reported that the contracts for the Expert Examiners and Expert Graders are on track to be executed by the October 12th, 2012 examination.

Wendy Zampardi, Assistant to the Executive Officer-Foresters Licensing, has left her post with the licensing office. Interviews will be conducted soon to backfill the vacated position.

The first draft of the article for the RPF and Timber Inventory has been completed. Comments were provided by several members of the PFEC. Member Flynn thought that the article was too long, while Chairman Ferrier thought too much emphasis was provided to the IRS portion of the discussion. The Executive Officer stated that he would work on a second draft and get it out the PFEC soon.

The Executive Officer reported on his experience with the THP Working Group, including both the Cumulative Impacts and Small Landowner Sub-Groups.

4. Status Report and Discussion of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Federal Agencies for Compliance with Professional Foresters Law.

Executive Officer Dias discussed the further outreach via phone and email communication that had occurred between the Licensing Office and United States Forester Service Region V Representative (USFS), Christine Nota, in regards to updating the existing MOU.

A phone call was had between the Executive Officer and Ms. Nota, with the USDA Forest Service maintaining the same position that licensing is not needed amongst Federal Foresters.

Ms. Nota, USFS is going to look into providing information on:

- 1) Enterprise Teams
- 2) FIA Inventory on private lands
- 3) Policy(s) of USFS on hiring licensed individuals.

Member Rodrigues pointed out that this discussion may get more traction in venues that are discussing the "All Lands Management", which each region of the forest service is mandated to adhere to. This is a collaborative assessment where the RPF may be able to offer a unique service and perspective.

Member Gillless stated that if USFS foresters were supplied the opportunity that allowed them to pursue professional development, which ultimately provided them a state license, that employees would likely engage.

The provided an update on similar discussion that are ongoing with the NRCS. A finalized letter requesting that the most elevated forestry staff within California (G12 and G13) be licensed foresters has been sent to the NRCS. Updates on feedback on this process will be provided in the future.

Member Frost stated that the CRM panel would eventually like to see the same licensing requirements for NRCS Range Managers.

5. Discussion of Date of April 2013 Examinations: Dates for both the spring and fall exams were set for April 12th, 2013 and October 11th, 2013. These dates will be noticed in the next issue of Licensing News.

6. Discussion of Codifying the CRM Program Guidelines

Executive Officer Dias reported that he had been contacted by CRM Panel and asked to pursue codification of the CRM Program Guidelines. The goal of this regulation is to provide the CRM Program an elevated level of professional recognition.

Member Frost recommended a potential language change within the current revised program guidelines in regards to the CAL PAC SRM being able to offer recommendations on revision of requirements for eligibility of potential examinees. This concern will be addressed in future discussions with the PFEC as this process moves forward. Executive Officer Dias will bring forth a prepared proposed DRAFT regulation to the PFEC during the next meeting for further discussion.

7. Discussion of Expiring Terms of current PFEC members

Members Jensen and Osipowich will expire in January of 2013. Additional research shall be conducted by the Executive Officer on the potential expiration of member Frosts' term. Member Jensen is amenable to serving another term at the pleasure of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. The Executive Officer shall include an article in the upcoming Licensing News soliciting applicants for the PFEC for those members who may not wish to continue serving on the PFEC.

5. New and Unfinished Business.

No new and unfinished business was discussed.

08-12-02 Member Rodriques moved to adjourn the open session and Member Flynn seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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