

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

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**Professional Foresters Examining Committee****OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES****Held: February 13th, 2014**

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 (phone) Jerry Jensen Kim Rodrigues Jon Gustafson Tom Osipowich
Staff Participating:	Matt Dias, Executive Officer - Foresters Licensing Shuhani Patel, Assistant
Members of Public:	Stacy Stanish

1. Approval of Open Session Minutes of June 20th, 2013 Meeting.

02-13-01 Member Otto Van Emmerik moved to approve the open session minutes and Member Jerry Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Introduction of Newly Appointed PFEC members (Dan Sendek and Jon Gustafson)

Dan Sendek could not be present at the meeting and will be introduced at the next meeting. Jon Gustafson is the newest member of the PFEC and is filling a seat of the Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) member. He has over 7 years of experience working in Sonoma County and he is also a member of the CRM panel, making him a valuable member of the PFEC.

3. New and Unfinished Business

Stacy Stanish, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, raised points about the qualification standards required to sit for the RPF examination. Employees working within Timber Harvest Review Programs for sister agencies to *CAL FIRE* may not meet required qualification standards under the Registration Rules because it is often the case that RPFs are not employed by those agencies or are not required to work within those programs. Therefore, individuals interested in becoming licensed as a RPF that work

for these programs would never be able to do so because the “working under a RPF” standard could not be met. This issue has been brought up by employees from other agencies in the past. Ferrier mentioned that the criteria of increasing responsibilities should be reviewed more in depth and that the PFEC reserves the right to review individual applications on a case by case basis. Therefore, conditional approval of individuals in this situation could occur. Kim Rodrigues stated that we may need to develop a letter that outlines the RPF exam qualifications in a clear and concise manner. EO Dias suggested that there be a formatted letter for agencies distribution and that it should address RPF and CRM qualifications. He will be working on it shortly.

4. Reports from Chairman and Executive Officer

Chairman Ferrier stated that he had introduced all PFEC committee members at the last Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) meeting on January 29th, 2014. He also discussed ongoing disciplinary matters. Three seats were filled for membership by the Board: Dan Sendek filling the seat of a public member, Jon Gustafson filling the seat of a CRM member and Kim Rodriguez was reappointed to serve another term as a Public member.

EO Dias reported that he will be crafting a letter to be sent out to Bernie Gyant, Deputy Regional Forester, Region 5 that explains the qualification standards for the RPF and CRM exams and the benefits of licensure as a RPF and/or a CRM. The goal is to have Region V distribute the letter to all National Forest personnel within the State to promote licensures for their personnel. He also stated that Thembi Borrás was the newly hired Regulations Coordinator and taking the place of Eric Huff.

Discussion between various members brought up issues regarding adding another member to the PFEC in the future and encouraging anyone interested to participate in the PFEC open sessions to do so. This includes, but is not limited to, the public and all agencies.

5. Discussions of the Current Condition of the Professional Foresters Fund

EO Dias discussed that the Accounting and Budget office reporting of the PFRF was not sufficient to make any determinations on sustainability. Based on the numbers before we were aware that there may have been a decline or short fall of \$20,000 annually. After further review, there may not be a decline at all. Additional clarification is still necessary and further investigation will occur. Also, travel expenses associated with EO Dias for duties associated with Board duties will be paid for by the Board budgets and not Foresters Licensing to save on program costs.

02-13-02 Member Jerry Jensen moved to adjourn the open session and Member Tom Osipowich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.