

California Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting  
June 10, 2021, Minutes

1. Call to Order (All) at 1102
2. Introductions/Establishment of Quorum (All) Tim Robards, Rachelle Hedges, Kathleen Burr, Jane LaBoa, John Bradford, Dave Bakke, John Todd, Mike De Lasaux, Julie Lydick, Nick Dennis, Renaldo Arroyo, J Lopez, Bill Snyder, Tamara Hanna, John Kessler.
3. Review Agenda
4. Posting of April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Meeting Minutes (Robards) Motion to approve by Rachelle Hedges, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Snyder. Minutes approved.
5. SAF Board of Directors Report (Dennis)

*Membership director Steven Glover died from cancer on May 15. Elizabeth Buhl is serving as acting membership director.*

*Membership stood at 9,130 on April 30.*

*A virtual House of Society Delegates meeting was held on May 12.*

*A 90-minute virtual “water cooler chat” with SAF members will begin at 12:30 PDT on June 24.*

*Two new resources for state society leaders were recently posted to the national website:*

*“Building a leadership Pipeline” and “The Value and Benefits of Serving As a Local Leader”.*

*I appointed Emily Thyroff, a graduate student in forest ecosystem restoration at the University of Hawai’i, as 2021-2022 District 3 representative to the Student Executive Committee. She will replace graduating Cal Poly urban forestry student Alex Flores.*

*Cal SAF members in good standing who are college graduates and under age 40 are eligible to serve on the SAF board of directors as the Young Professional Board Member. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity should complete the consent and biographical forms and submit them to me by August 15. President Gene Kodama will then select the YPBM from candidates nominated by the district representatives. So far, Ricky Satomi has expressed interest in serving in this position next year.*

*Foresters Fund grant applications for up to \$1,500 are being accepted from local units until June 15. In addition, a total of \$80,000 has been allocated for one-time “regular or special” grants and leadership development grants intended to support forestry education, enhance public understanding of forest management, and equip members with leadership skills. The deadline to apply for these one-time grants is also June 15.*

*SAF led an effort involving several of our affiliated organizations supporting the “30 x 30” initiative to protect 30% of the U.S. land and water base by 2030, as described in a recent presidential executive order. In a separate related action, SAF signed on to a letter to the U.S. Agriculture Department on the 30 x 30 initiative led by the National Alliance of Forest Owners describing the conservation benefits derived from private working forests.*

*SAF supports the “Trillion Trees Act” bill sponsored by Congressman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas, the only forester serving in Congress. This act would promote realizing the climate benefits that forests can generate.*

*The editorial board for the Forestry Source is now fully staffed.*

*SAF’s 2020 Annual Report was recently published.*

*A new President’s Message will appear in the E-Forester on the first Friday of each month.*

Questions and discussion of effects on Cal SAF volunteers from the switch to the virtual convention. The convention will return to Sacramento in 2023. Dave Bakke pointed out we might be able to use invested planning on convention tours for future State society meeting tours.

Question about future management of the Forestry Source after Steve Wilent's departure, as well as reasons for his departure. Discussion of a letter from Cal SAF recognizing Steve's contribution to the Forestry Source.

6. Chair Report (Robards)
  - a. 2021 Status Update – Convention is going virtual which was a game-changer for Cal SAF leadership. Forestry in California is in the spotlight now with many new funding sources. Opportunities for being involved and engaged.
  - b. 2021 Cal SAF Meeting Schedule – now that convention isn't in Sacramento this year, do we want to adjust the BOD meeting schedule? Decision to skip June BOD meeting.
7. Chair-elect Report (Hedges)
  - a. 2021 Summer Meeting planning – see handout. Sept. 16-17. Highlights from her planning document. Meeting will be field-based in Shaver Lake. Focus on how forest management influenced the 2020 Creek Fire. Camping will be encouraged, but there are plenty of other lodging options. Dave Bakke suggested an auction/raffle on Thursday night. Julie Lydick will post a save-the-date on Facebook. Still working on budget and meeting registration cost. Hoping to have everything finalized in July for early registration. Rachelle may send out a poll to assess member interest in the meeting.
  - b. National Capital Christmas Tree – will be from the Six Rivers National Forest. SAF is tied into the event. Rachelle will be working with National SAF (Lori Rasor). There will be a 'whistle stop' route which will be an opportunity to publicize forestry with a variety of partners. Rachelle may have a small group to help with this.
8. Past Chair Report (Todd)
  - a. Strategic Planning – Hasn't done much on lately.
  - b. Grant Proposals – applied for a CalFire CCI grant to support FIT in 2023. We should hear something in July or August. Tad Mason was helpful in getting supporting letters for the grant
  - c. John applied for District 3 Council member. In the chat box John posted a link to an article about loss of giant sequoias from 2021 wildfires including the Castle Fire.
9. Executive Director Report (Burr)
  - a. Newsletter – Dave Bakke and J Lopez said they didn't get the newsletter. The newsletter was sent May 3. Getting ready for another edition with a call for articles.
  - b. Business – question about paying FIT bills. Access to membership roster. Setting up new Cal SAF email. Will keep old email account until September. Question about certificate of insurance for Shasta FIT.
10. Treasurer's Report (Bradford) – see handout of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter actual financials.
11. Secretary's Report (LaBoa) – nothing new to report.
12. Committee Reports
  - a. Audit – Gary Brittner will stop by Kathleen's office to do the audit.
  - b. Awards (Lydick) – submitted our nomination for the Francis Raymond award at the end of May.
  - c. Education
    - i. FIT (De Lasaux) – One 2021 session, Shasta. Many restrictions due to Covid. Overview of grants that need extension or reallocation.
    - ii. FCD not happening in 2021. Nobody has come forward to replace the Dukeths as coordinator.
  - d. Membership (Hanna) – Nothing new to report.
  - e. Policy/Legislation (Vacant/Kessler) – AB 416 update. Discussion of current lumber supply and demand situation.
13. Chapter Reports

Bay Area- Dave Bakke: Spring newsletter in April. Virtual meetings in April and May, 10-12 people at each meeting. Working on their summer newsletter and a summer field meeting. Dave attended a 30x30 meeting where he mentioned FIT.

Sac-Tahoe- Jane LaBoa: Had a virtual meeting in May and will have an in-person meeting on June 17.

#### 14. New Business

- a. Dave Bakke – passing on a concern about urban interface fuels project...what to do with the wood 'waste'. Possible biomass utilization facility in the Bay Area? Can Cal SAF promote the need for local facilities or ways to utilize the material? Cal SAF position papers address the need for facilities. Tim Robards gave an update of current efforts at the state level. Tim said it would be a good time to get engaged.
- b. Do we need a marketing plan for Cal SAF?

#### 15. Adjourned at 1301