

California Society of American Foresters  
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
December 9, 2021

1. Call to Order (All) 11:02
2. Introductions/Establishment of Quorum (All) Tim Robards, Jane LaBoa, Rachelle Hedges, Julie Lydick, Brandon Collins, Dave Bakke, J Lopez, Ricky Satomi, Renaldo Arroyo, John Kessler, Tamara Hanna, Kathleen Burr, Darren Mahr, Bill Keye, Josh Soderlund, John Todd, Keith Gillis, Nick Dennis.
3. Review Agenda
4. Posting of October 14<sup>th</sup> 2021, Meeting Minutes (Tim Robards). Move to approve by Rachelle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim, minutes approved.
5. Venado Declaration (Dr. Brandon Collins) – explained how the meeting came about, held at former CA Governor Jerry Brown’s ranch, intent of the meeting (“real change”) as explained by Brown, non-forestry issues such as health impacts of smoke, strategic treatment vs. treating all wildland acres, definitions of success (a possible item for SAF involvement). Q&A followed. Topics included reforestation (restoration), ability to influence management on federal lands, next steps, trust lands, role for SAF, engaging with the media,
6. National SAF Board of Directors Report (John Todd) – Nick Dennis is our District 3 Board representative until the end of the year, then John starts his 3-year term.
  - a. Fellows discussion – deadline is March 15, but there’s an involved process. John has a virtual meeting 12/10 with the current Fellows Committee. He needs suggestions for Fellow nominations, a second Field Foresters nomination, and a member for the Student Executive Committee. John has a list of current Fellows. You can log into your SAF and go to the Community tab to view the list (Awards and Fellows). The California Fellows list will be posted on the Cal SAF website.
7. Chair Report (Tim Robards)
  - a. Meeting with SAF National on Incorporation. CA is ahead but we still have about seven pending actions items. Rachelle and Tim will be contacting officers to gather information to resolve.
  - b. Question on if we would consider switching to calendar year for officers instead of using the business meeting at the Winter Meeting in January. Rachelle checked the bylaws and there is a specific reference to the winter business meeting. National would also like us to use the SAF logo instead of the CA SAF logo.
8. Chair-elect Report (Rachelle Hedges)
  - a. 2022 Winter Meeting planning – she had a meeting with CLFA today. A joint meeting will not work out in 2022 unfortunately. CLFA is enthusiastic about working together with Cal SAF, however. Rachelle is moving forward with planning our own winter meeting in the Sacramento area. She will get a firm date and location in time for the newsletter.
  - b. Rachelle is working on the position descriptions and meeting guide. Oregon has a good layout for their position descriptions which she will use. Rachelle will send out drafts to each position for feedback. There may be some questions from Rachelle in them. She has done three so far.
9. Past Chair Report (John Todd)
  - a. Strategic Planning. The national SAF strategic plan has been approved. Unclear how a state society strategic plan would align and tier to the national plan. Likely will pull together some folks in 2022 to get this going.
  - b. Grants – a new CalFire fire prevention grant has opened with an online workshop coming up. We may apply for that grant or wait until later.

- c. Nominations – Still seeking candidates.
10. Executive Director Report (Kathleen Burr)
- a. Operations update – needs items for the newsletter, working with John Bradford on financials, FVMC is being postponed, they are going to a virtual conference in June,
11. Treasurer's Report (John Bradford – not on call)
12. Secretary's Report (Jane LaBoa) – nothing new to report.
13. Committee Reports
- a. Awards (Julie Lydick) – Francis H. Raymond award was presented yesterday (Dec. 8) at the Board of Forestry meeting. Julie posted pictures on the Cal SAF Facebook page. J and Rachelle commented that Julie did an excellent job with the presentation.
  - b. Communication (Bill Keye) – suggests that we use the Venado Declaration as a base for new position paper. The BOD would need to review and approve a new or revised position paper. Discussion about updating relevant existing Cal SAF position statements and aligning with national SAF position statements. Bill would like a rapid response endorsing the Venado Declaration. An alternative might be a press release with a short turn around for approval. Discussion. Decision to work on a press release which he would like to issue before the end of the year. Bill asked about a Cal SAF Twitter account/handle. Bill will post his Twitter handle and members can follow him.
  - c. Education (Renaldo Arroyo) -Education report: *Finished modification agreement to extend Forest Service grants, met with Kent Kinney and he will take over FCD. He is beginning planning for implementation this fall. FIT is going well in most spots, Ricky has a question about the Eventbrite account. He and I also have access to the website now. If anybody has any questions, feel free to email me.*
  - d. Membership (Tamara Hanna) – Current membership is 477, slightly down from her last report in the summer.
14. Chapter Reports - Bay Area Chapter - Dave Bakke- *Had a virtual Chapter meeting in October as well as an in-person meeting in November with the Cal Forestry Club as they hosted a bean feed. Had everyone do a quick 3-question, short answer exercise. Will include it in our next Chapter newsletter to get more responses - will eventually use for outreach efforts. Yesterday, the Chapter leaders met to plan out the program for next year. We also decided that starting with the California SAF Winter Mtg, we will be helping to defray the costs of a few of the Cal students who attend that meeting. We will continue to open any of our virtual meetings to anyone in California SAF who wants to attend.*
15. Meeting adjourned at 13:10.

Upcoming Meetings:           Jan 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting 11am-Noon  
  Feb 22<sup>h</sup> Board Meeting 11am-Noon