

Minutes of the California Society of American Foresters Executive Committee Meeting
June 9th, 2022

1. Call to Order (All) – Rachele Hedges, Tim Robards, Jane LaBoa, John Todd, Tamara Hanna, Dave Bakke, Emily Uluwehi Thyroff (District 3 Student Rep), John Bradford, Karin Linnen, Kathleen Burr, Renaldo Arroyo, Julie Stewart
2. Introductions/Establishment of Quorum (All) – Quorum established.
3. Review Agenda
4. Approval of March 17th EC Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve by Tim Robards, 2nd by Karin Linnen, Motion (minutes) approved.
5. Chapter Reports

Bay Area (Dave Bakke) – Since last CalSAF Executive Committee meeting – April meeting with friends of Sausal Creek looking at their restoration practices in the watershed. Cold water creek supporting trout. Had about 7 members there. May meeting with EBMUD and Moraga-Orinda Fire District looking at results of implementing North Orinda Shaded Fuelbreak as well as removal of Monterey pine mortality on EBMUD lands. About 10 members present. June meeting will be next week and will be a briefing on the Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuelbreak in Marin (virtual Zoom) on June 14th. The Chapter is developing a letter in support of shaded fuelbreaks, utilizing SAF position statements and research articles; goal is to send one to Marin County Fire Authority to counter misinformation they are receiving from others.

SoCal (John Todd) – Tamara has transitioned with John Todd on the chapter’s financial business. Working on a future meeting. Mentioned an article in today LA Times re a USFS thinning project in the Big Bear area.
6. National SAF Board of Directors Report (Todd and Emily Uluwehi Thyroff) – Emily introduced herself and mentioned a couple of student events, including the convention. John’s notes: ***Introducing Emily Thyroff***
I am happy to let our Student Executive Committee representative from D3 introduce herself to the Executive Committee. Emily has already lived and studied in many areas of the United States. She is currently completing her Ph.D. at the University of Hawai’i at Manoa, studying native forest restoration and regeneration. Emily has agreed to serve on the SEC for a second year. Thank you, Emily!
SAF Merger with #forestproud
On June 6, 2022, SAF announced a merger with the communications platform #forestproud. All members received an email on June 6 that included a press release and FAQs. You can find additional information in the latest version of the E-forester. Members can learn about the benefits of the merger by registering for a Q&A Session with SAF CEO Terry Baker and #forestproud Director TJ Struhs that will take place on June 14 at 4 pm ET.
Nominations for Young Professional Board Member

District 3 is seeking a candidate to nominate for the Young Professional Board Member. To be eligible a member must be a college graduate, in good standing, and under 40 years of age. One candidate will be selected to be a non-voting member of the Board of Directors. Nominations are due by August 15. Please let me know if you are interested in this position.

Membership

Membership numbers are at 9,322 as of April 30, 2022. We have 399 new members (159 reinstated and 240 new). In 2021, our new member numbers were 273. In 2020, our new member numbers were 194. Hopefully, these positive membership trends will continue going forward. The Moery Company has completed their comprehensive analysis of SAF's membership. To review the results of their work please go to: [2021 SAF Membership Portfolio Review.pdf](#)

2022 National Convention

The 2022 SAF National Convention will take place in Baltimore, Maryland, from September 20-24, 2022. Registration is open. Early-bird registration rates are available through July 15. Field trips are available so you can get out and see the surroundings.

SAF CEO and Officers Remain Busy Attending State Society Meetings

SAF CEO Terry Baker, President Chris Maisch, Vice-president Sam Cook, and Past President Gene Kodama have been getting out and attending several state society meetings and events. The National Office has also been very active. Recent efforts included releasing a statement in support of President Biden's Executive Order on Strengthening the Nation's Forest, Communities, and Local Economies, participating in the development of SFI's new standard for urban and community forests, and signing a letter urging increased support in FY 2023 for the Forest Service's Wood Innovation Grant program.

US Capitol Christmas Tree

After last year's successful campaign as a sponsor for the US Capitol Christmas Tree, SAF has signed an agreement with Choose Outdoors to participate again in 2022. This year's tree will come from a National Forest in North Carolina.

John emailed the EC Robert's Rules of Order and anti-trust rules.

7. Chair Report (Hedges)

- a. March 17th Breakout Session Report – still working on it. Hope to have it finalized by next EC meeting. Can be posted on the website along with the meeting minutes.
- b. SAF Around the Water Cooler Meeting on June 1– was time well spent, encouraged others to participate.
 - i. New policy statement on sustainability -
 - ii. Incorporation update – Lori Rasor gave an update on June 1 meeting. National is reviewing the bylaws to make sure the unit bylaws will fit with the national bylaws. We will hear from them if there's any issues with our bylaws.
 - iii. Rachelle was impressed with how the national staff is getting out to interact with local units.
- c. National Convention – won't be a stand-alone virtual option. There will be recordings available after the convention.
- d. New platform to join or contribute to working groups called Tradewing.
- e. Position descriptions and meeting guide
- f. Member engagement

- i. Report on members at risk of dropping – will work with Tamara on getting that report before the summer meeting.
 - ii. Additions to the newsletter about Cal SAF?
 - g. Revised Meeting Schedule
 - i. Executive Committee Meeting on December 8 for certification of election results and transition of positions. Need to have our elections in October. John Todd has a few names to pass on to Tim Robards.
 - h. Shared Drive -to share files we are working on. Discussion. Rachele will set up (Team drive).
- 8. Chair- Elect Report (Linnen)
 - a. 2022 Summer Meeting Planning – Aug 18-20, Placerville, with Caldor Fire tour up Hwy 50 to South Lake Tahoe. Probably won't be a raffle.
 - b. 2023 Winter Meeting – Arcata, no date set.
- 9. Executive Director Report (Burr)
 - a. Working on the Q2 Newsletter
 - b. Q3 Newsletter – due date is Aug. 15
- 10. Treasurer's Report (Bradford)
 - a. Full report at Summer Meeting
 - b. \$15,000 from Sierra Cascade logging conference foundation for FIT.
 - c. Not much going on since FIT sessions haven't started yet.
 - d. Ricky and Reynaldo need Read access to Quickbooks (reminder).
- 11. Secretary's Report (LaBoa) – supports a central drive for documents.
- 12. Committee Reports
 - a. Communication
 - i. Website (Bakke) – encouraged the EC to look at the website. Need map for chapter boundaries if someone wants to volunteer to do that. Ricky can work on that.
 - b. Policy (Stewart)
 - i. Not much to report on wildfire policy paper, Julie has been very busy. Policy Statement is on Google Drive – shared with John Kessler. Will be shared with larger group prior to Summer Meeting
 - ii. John Todd will be sending out in-progress SAF position statements for comments.
 - iii. Julie noted her new company email address.
 - c. Education
 - i. FIT (Satomi / Arroyo) – Reynaldo said everything for FIT is going ok.

- ii. FCD (Arroyo) – Sept. 26-30. Kent Kinney is the coordinator. Sanger school district is lined up. May need a little more funding for transportation costs. Dave Bakke needs a short write up for the website. Ditto for the newsletter (Kathleen).
- iii. Ricky said the domain name for FIT has been renewed, it's under Ricky's email. Via a grant, UC is hiring an environmental education coordinator who will help with FIT.
- d. Membership (Hanna) –Data taken from SAF National website on Leadership Central California SAF Dashboard, current as of 6-8-2022
 Membership Stats: current vs. previous
 June 8, 2022: Current National Membership = 9,228 (+2); Cal SAF Membership = 459 (-7)
 March 10, 2022: Current National Membership = 9,226; Cal SAF Membership = 466
 SAF National and Cal SAF Dues Structure
 National "Full" Membership (all professional members) = \$115.00 each

The membership types "Platinum, Gold, Silver" are "legacy membership types"; vary in cost and are only charged to those members who elect to maintain the legacy membership fee structure.

Student Member (enrolled in Forestry/NRM college) = \$40.00

Transition Member (1st 5 years post-college graduation) = \$95.00

Golden Member (50yrs+ continuous membership) = free* (nominal fees charged to continue to receive some benefits)

Retired Member \$95.00 (contact national for this reduced membership fee available to retirees only)

(+) Cal SAF State Society - \$17.00 each

(+) Chapter dues (if any): Bay Area (+) \$3.00; Sacramento Tahoe (+) \$3.00; Wynton (+) \$2.00; Southern California (+) \$4.00

13. New Business

- a. Cal SAF's Role in Accreditation Matters – Need to check with national on a letter of recommendation for College of the Redwoods (as requested by CR). Also, if appropriate to support Cal Poly SLO and UC Berkeley in their upcoming re-accreditation (or current "substantial change" in for UCB). Extensive discussion about Cal SAF's role (Rachelle recused herself from the discussion since she is involved at UC Berkeley).

14. Adjourn – Rachelle moved to adjourn the meeting. John Todd 2nd, no objections, meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.