

MINUTES – California SAF Executive Committee Meeting - March 31, 2023

1. Call to Order at 12:30 pm
2. Introductions and Establishment of Quorum: Karin Linnen, John Bradford, John Todd, Rachelle Hedges, Erin Kelly, Dave Bakke, Elizabeth Buhl (ebuhl@safnet.org), Director of events and sales, Jon Jue, Julie Lydick, Kathleen Burr, Louis Cimmino, Renaldo Arroyo, Diane Savin-Dukleth, Ricky Satomi, Helena Murry, J Lopez (quorum established).
3. Review Agenda
4. Approval of December 9th ECM Meeting Minutes – minutes approved.
5. Chair Report (Karin Linnen)
 - a. Twenty two new members in the 1st quarter of this year; Connecting with local chapters, reinstating inactive chapters and starting new chapters; offering support.
 - b. Preparing for fall 2023: convention updates, volunteering.
 - c. FACA update: FACA (NW Forest Plan Advisory Committee USFS) connecting with Professor Jacob Putney at OSU
6. Chair-Elect Report (Helena Murray)
 - a. Winter meeting in Arcata -many students attended. Overall good turnout. Good sessions and tours, everything went very well. Six different forestry schools attended. A lot of new faces because of the meeting location. Thank you to Cal Poly Humboldt for providing facilities and other services.
7. National Convention Update (Erin Kelly/ Elizabeth Buhl) - Discussion on welcome presentation by Cal SAF. Budget. Registration opens June 1.
8. National Convention Volunteer Recruitment (Jon Jue) – About 14 people now, looking for 100 volunteers. Elizabeth listed examples of volunteer jobs. Julie Lydick can post on FaceBook. More info in the newsletter.
9. National Convention Field Tour Update (Dave Bakke) – There will be an article in the April Forestry Source with descriptions of each of the eight tours. No more tours will be added except companion tours being arranged by national SAF. Need volunteers to help as assistant tour guides. Most speakers have been confirmed.
10. National Convention Raffle/ Fundraising (Diane Savin-Dukleth) – already have donated items and working on getting more. Will have in-person silent auction and raffle.
11. Treasurer Report (John Bradford)
 - a. 2023 Budget (see handout) – no deficits foreseen. Rachelle brought up the donation and grant income overhead/indirect cost issue. Somewhere around 10-12% is reasonable. Discussion on how to do indirect cost accounting. Put \$12,000 as budget for FCD instead of

\$4,000? Need to add Cal SAF convention stipend income. Karin would like to see the changes on paper and not vote right now. BOD can also vote on the budget.

b. Action items – Getting Reynaldo as a signer on checks. Upcoming meeting with US Bank.

c. CD transfer – we have two CDs with a different bank. Very low interest rate. John would like approval to transfer CDs to our current bank. New CDs would have almost double the rate as the old bank. Motion to move CDs by Rachelle Hedges, 2nd by Jane LaBoa, motion approved.

12. Education (Renaldo Arroyo / Ricky Satomi)

a. FIT & FCD Update - \$12,000 budget for FCD. No current grant funding. May apply for Foresters Fund grant. FIT still accepting applications, will sort through them soon. Working on funding opportunities for FCD. Have hired a new education coordinator (Austin Roughton), highly qualified. Rachelle encouraged EC to attend a day or two of FIT session and help with FCD. Dave Bakke would like an item about FIT for the front page of the website.

b. 2023 Planning & Support -John Todd mentioned a new 5-year CAL FIRE grant he submitted.

13. Policy & Communications (Bill Keye notes)

1. *Front burner issue is our presentation next week before the Board of Forestry (BOF). That is very exciting and I know that we will be well prepared. I may or may not send out a press notice prior to the event.*

2. *Have a goal of sending out a Press Release later this spring highlighting our two new Position Statements. Timed to coincide with the beginning of Fire Season.*

3. *Contributed an opinion article for the quarterly newsletter.*

4. *Have submitted a Convention presentation proposal to SAF, beating today's deadline! The title: **Conjuring the Phoenix: A Forester's Ride on the Pendulum of Destruction***

BOF presentation – Rachelle recounted the history behind making a presentation to the Board about the policy papers and how the presentation will go.

14. Past Chair Report (Rachelle Hedges) –

Have moved forward with Google email and a Google drive for Cal SAF. Expect to see shared drive for the for BOD and email set up. Kathleen is working on setting up email but needs access to the domain from Carlin. Discussion about the history of the domain and website situation. Defer to future discussion. Ricky offered to help sort it out.

Reinstating Redwood (College of the Redwoods) Student Chapter-need a vote from the EC or BOD. Discussion about date on CR bylaws (clarified). Motion to reinstate the Forestry and Natural Resources Club at College of the Redwoods made by Rachelle Hedges, 2nd by Jane LaBoa. Motion approved. Dave Bakke needs a contact from CR to update the website.

15. Website (Dave Bakke) – nothing specific to report. Needs current content.

16. Chapter Reports

Bay Area – Dave Bakke – first meeting of 2023 was at Chabot Regional Park. Had a chapter meeting during the week and during the day. Positive feedback. Two future meetings scheduled. Chapter becoming involved in several projects.

High Sierra – Diane Dukleth - had a good summer meeting, 31 people at the meeting last month. Gave out \$300 scholarships to 2 students. Trying to find inexpensive meeting place.

17. Secretary Report (Jane LaBoa) -

18. District 3 Rep Report (John Todd/ Emily Thyroff) - GET JOHN'S NOTES

Welcome to new District 3 Student Executive Committee, Louis Cimmino

SAF Board of Directors Meeting

The SAF Board of Directors is meeting in Washington, DC on April 28-29, 2023.

Presidential Field Forester

- *Nominations for District 3 Presidential Field Forester are now being accepted.*
- *Instruction and criteria are available on the [SAF Awards Portal](#).*
- *Nominations are due April 15.*

Membership

Membership is currently 9,471 (as of 2/28/23)

- *In 2022, our numbers were 9,455*
- *In 2021, our numbers were 9,439*

We have 218 new members (116 are reinstated and 102 are new to SAF)

- *In 2022, our numbers were 213 new members (75 are reinstated and 138 are new to SAF)*
- *In 2021, our numbers were 159*

Membership staff conducts monthly renewal calls.

2023 National Convention

- *SAF2023 will be October 25-28, 2023, in Sacramento, CA at the Sacramento Convention Center.*
- *The theme is Forestry: It's in Our DNA.*
- *The website is live and includes details on the schedule-at-a-glance, hotel rates, sponsor, and exhibitor opportunities, and call for proposals:
<https://eforester.org/safconvention2023>.*
- *Changes to this year's schedule include adding a big stage presentation to the kick-off day, Wednesday, October 25; add a women in natural resources meetup; having Saturday end with a half-day of tours and no tours on Sunday; and the passing of the torch ceremony during the Friday night celebration/SAFter Party.*
- *The program planning committee is meeting monthly, determining sessions and big stage speakers.*
- *Sponsor and exhibitor registration for SAF2023 is now open! Check out the website for more details and share with prospective partners:
<https://eforester.org/Safconvention2023/EXPO/Safconvention2023/Expo/SAF2023-Sponsor-Exhibitor-Opportunities>.*
- *The deadline for poster proposals is May 5, 2023*

Apply for a Foresters' Fund Grant – deadline is June 15

- *This year, the SAF Board approved \$68,000 in funding for regular and special grants to enhance public understanding of forestry and the profession and support professional growth, including leadership trainings.*
- *Regular grants (up to \$2,000 for chapters, divisions, and state societies) and special grants (up to \$5,000 for divisions and state societies) are available.*
- *Visit the [Foresters' Fund webpage](#) to learn more and apply. Be sure to plan ahead, as all proposals require state society executive committee approval.*
- *The second of three deadlines is June 15.*

State Society Bylaws Template:

- *With changes in our legal and business structures, all state societies will need to update their bylaws after incorporation and any foreign entity registrations are filed.*
- *A generic state society bylaws template, along with a guidance document, will be shared with state societies soon.*

#Forestproud Projects

- *Nanocellulose Bridge Project woodisthenewconcrete.com*
 - *1.5M website views total during the Jan 2023 launch.*
- *CA Urban Wood Academy | work ongoing thru April/May.*
 - *Supporting a contract with Naomi + ForestEd to host CEU SAF and ISA credit.*

NEW: Briefer on Defining Mature and Old Growth

- *Pursuant to Executive Order 14072, the USDA Forest Service of DOI Bureau of Land Management are nearing their final decision on a definition for the terms “mature” and “old growth.”*
- *SAF attended listening sessions hosted by the agencies to discuss updates on the initiative. In response, SAF continued its education efforts with the release of a one-page briefer titled “Defining Mature and Old Growth.”*
- *This briefer will help to educate staffers, decisionmakers, and government leaders on science-based definitions of mature and old growth as well as climate-smart strategies for conservation.*
- *We encourage you to share this resource with your networks. [LEARN MORE](#)*

Capitol Christmas Tree

- *Lori and Allie are teaming up as co-engagement leads for the [US Capitol Christmas Tree](#)*
- *The 2023 Tree has been announced and will come from West Virginia.*

19. Executive Director Report (Kathleen Burr) – email discussed earlier in the meeting.

- Upcoming deadlines and events
- Newsletter articles – important for convention info.

20. 2023 Awards update (Julie Lydick) – three new Golden members. Karin made a major effort on Fellow nomination. Julie will do a FB update.

21. New Business

J Lopez shared information about recent Board of Forestry actions.

22. Motion to adjourn by Rachelle, 2nd by Diane Dukleth. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.