

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

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**Professional Foresters Examining Committee****OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES****Held: February 14th, 2013**

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
Keith Gilles
Tom Osipowich
Jerry Jensen
Bill Frost
Ray Flynn
- Staff Participating:** Matt Dias, Executive Officer - Foresters Licensing
George "YG" Gentry, Executive Officer – Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Members of Public:** Larry Ford, Cal-Pac CRM Panel for Agenda Item 7

1. Approval of Open Session Minutes of December 13, 2012 Meeting.

- 02-14-01** Member Flynn moved to approve the open session minutes and Member Osipowich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Reports of Chairman and Executive Officer.

No reports were offered by the Chairman Ferrier or Executive Officer, Dias.

Executive Officer - Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Gentry provided an update on the recent Board adoption of reimbursement rates for California Cooperative Forest Management Plan from \$3,400.00 to \$5,000.00. Additionally, a reimbursement rate for the first 5 acres of treatment under CFIP projects was also increased. All other CFIP reimbursement rates were reviewed by Department staff and considered appropriate at this time.

3. Status Report and Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding with Federal Agencies for Compliance with Professional Foresters Law

The Executive Officer reported that due to the reported retirement of Laurie Tippen, Director of State and Private Forestry, that this project will be placed on temporary hold. These discussions will commence once a replacement for Ms. Tippen has been hired.

4. Discussion of Status of Contracts for Expert Examiner and Expert Graders

The Executive Officer reported that a new contract solicitation was recently published on www.bidsync.com for an Expert Grader. There are several RPFs who have expressed interest. Executive Officer Dias requested that the PFEC forward any other names of RPFs whom they believe may be interested in bidding on the contract. It is expected by the Department contracts office that a new grader will be executed by the April 2013 exam.

5. Discussion of Alternative Society of American Forester Accreditation

As directed by PFEC member Gillless, Executive Officer Dias investigated this new accreditation effort via a discussion with David Newman, Chair of the Forestry and Natural Resource Department from SUNY.

SAF has an Accreditation Standards Committee that is currently developing a new accreditation. This new accreditation is termed "**Terrestrial Ecosystems Management Accreditation**". According to Mr. Newman, it is the opinion of the University Faculty that this new program should focus on Natural Resource Majors, not Forestry Majors. The curricula that would be accredited under this program would lack many, if not most, of the traditional forestry courses.

SAF has provided attention to this new program in response to the general attrition of traditional forestry students at the university level. More students are currently enrolling in Natural Resource programs and many universities are merging Forestry programs, along with other programs, into a Natural Resources Departments. SAF recognizes this as a potential risk to the sustainability of their accreditation program and in response is developing an alternative standard to maintain a relevant position in academia.

The Executive Officer has obtain contact information for SAF staff that is working on this new program and will contact SAF to obtain additional information and report back to the PFEC.

6. Discussion of Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Compliance

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

7. Discussion of Codifying the Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) Professional Guidelines

Executive Officer Dias introduced the staff revised rule plead dated 2-14-13 indicating that all recommended revisions were focused upon providing enforceable standards that could be incorporated as regulations. As a representative of the CRM Panel and the CRM professional community, Larry Ford was asked if there were any significant issues that he noted. Mr. Ford stated that he would like to see reference to continuing education for CRMs and Associate Range Managers (ARM) remain in the plead language. Member Frost pointed out that those provisions in the original plead were unenforceable standards and striking of such language was appropriate. Other minor revisions that focus on clarity of language were offered by Chairman Ferrier and Members Frost, Gillless and Osipowich.

02-14-02 Member Flynn moved to provide the revised CRM Guidelines the CRM Panel for review and comment. Subject to no further substantive revisions, recommend the Revised CRM Guidelines to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection for 45 day Notice of rulemaking. Member Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion of PFEC White Paper and Delfino Manuscript

Executive Officer, Dias indicated that he had located a copy of the Delfino Manuscript, which is the unpublished history of forestry regulation in California from 1988 - 2002, following published pieces by Arvola and Martin. The goal of locating this document was to determine if the history of the PFEC was covered in any great detail within the manuscript. Executive Officer-Board of Forestry and Fire Protection George "YG" Gentry indicated that Chapter 19 in the manuscript described Foresters Licensing as well as some history of the PFEC.

Executive Officer Dias reported that Department Staff, Jerry Alhstrom, plans of editing and preparing the manuscript for publishing in the future, although a timeline on completion of the project is unknown.

Chairman Ferrier instructed Executive Officer Dias to continue to look for past minutes of the PFEC and report to the PFEC on the existence of such documentation.

9. New and Unfinished Business

Executive Officer-Board of Forestry and Fire Protection George "YG" Gentry reported the AB 350 authored by Bigelow and Wickowski was introduced. The focus of this legislation is to extend the upper diameter limit of stump height of harvestable timber under a La Malfa Exemption to 28" and up to 34" within 500 feet of structure.

No other new or unfinished business was discussed.

02-12-03 Member Jensen moved to adjourn the open session and Member Frost seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.