

Southern California Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Conference Call
February 13, 2007

Minutes

In Attendance: Bryant, Hanna, Koepp, Lopez, Nickles, Todd (6)

Meeting called to order at 0911

Opening Comments:

Past-Chair Fritz Koepp opened the Conference Call and greeted all in attendance. Chair Ron Morrow was not on the Conference Call.

Officer Reports:

Historian (Doug Nickles):

Doug Nickles asked if he could provide his report first as he only could join us for a short time. Doug reviewed the notes from the 1-12-07 EC Meeting and he stated that he will add newsletter deadlines to the Yahoo Calendar. If you have other dates that need to be on the calendar, forward to Doug. Tamara Hanna sent Doug current membership information and he has updated all info on the SoCal SAF Yahoo site.

Doug attended the Cal Poly Advisory Council Meeting at the end of January at Swanton-Pacific Ranch near Santa Cruz. Donn Zea, of the CA Forests Product Commission, is the President of the Advisory Council for this year. Pre-dominant theme throughout the meeting was Cal Poly maintaining its place on the cutting edge of forestry schools in California.

Doug also spoke with Eric Huff and George Gentry about the Board of Forestry's evolving policy statement regarding the practice of forestry and other related disciplines. There were several good sidebar discussions regarding this issue throughout the meeting. The BOF met on February 7th where this issue was to be discussed further. Statement may be finalized prior to next meeting BOF in Riverside. At that time the statement will be sent out for further public comment.

San Gabriel Chapter Report: Doug is serving as Chair of the San Gabriel Chapter for 2007. He has set the first dinner meeting for 6 PM on April 4, 2007 at LA County Fire Camp 2 in La Canada-Flintridge. Dr. Phil Riggan, of the USDA Pacific Research Station Riverside Fire Lab, will provide the evening program. Doug will strive to hold two other dinner meetings – one for mid-summer and one for late fall. In addition, he would like to schedule a one-day field trip for a Saturday in early June.

Secretary Report (Todd):

John Todd stated that the notes from the EC Meeting of Jan. 12th were sent out. If you have questions, comments, or corrections please contact John via e-mail or via telephone. Motion Koepp to accept the meetings notes as submitted. Motion Koepp, second Hanna, all in favor, none opposed.

Treasurer's Report (Hanna):

Tamara sent out a budget for this year via e-mail. The proposed budget is as follows:

**Society of American Foresters
Southern California State Society
Annual Budget Proposal
2007**

FINAL

Income:

Membership Dues (net)	\$ 774.00 ^
(As of Jan. 2007 we have 129 members at \$6.00 each)	
Meeting Registration (net)	\$ 600.00 ^^
(\$300.00 is the expected profit from State society meetings)	
Raffle	\$ 200.00
(\$100.00 is the expected profit from State Society raffles)	
Total	\$1,574.00

Expenses:

Chair Travel (to national convention)	\$ 400.00
Chair-elect Travel (to national convention)	\$ 400.00
Student Chair Travel (to national convention)	\$ 200.00
HSD Assessment	\$ 65.00 *
Web Site Registration	\$ 35.00 **
General Supplies (mailings, stationery, etc.)	\$ 200.00
Awards (past chair & perpetual plaque)	\$ 100.00
Total	\$1,400.00

Net Gain/Loss: \$ 174.00 (+)

Notes:

^ Membership Dues (net): The EC, during the January 12, 2007 meeting, proposed an increase in State Society dues from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per member. Dues income after adjustment would be \$1,290.00 (129 members * \$10.00). Assuming all other income sources remain the same this would raise annual income to \$2,490.00. If approved by a simple majority of SoCal members the dues increase will be effective in 2008.

^^ Meeting Registration (net): The EC, during the January 12, 2007 meeting, proposed generating a net profit of \$500.00 per meeting for the spring and fall meetings. I believe that this amount is inflated in that only two of the past six meetings realized a net profit of \$500.00 or greater after all the expenses associated with the meetings were paid out. Therefore, I have averaged the profits from the past six meetings and come up with the amount of \$300.00 net profit per meeting for the spring and fall meetings. I believe that this is a more realistic number at this time. (Actual

profits realized from Spring 2006 = \$562.84, Fall 2006 = \$103.00, Spring 2005 = \$76.00, Fall 2005 = \$201.30, Spring 2004 = \$711.69, Fall 2004 = \$216.00. Total profit realized for all six meeting is \$1,870.83. Dividing this number by six provides a rounded average of \$300.00.)

*HSD Assessment: This amount varies with membership numbers, currently at \$0.47 per each member. (Assuming 129 members this amount would be \$60.63 for 2007. (SoCal SAF paid \$68.15 for 2006, \$68.62 for 2005 and \$67.05 for 2004.)

** Web Site Registration: This is on a 3-year renewal cycle. (Last paid in 2004, next payment of \$35.00 will be due during 2007.)

Report revised 2-13-07
End of report.

Membership Report (Hanna):

Proposed Dues Increase: Martin Gubrud will write a paragraph for the newsletter with Tamara's assistance justifying the necessary dues increase. Tamara will contact National SAF to determine when a dues increase needs to be approved to go out on the 2008 invoices. Budget was accepted as submitted, Motion Todd, Second Gubrud, all in favor, none opposed. One amendment that was included is that the EC is not sure if SoCal SAF will hold two meetings per year. The budget will be amended to say 'meetings' instead of fall and spring meeting to give the EC flexibility to determine if one or two meetings a year is appropriate.

Tamara sent out additional membership info as a result of membership proposal. She received one additional comment supporting the proposal from Anne Fege.

Communications Chair (Lopez):

J. has received all articles for the upcoming newsletter. He will work on it this weekend. He will wait for input from Marty and Tamara for the ballot and a draft newsletter should be ready for review for next week.

J. discussed newsletter editorship with Shawna Meyer in December. She likes our format but she currently lacks software to complete the newsletter. We will follow-up with her to determine her needs to get started in her new role.

Spring Meeting:

Title: "The Challenge of Developing Conservation-Friendly Public Policies and Improving Land Management in Southern California"

Dates: April 20-21, 2007

Location: Nature Friends Clubhouse, Sierra Madre (Friday)
E. Waldo Ward & Son Ranch (Saturday)

J. provided an update on plans for the Spring Meeting. He provided a proposed agenda for the meeting. Sierra Madre is a unique community in southern California as many of the interface and wildland issues that we commonly face converge here.

A discussion was held about preparing dinner versus having the meal catered. Preparing a meal would take EC members away from the meeting. Tamara will contact some caterers to determine cost for three meals, Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast.

The EC discussed the proposed timeline for meetings. Holding an EC meeting either Friday morning or Friday evening will detract from getting members to the meeting (morning) and networking with guests (evening). John Bryant suggested that we move the EC meeting to the end of the meeting on Saturday. EC could meet from 1:30 to 2:30. The EC agreed that this is a good idea

Registration fee will include meals for each day. If you plan to stay overnight there will be an additional overnight fee

Possible Friday evening program would focus on recent conventions (2004 - Edmonton, 2005 – Dallas/Fort Worth, and 2006 - Pittsburgh). This program would publicize activities that take place during a National Convention and it would share how members are represented by their elected leaders. This program would reinforce some of the benefits of the proposed dues increase.

Raffle: All members of the EC should bring items for raffling during the meeting. Any other items that guests want to bring could also be raffled off. Tamara will send out an e-mail reminding all EC members to bring raffle items.

SAF/ISA/ASCA/ CEUs: SAF CEUs will be offered. Ron is going to provide info about ASCA CEUs.

Registration to attend meeting is still being calculated. We will not be able to determine cost per person until we determine how much it will cost to cater and transport people to the site. Separate registration fees will be established for members, non-members (?), children, students, and spouses.

Fall Meeting:

Original dates proposed for a Fall Meeting in San Luis Obispo will not work (Sept. 28-29). John Bryant stated that we could hold a meeting on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 where one of the topics will be global climate change. Guest speaker could be Thom Bonnicksen. Other topics of interest could be proposed concentration and/or major in emergency management, use of biofuels and future potential of biomass plants.

Cal Poly students and clubs could assist with sponsorship, organization, and set-up for meeting.

2008 National Convention Planning:

J. asked if we should send a representative to the Feb. 22 2008 National Convention Planning Meeting in Reno, NV. All three state societies are co-sponsoring the convention and it would be good to have a voice whenever major planning activities take place. J. is willing to travel to Reno on Feb. 21st, attend the meeting on the 22nd, and return the same day. National SAF has no budget for traveling to the meeting. At this time J. will need to attend at his own expense. SoCal SAF will consider covering J's expenses at a later date if the budget permits the additional expenditure.

Announcements:

Humboldt State College has 400 new students attending this fall. The college has been requesting that alumni consider donating or sponsoring these new students.

Tamara mentioned that a flyer from the USFS has been received about updating the road use rules. Comments may need to be received as soon as Feb. 22. Fritz, our Policy Chair, will evaluate and offer comments for the EC to review.

Move to adjourn by Gubrud , second by Lopez, all in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 1113.

Next Meeting:

The next Executive Committee Conference Call is scheduled for Monday, March 12, 2007 from 9 am to 11 am.

Teleconference Dial-In Details:

Toll Free Number: **(877) 213-1782**

Access Code: **894206**

J. will send an additional e-mail reminder prior to the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by John R. Todd
Secretary, Southern California SAF

(c:\md\SoCal SAF EC 02.13.07)