

## **Final Notes from 8/10/17 BOD Call**

The following members of the Board of Directors were on the call – Larry Payne, Sam Foster, Jim Golden, Tom Thompson, Jack Troyer, Ron Scott, Pete Griffin, Jane Kollmeyer, Marlin Johnson, Hank Kashdan, Rich Guldin, Bill Timko, Susan Giannettino and Johnny Hodges.

Larry Payne – Larry welcomed Sam Foster as our Executive Director to his first call with the Board. He said he has been very busy with lots of requests to sign on letters

### Administrative Updates – Johnny Hodges

Membership – We currently have 616 members. This compares to 638 members at the end of 2015. We gained 41 members in 2016 and 2017. We suspended 22 members in June for non-payment of dues. 11 members have passed away in the past year. We currently have 145 Golden members (age 80 or older). We gained 36 new Lifetime members in 2017 and when added to our Lifetime memberships from 2016 (45) we now have 81 Lifetime members.

Finance – Our current balance is approximately \$37,000. Our collections for 2017 include \$8,500 in annual dues (\$25 per member), \$9,000 in new Lifetime memberships (\$250 per member), and \$2,500 in donations.

The use of credit cards to pay dues and make donations has been very successful. We have paid \$360 in fees to PayPal to process our credit card transactions.

Long term investment – On the last conference call, the Board approved a proposal by Johnny to move a portion of our funds to a long-term investment. We have put together a committee of Larry Payne, Denny Bschor, Lee Nightingale and Johnny Hodges to look at investment options. The committee will finalize a proposal for the Board's approval in the next month or so.

Succession Policy – Jim Caswell and Jane Kollmeyer completed a new succession policy a few months ago. Johnny is working on adding the policy into our Constitution and Bylaws. After review by Jim and Jane, we will send the revised Constitution and Bylaws to the Board for approval.

### Legislative Update – Bill Timko

There is not a lot going on now since Congress is on vacation. There have been very few hearings and there is little getting out of Committees.

Proposals for the National Flood Insurance Reauthorization Act would require the agency to use 70% of their own funds before disaster funding kicks in. This would require the disaster fund to be increased and there is some resistance to this proposal.

The Wildfire Disaster Funding Act would keep the 10-year average for fires and allow for disaster funding beyond that amount.

The Farm Bill comes up for reauthorization in 2018 and some discussion has already started.

There was considerable discussion by the Board on HR2936, the Westerman Bill.

Jim Caswell is getting pushback from some collaborators.

Hank Kashdan said we supported the bill a year ago, but if significant changes have happened, then maybe we should look at it again. There are some hot buttons for our environmental partners. He felt we had good discussion with the BOD at the time.

Jim Golden said it is a good bill overall, but some things in it are problematic.

Bill Timko said there is a big change in the fire funding fix, issues around logging, and changes in ESA. He feels the bill is good for restoration issues, but if you are not in favor of logging, you may not be supportive.

Susan Giannettino said she didn't think the issues surrounding the bill were quite as black and white as Bill T. thinks and she wants to spend more time looking at them.

Jane Kollmeyer said the portion of the bill about O&C lands is a throwback to 30 years ago.

Rich Guldin said we may need a letter addressing various issues rather than offering blanket support.

Sam Foster felt like there was BOD support to move forward.

Larry Payne feels like the BOD is now divided and we need to share more information and have a Board vote.

### Other Topics

Rich Guldin said the House Appropriation Bill includes a strong statement of support for professional organizations and participating in societies is a good thing. This has been a big issue in the FS for several years.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on November 14 and 15 in Albuquerque ahead of the National SAF Convention. We need to send an invitation for the Chief to attend, as well as Deputy Chiefs.

Sam Foster will be attending the AWCP meeting in Texas next week. Send Sam any thoughts/ideas.

Marlin Johnson discussed the Restoration paper which was completed several months ago. It is 2 ½ pages, easy to hand out, and provides a good opportunity for discussion with target audiences. It is posted on our website.

Larry Payne reminded the Board about our letter concerning Executive Order 13790, Promoting Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in America. We received a letter in reply from Secretary Perdue dated July 19. He offered for us to send in more comments.

Larry Payne, Jim Caswell and Sam Foster held a call with chief recently. Some items where he would like our help – the consultation process, focus on biomass removal, link with DOI where possible. He was supportive of our letter to Secretary Perdue.

Tom Thompson mentioned updating the BOD list on our website and letterhead (done).

Tom also mentioned the McGuire Award which will be awarded by the Chief to Brett Beasley's family on October 14 in Salida, CO. This will be the first McGuire Award that is awarded posthumously.

Marlin Johnson is working on a replacement for him on the Board.

Ron Scott is also looking for a replacement on the Board.

Johnny Hodges  
Secretary  
8/15/17