

California Fire Safe Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPEN SESSION MINUTES
December 12, 2018
Wildland Fire Training Center
3237 Peacekeeper Way
McClellan Park, CA.
-DAY TWO-

Present at this Meeting:

Dave Bischel	Jerry Davies	Niel Fischer	Laura Blaul
David Horne	Kate Dargan	Pat Kidder	Ed Mertens
Bob Roper	Troy Whitman		

Absent from this meeting:

Ruben Grijvala	J. Lopez	David Shew
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Chair Topics

Chair Jerry Davies welcomed Frank Stewart back to the CFSC Board after a two-year absence.

Insurance Issues:

Jerry discussed insurance effects of the recent fires. So far the total has reached \$19.9 Billion and could go as high as \$22-\$23 Billion. There were 18,800 structures lost in Paradise. Frank Stewart suggested a Board field trip to see Paradise first hand would be worthwhile. Jerry will be sending the Board a current summary from the insurance industry. Some Insurance highlights:

- Planning a trip to Seattle to visit State Farm
- Planning meeting with Liberty Mutual in San Francisco for January
- Farmers and Allstate have dropped-out of the Personal Insurance Federation, leaving Mercury, Progressive and Safeco. Property Casualty Assoc will pickup Allstate.
- The expectation is that there will be 20-30 bills this year in Sacramento.
- Plan to have meetings with the Federations and meet with them in Washington too.
- As many as 50% of Paradise residents had no insurance at all.

Media Plans:

Chair Davies discussed his 2019 Media Plans:

- Troy to get funds to J. Davies
- Chair is writing text for web, press releases
- Plans to regularly attend the Monthly Capital Media Center
- Plan monthly press releases for local FSCs
- Mike Williams has a SoCal radio show, and has offered time to any Board member that want's it. Mike received a grant from us in the current 2018 group
- Advocates Board presence to give local FSCs grant awards, "Big Checks", local press
- Help local FSCs write stories, press releases.
- Frank Stewart suggested CFSC presence at the Cal State fair in Sacramento, with local FSCs.

Board Terms and Officer Elections:

Executive Director reviewed the Board terms roster indicating the terms of Kate Dargan, Jerry Davies, David Horne and Dave Shew expire at 12/31/2018. After brief discussion, Troy Whitman made a motion to extend the terms for these four Directors, it was seconded by Pat Kidder. All in favor- Unanimous.

A motion was made by Pat Kidder to re-elect Troy Whitman as Secretary, and David Horne as Treasurer. It was seconded by Dave Bischel. All in favor – Unanimous. A motion was made by David Horne to put-off discussion and voting on the Chair and Vice-chair until the January face-to-face meeting. It was seconded by Pat Kidder. All in favor – Unanimous.

Executive Director:

In the interest of time, this section was moved forward. The E.D. reported:

- Brief discussion with Southern California Edison allowed their grant funds to be used for small

equipment such as fire extinguishers, chains saws, etc. Administrative funds for FSC offices was not allowed.

- Rather than spend Board time, the E.D. will decide the criteria for next “Enabling FSC” project and make a recommendation to the Board and State Farm.
- We have submitted 2020 SFA Grant Application. The amount is \$2,400,000.
- We have an existing agreement with BLM for a total of \$500,000 for 5 years. We could apply for one \$500k grant or \$100,000 per year. We opted for \$100,000 for 2017. We will discuss the possibility of applying the remaining \$400k in one draw-down. If BLM gets more funding for grants (likely), they would need to be under a new agreement, when and if.

Discussion on Mandatory Mediation/Arbitration Stephen reminded the Board that we were to have a discussion on the way in which the inclusion of required mediation and mandatory arbitration is publicized. It was agreed that Sub Grantees would be made aware of the program and reasons during project risk assessment, and in pre-award workshops. The new verbiage will appear in the award letters for 2018 grants. The reasons basically are: CFSC and Local FSCs do not have budgets for legal battles; using mediation is better for both; it is much speedier than litigation; it is better arbitrated by a subject matter expert than by a court which knows nothing about the OMB statutes. It was noted that in the text for both mediation and arbitration the language which stipulates that both parties would share the costs of both equally.

Review/Finalize all CFSC Publications Stephen asked if there were any last minute/final changes to any of these documents:

- Case Statement
- Washington Flyer
- Letters to Federal Agency Heads
- CFSC Competency Statement

One suggestion was to move the last two paragraphs of the Agency letters to the beginning of the memos. This moves the “ask” first. This has been done. A second was to smooth the language which differentiates between \$100 Million in grants of all kinds for all time vs. \$82 Million in Federal grants over the past ten years. Check all statements & smooth.

T. Katelman project discussion: Kate opined that CFSC had shunned Katelman’s overtures, and asked the Board to re-consider cooperation with her. A suggestion of possibly asking her to re-join the CFSC board was had – with no resolution. Kate will talk with her and explore possible cooperation. Stephen promised to send all board members copies of Katelman’s survey, mailing list, and white paper on “The Gathering”.

In the interest of time, and the fact that considerable time had already been devoted to partnerships with other organizations, the topic of “Possible Cooperators” was tabled.

Wrap-Up, Action items:

- David will make contact with Orange County legislators
- Laura and Kate will apply for an organization development grant from FP&S.
- Stephen will follow-up and supply Feinstein’s office with CFSC history & needs
- Jerry will author a “Thank you” note to be sent to the FSC reps who attended the December meeting – to be signed by the Board if possible.
- A customer survey was mentioned – with no resolution.
- It was agreed that for the near-term (2-3 months) that the board meet face-to-face considering the amount of likely activity.
- Stephen led a discussion on dates for next meetings, it was agreed:

Date	Day	Location	Time	Type	Notes
1/22	Tues*	SAC	9:30 – 4:00	Live	
2/26	Tues*	L.A.	9:30 – 4:00	Live	Use LAX/Marriott more FSCs
3/20	Wed		1:00 – 4:00	Conf.Call	
4/23	Tues*		1:00 – 4:00	Conf.Call	
5/7 ?	Tues*	SAC	Evening	Dinner	
6/19	Wed		1:00 – 4:00	Conf.Call	

* Unfortunately, it was learned after the meeting that Pat Frost will be teaching on Tuesdays and Thursdays in 2019. Therefore, some of the dates will need to be changed.

Kate Dargan made a motion that she and Laura and Board regional reps speak with a number of FSCs and test the idea of CFSC memberships. It was seconded by Pat Kidder. All in favor – Unanimous.

The hour being late, and several members with planes to catch, Pat Kidder made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Kate Dargan. All in favor – Unanimous.

LUNCH was provided. **11:45 The meeting was adjourned.**