

## FFLA Board Meeting Minutes

Western Regional Conference, Kernville, California

September 18, 2015

The Western Regional Conference Board Meeting was held on Friday evening, September 18, at the Kernville Ranger District office. The meeting was called to order at 2034 by Chairman Argow

**Director present:** Chairman Keith Argow, Editor/Treasurer/ N ID-MT Gary Weber, E WA Rod Fosback, CA-Pacific Bill Ulmer, CA-Sierra NV Chris Fabbro, Southern CA Pam and George Morey, NJ co/ Secretary Ray Grimes. **FFLA members present:** Kathy Allison, Martin Hochman

The first thing Chairman Argow asked was for approval of the January Board Meeting minutes which were posted on the FFLA web site. Gary Weber moved, seconded by Pam Morey; the motion passed.

An abbreviated Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Gary Weber; at this time we are looking good financially. The membership report was also given by Gary Weber; the quantity printed of the last issue of Lookout Network was increased, membership is now solidly over 1,000 paid members.

Chairman Argow spoke about news media and how there was an article in Colorado Outdoors about Kent Argow and fire lookouts in Colorado. Gary Weber noted that he had read an article from Nevada on the advantages of a staffed lookout over a camera on top of an unstaffed lookout. Kathy Allison spoke about lookouts and cell phones.

Chairman Argow noted that Pennsylvania has received a two million dollar grant to have all their fire towers inspected to make sure they are up to standards.

**DIRECTOR REPORTS:** Directors present gave brief reports of activities since the January board meeting.

Chris Fabbro gave a rundown of conference activities and events scheduled for the weekend in Kernville. He also announced his resignation effective at the end of the conference.

Bill Ulmer has logged over 300 hours on research of lookouts and training volunteers to staff lookouts since being appointed as California-Pacific Director in January.

Gary Weber advised that the NW Montana chapter has received a \$4,950 grant from Toyota

Pam and George Morey have been working with USFS engineers to get Vetter Lookout rebuilt after it was destroyed in a wildfire a few years ago.

Rod Fosback spoke about the Northwest social that was hosted by Ray and Rita Kresek at the Fire Lookout Museum in Spokane, WA in early July.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Argow announced at the meeting that the FFLA has now finally obtained liability insurance.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Gary Weber advised he had spoken to Howard Verschoor who had offered to host the 2016 Western regional conference in John Day, Oregon in June. Chairman Argow advised he has spoken to Kent Argow who said he would host the 2017 western regional conference in the Colorado-Wyoming area. Gary Weber made the motion and was seconded by Bill Ulmer to have the 2016 Western regional conference in John Day, Oregon; the motion passed.

Chairman Argow advised that the FFLA has received \$1,300 from the Steve Cummings estate.

The meeting adjourned at 2140