



## 2024 FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2024

The zoom meeting was called to order at 1107 EST by Chairman Brad Eells

#### **Minutes**

The minutes for the 2023 board meeting were approved as distributed.

#### **Election results**

Election Chair Rob Hoeye announced the results for the election. There were three seats up for election - Chairman, Treasurer and Eastern Deputy Chair. The only nomination had been Mark Haughwout for Eastern Deputy Chair; there were no nominations for Chair or Treasurer so they were write-ins. The results were for Chair Mike Guerin, Treasurer Gary Weber, and EDC Mark Haughwout.

#### **Roll Call**

The roll call of directors and officers present on the included Chairman Brad Eells, Southern Deputy Chair/SE Ron Stafford, Western Deputy Chair Mike Guerin, Treasurer/N.ID-MT Gary Weber, Secretary/NJ-co Ray Grimes Jr., Nat'l Liaison Keith Argow, Webmaster/ME Bill Cobb, AZ Dave Lorenz, CA-Sierra-Nevada Jeff Baggett, CA-South Scott McClintock, IN Teena Ligman, So. New England Jack Kelly, MN Dave Quam, NH Chris Haartz, NJ Bob Wolff, NY Laurie Rankin, TN Bill Ulmer, ALB Mike Bryczkowski.

In addition to Election Chair Rob Hoeye, others present included AB-MS Rep Jason Johns, and local chapter leaders Jeff Greef (Argentine), Bob Bonstead (Friends of Blue Mountains Lookouts), Nancy Baker (Monterey) and Jon Aronson (Humboldt).

After roll call Brad Eells thanked Rob Hoeye for being election chair and congratulated Mike, Gary and Mark on their elections. Before he passed the gavel over to Mike as the new Chairman, he thanked everyone who was on the call for their support while serving as chairman for the past two years, as well as Gary Weber for packed full western conference in Montana and Bob Wolff and Ray Grimes for a wonderful Eastern conference in New Jersey.

Mike took over and thanked everyone for being elected as Chairman. Mike spoke about the FFLA and communications; he plans on working with the executive committee and having small meetings to keep everyone together and informed. He also mentioned the regional deputies communicating with their state directors so they keep everyone up to date on activities.

Chairman Emeritus Keith Argow spoke about the future and mentioned working with the Forest Service on a national MOU.

### **Membership/Treasurers report**

Gary summarized the reports for membership, treasurer and budget that had previously been sent out.

### **Magazine**

Gary said after 8 years he believes he is caught up with the issues and will be going back to the 24 page issues per quarter in the future.

### **Committee Reports**

The reports for SHPO, Webmaster and Social Media can be found at the FFLA website under chapter reports at this link: <https://ffla.org/chapter-reports.html>

### **Chapter Reports**

The directors who were present on the zoom meeting gave brief reports of their chapter activities for 2023; full reports can be read at <https://ffla.org/chapter-reports.html>

### **Old Business**

There was no old business brought up.

### **New Business**

Previously it had been brought up about increasing the dues; Gary advised that we are currently looking good and do not need to increase dues at this time.

Conference sites for 2024 were discussed. Mike had previously asked for anyone interested in hosting the western conference; the San Bernardino affiliate group (Southern Mountains Foundation) stepped up to host the conference in late September. Mike then asked if any director from the east was interested in hosting a 2024 conference. Laurie Rankin advised that the New York chapter is looking to host for 2024 but it would have to be in the fall. Jack Kelly mentioned the Southern New England chapter possibly hosting a conference in Massachusetts in 2025.

Mike stated that he was going to send out an email to the FFLA directors to see if anyone would like to be on the website development committee to help redesign the new site.

A proposed new mission statement had been sent out. Mike asked that if anyone had any comments about the mission statement to send him an email about it with any ideas.

The 2025 FFLA board meeting will be 1-18-25, MLK weekend

The final item was approval of the budget, Dave Lorenz made the motion seconded by Teena Ligman, with all in favor, to approve the 2024 budget as presented (below).

The 2024 FFLA board meeting adjourned at 1251 EST.

Submitted by

Ray Grimes Jr.

FFLA Secretary

**2024 FFLA Budget**

	Proposed	Approved 1/13/2024	
<i>Income</i>			
Balance Forward	\$49,285.53	\$49,285.53	
Dues	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	
Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Chapter Grants/Donations (Pass-Through)	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Interest	\$30.00	\$30.00	
Total	\$122,315.53	\$122,315.53	\$122,315.53
<i>Expenses</i>			
Publication	-\$20,000.00	-\$20,000.00	
Chapter Distributions	-\$2,500.00	-\$2,500.00	
Brochure Cost	-\$50.00	-\$50.00	
Restoration Grants	-\$27,500.00	-\$27,500.00	
Emergency Stabilization Grants	-\$300.00	-\$300.00	
Chapter Grants/Donations (Pass-Through)	-\$50,000.00	-\$50,000.00	
Insurance	-\$1,800.00	-\$1,800.00	
Merchandise Cost	-\$1,800.00	-\$1,800.00	
Operations	-\$500.00	-\$500.00	
History/Archive/Preservation Fund	-\$500.00	-\$500.00	
Website Upgrade	-\$3,000.00	-\$3,000.00	
Total	-\$107,950.00	-\$107,950.00	-\$107,950.00
Year-end Balance	\$14,365.53	\$14,365.53	\$14,365.53