



## **2023 FFLA BOARD MEETING**

**Zoom Meeting**

**January 14, 2023**

The 2023 FFLA Board Meeting was held on January 14 with a video Zoom format. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eells at 11:07 a. m. Eastern Time.

### **MINUTES**

The first order of business was approval of the 2022 board meeting minutes as distributed by Secretary Ray Grimes. Chris Haartz made the motion, seconded by Ray Grimes, to accept the minutes; with no corrections, the minutes were approved as distributed.

### **ROLL CALL**

Chairman Eells did a roll call - there were 20 on the call: Chairman Brad Eells, Chairman Emeritus Keith Argow, Deputy Chair W-elect Michael Guerin, Treasurer/MT-N.ID Gary Weber, Webmaster/ME Bill Cobb, Secretary/NJ-co Ray Grimes, Archivist(Historian)/N.CA Kyle Stetler, AZ Dave Lorenz, CA-Sierra-Nevada Jeff Baggett, CA-South Scott McClintock, CO Rick Freimuth, FL Mark Voykovic, IN Teena Ligman, So. New England Jack Kelley, NH Chris Haartz, NJ Bob Wolff, NY Laurie Rankin, Australia Paul Jones, Election Chair Rob Hoeye, Friends of Blue Mountains Lookouts Local Chapter Leader Bob Bonstead.

### **ELECTION**

Election Chair Rob Hoeye announced the results for 2023. There were four positions up for election; all nominees were elected: Western Deputy Chair - Michael Guerin, Southern Deputy Chair - Ron Stafford, Historian/Archivist - Kyle Stetler and Secretary - Ray Grimes. There were no write-ins the slate was elected as presented.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Brad Eells gave his report; in his report he touched on dry summer - wet winter conditions, new chapter dues, new directors, new local chapters, new affiliations, website, continue growth and activity, social media growth, New York's Light Up the Night, our current mission statement and

his desire to revamp it and include a vision statement, what we do, what about the FFLA, active local chapters, advocacy for human fire detection – both professional and volunteers , becoming well recognized in our world, what is our future, what is each one’s role, fund raising, fostering community relationships , media opportunities, the need to promote - promote - promote, and thanked everyone for all they do.

### **CHAIRMAN EMERITUS**

Keith Argow was asked to make any comments on the State of the FFLA address. He advised anything he was going to bring up, Brad had covered in his report. He also thanked everyone on the meeting for what they do.

### **MEMBERSHIP, TREASURER, MAGAZINE REPORT**

Gary summarized the Treasurer’s report that had been sent to all board members and went over the income and expense categories. Membership was down 109 members from 1479 to 1370, but he reminded everyone that last year he had said the count was high due to the timing of the “drop” cycle, and that if you look at a two- or three-year summary, we have steady growth. Gary advised that he is still working to catch up with the Lookout Network magazine.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The reports for SHPO, WEBMASTER, and SOCIAL MEDIA reports can be found at <http://www.firelookout.org/chapter-reports.html>. Brad advised that Howard Verschoor is stepping down as Answerman and if anyone is interested in taking that position to contact him. Brad also gave the FFLOS-NHLR report. Brad noted that since October 2019, 409 entries had been posted in the NHLR for a total of 1715 to date, and 330 entries in the FFLOS for a total of 2097 to date.

### **CHAPTER REPORTS**

Directors present gave brief reports for their chapters for 2022 .Go to <http://www.firelookout.org/chapter-reports.html> to see the full reports.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business brought up.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Gary presented the proposed budget that he had emailed out earlier in the week for everyone to look at. Dave Lorenz made the motion, seconded by Teena Ligman, to accept the budget; it was approved as presented, with no changes.

<b>2023 FFLA Budget</b>			
	Proposed	Approved 1/14/2023	
<i>Income</i>			
Balance Forward	\$12,026.16	\$12,026.16	
Dues	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	
Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Chapter Grants/Donations (Pass-Through)	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	
Interest	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Total	\$57,531.16	\$57,531.16	\$57,531.16
<i>Expenses</i>			
Publication	-\$20,000.00	-\$20,000.00	
Chapter Distributions	-\$3,000.00	-\$3,000.00	
Brochure Cost	-\$100.00	-\$100.00	
Restoration Grants	-\$2,500.00	-\$2,500.00	
Emergency Stabilization Grants	-\$300.00	-\$300.00	
Chapter Grants/Donations (Pass-Through)	-\$20,000.00	-\$20,000.00	
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	-\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	
Total	-\$51,500.00	-\$51,500.00	-\$51,500.00
Year-end Balance	\$6,031.16	\$6,031.16	\$6,031.16

FFLA conferences were brought up; Bob Wolff advised that the New Jersey Chapter will host the Eastern Conference in Andover, NJ on August 11-13. Gary Weber Gary advised that the Western Conference will tentatively be in St Regis, MT on July 7-9.

Rob Hoeye brought up election ballot returns. Rob asked for ideas of how to get a better response from the directors; he sent out 33 ballots this year and only received 19 responses. The discussion resulted in a suggestion to send a text out to the directors reminding them to check their email for the ballot for the coming election and to vote.

Brad announced that 2024 Board Meeting will be January 13, 2024 and will again be a zoom meeting.

With nothing else for the good of the order, the 2023 FFLA Board Meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m. EST.

Submitted By FFLA Secretary

Raymond J. Grimes, Jr.