

2013 WESTERN CONFERENCE

BOARD MEETING

Mayhill, New Mexico

The western board meeting was held on Friday evening, September 20; the meeting was called to order at 1950

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Keith Argow Chair/SE, Kent Argow CO, Mark Gutzman NM, George & Pam Morey S CA, Dave Lorenz AZ, Rod Fosback E WA, Gary Weber N ID/MT, Ray Grimes Jr. Secretary/ NJ co.

FFLA members present Cheryl Weber, Vicki Fosback, Dave Bula, and Tammy McLeod

The first order was approving the minutes from the January Board Meeting/ tele conference in Florida. Gary made the motion and Mark seconded, all were in favor.

Gary gave an update to the Treasurers report

Insurance we have not been able to get insurance for the association but members are still working on it to try to get insurance for the FFLA so we are covered while working on lookouts and doing conferences.

Membership: we are holding at 900 +in members

The fall newsletter will arrive by early October.

Mark Gutzman advised that the digital copy of the Lookout Network is on the USFS internal website where Forest Service employees can read it.

The FFLA web site has been updated and members should go take a look at it and see what Bill Cobb did with it.

OLD BUSINESS

Get PayPal on to the FFLA web site, so it can be used for merchandise sales and memberships.

CHAPTER REPORTS

The directors present each gave a brief report on their state and chapters.

CO/UT

-100th anniversary of Devils Head LO about 100 people were present with reporters from the papers and TV stations.

-Getting Squaw Mtn on the rental program

-Utah restoring Ute Mountain LO

- Main focus is membership and increasing membership

NM

-Set up a conference

-Set up a web site for the conference by linking it to the Lincoln National Forest web site.

-Restored Monjeau LO after the Little Bear Fire.

-Starting to restore Bluewater LO

-Getting certificates for the lookouts that were put on the NHLR

-Getting a few of the lookouts on to the rental program

S CAL

-80th anniversary of Strawberry Peak LO

- Rest of the lookouts on the San Bernardino NF are in pretty good shape

-The San Bernardino National Forest Association switched their name to the Southern California Mountain Association

-The Angles NF has a contractor on line to get Vetter LO up and starting by Oct 2013

- List the number of volunteers per National Forest: Angles has 100, SB has 300 and the Cleveland has about 75

-The Cleveland chapter is working to build and get a web site up and running

N ID / MT

-New Northwest Montana local chapter, staffing two Flathead NF lookouts

-Passport-in-Time project on the Lolo NF at Big Hole Peak LO

-Lost two lookouts to fire this year

-Idaho Panhandle NFs: Rumors that Huckleberry LO will be dismantled and will be reassembled in the town (false - it has been sold for removal)

-Conrad Peak LO is being eyed for potential removal

E WA

- Rod spoke about the July gathering at the Umatilla NF in WA
- Sullivan Mountain LO stairs did not happen going to try to get them done for 2014
- Flagstaff LO was taken down and the cab was placed in the town of Northport.
- Added 1 new Idaho member from an FFLA brochure Rod left.

AZ

- Membership is in the 30's
- The big news is that all of Dave's research on lookouts in AZ and NM was put into the Northern Arizona University Special Collection Library it will be called The Dave Lorenz Collection and should be out shortly as soon as the library finishes cataloging all of his material. Dave said he never wrote a book but all of his material is now in the library.
- Dave announced that he is looking for someone to take over the state director for AZ
- Dave attended the Kaibab-Coconino NF lookout training in April

NEW BUSINESS

The proposal by Gary Weber to hold the 2014 Western Conference in the Bitterroot area of Montana was seconded by Dave Lorenz. Tentative date is the last weekend in June, in Darby or Hamilton MT.

The next board meeting will be a tele conference but, Keith said the physical location where we can call in to will be South Carolina around the Columbia area at the state forestry office.

Rob Hoeye is still the chair for the election committee and up this year are Chair, Historian and EDC

The board meeting adjourned at 2150 (motioned by Dave, seconded by Gary