

**MINUTES OF THE LOUISIANA SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**AUGUST 21, 2019, ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by State Chair Shaun Tanger.

Present were: Shaun Tanger, Buck Vandersteen, Fred Hagaman, George Tiley, Bill Wieger, Buddy VanHoof, Eugene Austin, Holloy Morgan, George Ramsey, via phone conference: Niels de Hoop, Kamran Abdollahi, Joseph Chang, Yadong Qi, Mike Murphrey.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

**Chair Comments**-Shaun Tanger:

Shaun is moving and now employed at Mississippi State University Extension. He will remain involved in LASAF. Dr. Joseph Chang with LSU Forest Economics will be the LASAF Policy Chair and Dr. Mike Crowell with Louisiana Tech GIS/RS will be the Technology Chair and plans to do a forest tech newsletter. There is still a need for a Communications and Awards committee chair.

A new LASAF website is under design and development. It will be stand-alone web site, not part of another group or association. In addition, it is to have an online means of registration for meetings and events.

There remains a need for a Newsletter Editor that will coordinate and compose content and publish the newsletter.

**Vice Chair Comments**-Kamran Abdollahi:

LASAF is the program lead for the first day, afternoon session of the TX, LA, MS SAF Multi-State meeting in 2020. The session concentration will be on urban forestry and there will also be an urban forestry field review as part of the meeting. Planning details for the Multi-State meeting are ongoing.

**Treasurer's Report**– Buck Vandersteen:

As of 20 August 2019, total financial resources are \$49,466.54, checking account balance is \$9,920.26 and \$39,546.28 in three CD accounts. Year to date receipts total \$14,507.38, and disbursements \$30,140.48. An additional \$15,000.00 was moved into a third CD account. Expenses are in line with revenue and budgeted items. Disbursements to National Convention Registration (\$1,200.00), travel (\$600.00), and House of Society Delegates (\$225.00), as budgeted, are yet to be paid.

**Chapter Chair Reports**

*Pineywoods:* August meeting coming up on the 29<sup>th</sup> with Warren Founds of the Sabine River Authority. Recent meetings have included presentations on Rx burning longleaf pine, high water and parks with the Red River Waterway Commission, and Disease risks in pine plantations near poultry operations. Will participate in Forestry Awareness in September and will have the forestry float ready for parades.

*North La:* Plans for the next meeting in September to be at LSU Ag Center Hill Farm Research Station focusing on longleaf pine.

*Cenla:* Have been working in conjunction with the Multi-State meeting in 2020. Plans for the next meeting with Cool Planet biochar production.

*Southern University:* The Chapter has been involved in planning and organizing recruiting for student internships, fundraising, and assisting student application for grants. They participated in a tree planting event and will have student posters at the SAF Multi-State meeting. A number of students will attend the LFA Annual Meeting in response to being awarded LFA Foundation scholarships. The SAF accreditation committee will visit the SU Student Chapter.

*LSU:* Held a "Thank You" reception for students in organizing the recent Conclave held at LSU. Plans to have a joint meeting with the SU Chapter and have been invited to attend a Conclave in Lexington, KY.

**SAF Board Dist. 11- Mike Murphrey**

Recently attended the August Board meeting. MSSAF will have an Annual Meeting at the end of August, the first in a few years. The Board has a new National Student Member in Brittney Church for Washington State University. Samantha Seamon of Mississippi State University is the new District 11 Student Rep. From the National Staff, John Barnwell has resigned and Danielle Watson is promoted to SAF Director of Policy and Communications. Since being selected as SAF CEO 10 months ago, Terry Baker has been working on HR and job description correctness and looking to hire new staff positions. National SAF will be conducting five leadership workshops with plans to do more, including in Louisiana. There are two candidates for the SAF District 11 Board seat. Eric Gage and William (Buddy) Stainaker both from TSAF. The election will begin in September through October. Planning for the SAF Multi-State (TX/LA/MS) meeting in 2020 continues.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.