



**Far West Division  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Dodge Ridge, California  
Friday, March 11, 2016, 12pm-5:00pm**  
*\* Indicates written report received*

Meeting Called to Order: 12:00 p.m. by Division Director Bill Gibson. Adjourned: 5:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:** DD Bill Gibson, ADD Lance Vaughan; ADD Richard Wilson; ADD; ES RD Katie DuMont; ML RD Tony Atkins; No.CA RD JJ Allen; So. CA RD Diana St.Clair

**Absent:** Ari RD Glenn Minuth; Prof Pat Rep Rich Bailey

**Proxies:** None

**Staff:** Treasurer Keith Dickens; Secretary Janice Waits

**Guests:** Nancy Stromswold (ADD elect 16-18); Lisa Larres, So. CA Asst RD; K. Qualseth Div.OEC Supervisor: So. CA; Gregg Nolan; So. CA OET Supervisor;

**Meeting Chair:** DD Bill Gibson – Introduction of staff and guests.

**Secretary/Minutes:** Janice Waits

**Parliamentarian:** Richard Wilson

**Agenda:** accepted as submitted, to be amended as needed

**MOTIONS:** Passed unanimously unless noted

- WM 16-M1 PASSED 2015-16 Budget amended to increase Div. Director’s budget \$2,000 to cover additional travel to Regions.
- WM 16-M2 PASSED Closing of open proposals: WM 15-1, SM 15-1 and SM 15-2, due to no action taken to purchase requested items to complete proposals. Budgeted funds to return to Division fund categories.
- WM 16-M3 PASSED Future approved Motions or Proposals requesting program expenditures, will have no more than 180 days to be completed. Proposal form to include the 180 day limitation. Funds to revert to FWD.
- WM 16-M4 PASSED August 6, 2016 Summer Meeting/Awards Dinner to be in Long Beach, California.

**PROPOSALS:** Passed unanimously unless noted

- WM 16-1 PASSED First Reading: FWD By Laws Election update to correct references to February 2016 National P&P. Proposal Sec. 5.4.4.1 Unscheduled Vacancy, amended at table to not include reference to 2016 National P&P 2.2.4.3p.

**FUTURE DATES:**

- July 31, 2016 Region Financial Reports, Community College Reports due
- Aug. 6 – 7, 2016 Summer BOD Meeting/Awards Banquet — Long Beach, CA
- Nov. 5-6, 2016 (tbd) Tri-Advisory, Yosemite Valley (*dates to be confirmed*)
- Dec. 5, 2016 Nominations DUE for Division Director and Assistant Division Director Positions. (*see election notice for details*)
- Feb. 6, 2017 Div. Dir. and ADD Date of Election
- Feb. 6, 2017 Region Director Nominations due – Eastern Sierra and No. California



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- March 4, 2017 Winter BOD Meeting, Tahoe/Squaw Valley area
- Aug. 5-8, 2017 Summer BOD Meeting/Awards Banquet — Davis, California

**DIVISION STAFF REPORTS**

- Secretarial Items — J. Waits
  - \* Aug. 1, 2015 Summer Meeting minutes approved via email Posted to Web
  - \* Election Report — Spring 2016 Elections results posted to WEB
  - \* 2016 – 17 Election Schedule
- Registrar’s Report\* — P. Jamison absent
- Treasurer’s Report \*— K. Dickens
- Legal Report\* — J. Masur
 

Additional comments: B. Gibson: Has requested Legal to obtain a ‘document of understanding’ between ski areas and patrols.
- Conference Coordinator — T. Atkins
 

Presentation of August Summer Meeting site locations and costs for hotel (Marriotts Residence Inn), meeting room, and awards dinner (Grand Hotel). Proposed Awards Dinner: \$45 per person, all prepaid.

**DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORTS**

- Division Director — B. Gibson
 

Attended National IT Committee and Certified Meeting. Reported that National will now grant access to National data base to Division officers one level above their current access. Registration is being changed for 2017 for patrollers to register directly with National office. Call for nominees for National Board election. Need strong, bold candidates who will ask “why National is doing something a specific way.” Division may post a list of recommended candidates.

Staff appointments/approvals. Call for names for appointments to Arizona Region Director (Glenn Minuth not running, no other nominations), No. Cal SAR Supervisor (John Kretschmann), Division Registrar (Peggy Jamison retiring), Community College (Tom Taylor).

- Assistant Division Directors Reports
  - L. Vaughan\*
  - R. Wilson\*

**REGION DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Arizona\* — G. Minuth. Bill Gibson –looking for a replacement within the Region.

Eastern Sierra\* — K. DuMont

Mother Lode — T. Atkins Region membership down, but is trying to recruit more. Has restructured leadership and plans to have Region summer meeting prior to Summer Division meeting. Changes in



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personnel: new Asst. RD S. McCracken; new toboggan, OEC & OET supervisors. Tried an on line Region meeting. Focus on OEC and to help areas recruit for local patrols.

No. CA — JJ Allen Declining enrollment, still recruiting new patrollers. Some patrollers were not in National system, but getting corrected one by one. Held an APP clinic. Region event is St. Patricks day party on snow in conjunction with various clinics

So. CA — D. St. Clair Patroller numbers down. Mammoth, Bear, and Mountain High, thinned registered patrollers, but majority of patrollers joined other areas. Snow Summit is training new candidates. All areas are open. Mt Waterman requested a Crisis Management team (none available from National) but received support from CERT Team. Region wants a peer counseling team to train patrols in crisis management. Requesting that Legal review Crisis team training programs.

Professional — R. Bailey Reported by B. Gibson. Rich Bailey is also president of APP. Reports over 50 new patrollers starting process of Certified. April 20-24 APP Clinic to be at Mt. Rose.

**PROGRAM SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

FWD Program Supervisors – FWD Program Guide B. Gibson

- \*Avalanche K. Church
- \*MTR & \*Tri-Advisory K. Chulski
- \*SAR J. Kretchmann
- \*OEC K. Qualseth
- \*OET D. Whitcher
- \*Nordic J. Gurrola
- \*Instructor Development D. Hill
- \*Certified L. Vaughan
- \*Women T. Nye

National Safety Team T. O’Brien Reported by B. Gibson Safety team was independent, but National is restructuring to have a National Board member and ADD over them.

FWD Administrative Supervisors – FWD Program Guide

- Awards K. Bergmann Reported by B. Gibson deadlines sent out in February.  
Reminder to use only current forms and prior four years of patroller data.
- \*Alumni T. Viall
- \*Community College T. Taylor (is retiring from position, need appointment by next year.)
- \*Web Site R. Livingston
- \*Newsletter T. Viall
- \*Member Recruitment — N. Cal J. McGuigan  
S. Cal B. Long
- \*Medical Advisor K. Tatsukawa



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SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT REPORT on COURSE CLOSURES — N. Stromswold She was requested to investigate and audit all open registered courses prior to the new National data base installation. If courses are not closed, with patroller information submitted, that patroller does not receive credit for completing that course. This includes OEC refreshers. Results were that over 50% of all open courses were never held (approximately 210). Some 2014 OEC courses, Senior level are still not closed, which means those completing patrollers are not seniors. The data base has been cleaned up, with only 12 still open. It is the program Supervisor’s job to monitor courses to be sure they were closed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The following Proposals are now closed due to no action being taken to expend requested Funds. Funds to be returned to FWD general funds *See Motions*

SM 15-1 NCAL SAR Rope Training kits – Price Change. Approved.\*.  
(Replaced WM 15-1 NCAL SAR Rope Training kits. Proposal #1.)

\*Approved Conditionally & amended-contingent on results of review of legal/liability issues involved in ownership of training equipment.

SM 15-2 Radio chargers for NCal SAR. Approved up to \$805.00

NOTE: Storage of items probably split into 2 caches – 1 in Bay Area & 1 in Truckee area, and need for liability coverage.

**2015 ACTION ITEM STATUS:**

- Assist the Southern Arizona Search & Rescue group/patrol to obtain their own NSPS patrol number. They can become affiliate members, but are not part of FWD, so they cannot become a patrol.
- So. Calif. Nordic manual copy to be sent to Mike Kelly, by Diana St. Clair, to assist in creating of the Nordic Patroller outline and skill set. So. CA has sent copy of manual several times, request manual copy to now to be sent to Bill Gibson, due to continuing changes.
- Community College checks distributed in Fall. Community College checks were distributed after receipt of all required financial reports. All financial reports are due to FWD Treasurer by August 1. Community College checks can only be distributed on receipt of patrol & region financial reports.

**NEW BUSINESS — B. Gibson**

- Arizona Region  
Requesting RD’s assistance to network with Arizona patrollers to replace RD  
Suggestions from floor: check with area management prior active Arizona officers.
- Review & Discuss Section Chiefs in Far West Division  
To immediately eliminate all Section Chief positions within Division. There is no National position of Section Chief.



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- Discussion of Recruitment Efforts, Focus, and Best Practices  
It has been determined that recruiting at large scale events does not benefit local patrols. Refocus to more local recruiting and NSP branding of programs and services should show more benefit.
- Search and Rescue S. Lanier will give demo of GIS and is doing presentation Saturday March 12.
- Corporate Grant Funds As part of a 501c3, funds are sent to Division, then distributes to Patrols. But if the patrol or patroller name is not attached to the donation, Division has no way of forwarding that donation.
- Program supervisors reminder to submit expenses within 60 days. Requests and receipts submitted after 60 days require Board approval which will delay reimbursement.
- OEC Refreshers
  - Visitors attending a patrol's OEC refresher have to be entered on the patrol's completion roster for the visitor to receive credit.
  - On-line Hybrid OEC courses: Patrollers not required to complete and turn in the workbook. If a patrol does online hybrid OEC, patrollers only need to do hill skills practice at area. FWD wants to move to 100% hybrid OEC courses.
- "Major Event" Anything that involves our membership in a fatality, serious injury or an event at a ski area that could cause litigation, must be reported immediately to Division Director. Do nothing until you have reported incident through the chain of command. Do not talk to reporters, area, or bring in outside legal. Be aware, that all patrol training records, certifications and registration may be requested.  
Bill Gibson has requested Legal, obtain a document of understanding between ski areas and patrols.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- Bill Gibson requested to write up and distribute to Regions a "Major Event" dos & don'ts list.
- Request to Legal to obtain a 'document of understanding' between ski areas and patrols.
- Proposal forms to contain notice that any funding requested for equipment or materials must be expended and receipts submitted to treasurer within 180 days of approval of proposal. If not completed within 180 days, proposals will be closed and funds revert to Division.
- So CA to send copy of their Nordic Patroller manual to Bill Gibson.

Adjournment 5:00 pm