CFFU Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2026

Board members attending: Julie Kaye, Jeff Morin, Jeff Stephens, Laurie Banks, Bev Thomas, Sheila Cavanagh, Mike Giusti, Dave Lentz, Jim Berdan, Frank Rinella, Tim Au-Young, Nick Ciani

Club Member attending: Bill Barron, Steve Payer, Forrest Oldham

Board Members absent: Paul Wisheropp

Meeting called to order: 6:59 pm

Board Secretary

- Bill Barron was nominated by Jeff Stephens as next board secretary; seconded by Jeff Morin; approved unanimously
- Minutes of October and November, previously distributed via email, approved without modification or objection

Treasurer's Report

- Jim Berdan guided the Board through the budget line by line.
- Dave Lentz asked if unused 2025 budgeted dollars could be spent in 2026; Jim indicated this was not possible.
- A number of changes to the budget were suggested and discussed; 2026 Budget was approved w/changes.

Mike Giusti, 1st Vice-President Report

- Nothing new to report
- Club participation at Sportsman Expo this month under control per Rich and Todd.

Laurie Banks, 2nd Vice-President Report

- Annual dinner will be April 4th; PayPal link to be added to website; charge to remain at $45
- Tax letters for all donations will be sent out this week
- Website: 1,970 unique views with 146 views of the Newsletter which is excellent has it has only been posted a couple of days ago.
- Paul Wisheropp will be speaking about Coachman Program at social in February. Ideas offered to improve the Coachman program including having some activities before regular meetings.
- 101 Class Mentor will be in February; expected to be large and Laurie will reach out for assistance.
- No Tech Thursday this month because of ISE.

Jeff Stephens, Past President's Report

- New member orientation – expect large turnout
- Fly Tyers Exchange – Paul Smith will take over this month

Programs Reports – Tim Au-Young and Frank Rinella

- Speakers for monthly meetings have been identified and are posted on the website
- Casting clinics will be continued with members notified of dates & times via the listerv
- Intermediate fly tying – Tim working on a class for Skwala and Shad flies

Outings - Bev Thomas

- We will support Howe Avenue Park fish derby on 2/21/26; Bev has put out a request for volunteers
- Girl Scouts – April 18th
- Canoemobile dates are to be determined by John Durand
- Plan for American River cleanup need to be determined

Tech Thursday – Jeff Morin

- Nothing in January due to ISE
- February 19th will be presented by John Durand on salt water fly fishing
- March 19th topic will be presented by Kaz Wisniewski on the Trinity River
- April 16th topic is carp fishing to be presented by Roger Bloom

Sheila Cavanagh, Membership

- New member meeting 2/11/2026 – board member attendance was requested
- Current membership is 367; of these 96 are life members, honorary or over 20years with which Sheila has no contact information
- 207 Invoices have been sent out; only five are undeliverable
- Dues are due March 1st

Communications – Open

- Trying to find two people to share this at monthly meetings

Public Relations/Coachman's Award/Program Refreshments

- No report – Paul Wisheropp not present

Conservation – Dave Lentz

- Committee met in November, identified projects organizations that we may want to support in 2026, and will be scheduling a committee meeting soon. Frank Rinella asked to be a member of Conservation Committee.
- Considering supporting "Friends of Butte Creek" but need additional information
- In 2025 supported two scholarships (total $2250) to UCDavis fishery students in addition to the $2500 from the Bittner Scholarship
- The Board was enthusiastic about supporting scholarship for fishery-focused students
- Julie suggested allocating more funds for student scholarships
- It was suggested that we announce to the membership opportunities to donate (tax deductible) to scholarships
- Group brainstormed ideas for sources and recipients of scholarships

Old Business

- Storage unit – Bev Thomas reported that storage unit in pretty good shape; a few things to be addressed
- Oakland A's Foundation – will process request in February

New business

- President's Pins - Julie will order more

- Challenge coins - 30 are left; we have a 3 year contract; will order more when ten remain; the group brainstormed about methods to find new member-recipients including those who volunteer frequently
- Listserv

- Julie will make suggestions to improve ListServ functionality; she suggested a short email from the President with links to more detailed information on the website. Julie or another member will replace Jeff Gordon as ListMeister.

- Need to identify mechanisms to prevent members from responding "REPLY All" on emails as this fills inboxes with unnecessary information.

- Board needs to ensure that inappropriate content does not appear in ListServ communications

- Jeff Stephens suggested the possibility of adding a blog to the website; would need someone to manage this functionality. Jeff Morin and Julie Kaye to look into options for a Blog.

- The possibility of adding a "meet-up" functionality to the website was raised; considerable additional research, including legal implications, will be needed.

- Laurie Banks reported that a cover for rod stands was prepared by Mary Tucker; the group approved (motion by Frank Rinella; second by Tim Au-Young) a $50 gift certificate thank you to Mary.
- Monthly meeting room is being painted and there is plastic covering the floor; Julie will visit the venue tomorrow, determine meeting feasibility, and notify membership about the status of tomorrow night's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Barron
Board Secretary