



El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

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"Public and Private Partners Working Together to Protect People, Homes, and Natural Resources"

Board Meeting Minutes-FINAL

April 17, 2024

9:30 am to 12:00

Diamond Springs / El Dorado Firefighters Association Memorial Hall
3734 China Garden Road, Diamond Springs

1. Meeting Call to Order

9:32am

2. Roll Call: Sign In

In Person: Ball, Barentson, Boal, Cantelow, Connelly, Council, Fine, Gilcrest, Hess, Johnston, Lory, Payne, Penn, Pimlott, Pullin, Willis, Zelinsky Zoom: Hawk

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Ken Pimlott

4. Approval of Agenda: 04/17/2024 **Board Action Item**

Approved as presented.

5. Consent Agenda: 03/20/2024 Board Meeting Minutes **Board Action Item**

Approved as presented.

6. New Business

a. Elections – Hugh

The E-Board open positions are for Vice Chair and Secretary. Please see me or Karen if you are interested in these positions. I will be looking for a third person today to be on the elections committee. Regular board members that are up for reelection are Pimlott, Pullin, Council, Hawk, Connelly, Payne, Ball, Barentson, Cantelow, Fine, and Penn. The recent FSCs that have joined if you would like someone on the board to represent your council, please reach out to me so we can get them on the ballot. The ballots will be ready in May and we will vote at the June 19th meeting.

7. Old Business

a. Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Tom Meyer (OWPR)

Next Thursday the steering committee will be meeting. Ken Pimlott and Tom Meyer will represent the county and several agency and fire protection district representatives will also be in attendance. Tamara Johnston is the Fire Safe Council Representative. The county's GIS program will also be in attendance. The initial meeting will layout workshops and community outreach for the next year and identify stakeholders, etc.

b. Strategic Planning Task Group Update- Paul Penn

We will be meeting today after the board meeting. I have meetings planned between now and the end of May and will have something to report by the May or June board meeting.

8. Information Items:

a. Chairman's Report & Communication – Ken Pimlott

E-Board decided to pause the defensible space training workshop scheduled this weekend. There will be a survey sent to the people that have been trained and we will review those and make recommendations as to how we proceed with the training and assessments for defensible space.

We were looking for help with the defensible space program to partner with Team Rubicon. They have their own process for the way they operate so we agreed to step back, and they will reach out to individual landowners and the FSCs on their own. We can't give out our list of applicants to the defensible space program due to confidentiality reasons. Mark Egbert, RCD, is speaking with them as well.

b. Vice Chair Report – Hugh Council

I continue to go to my meetings. We have run out of our wildfire workbooks. We are updating the workbook to include Perimeter and we are checking QR codes to make sure they work. Reach out to me if you would like any other information included in the workbook.

c. Secretary Report – Karen Pullin

The renewals for your FSC will be going out this week and I need them back by June 1st. The application, agreement and conflict of interest forms are part of the renewal packet. Board members up for reelection will be getting an application, agreement, and conflict of interest as well.

9.

a. Treasurers Report: Janet Barentson – **Board Action Item**

We have a lot of grants, but the money is coming in slower than anticipated. The \$500,000 CA FSC check for defensible space has not come in for the grant that was awarded last September. We spent 60k against that grant and haven't gotten the funds as a result we stopped using the defensible space grant. We have been told it is in the process. We have sent an invoice to them for that amount as well as an advance. Reimbursement for the CAL FIRE hazardous tree removal grant is still pending and the payment to contractors has been delayed. I have submitted invoices as well as an advance for this work. MGB has been notified and subcontractors have been reaching out to ask when they get paid. CALFIRE said they are expediting this reimbursement. The Steven's Authority grant has been getting caught up. We have a contract put in place with Linda Parks, our new bookkeeper. I will meet on Tuesday to transition the work and she will be starting in May. Her contract will be reevaluated in June 2025. Pat Turner will still be working on taxes.

Treasurers report approved with no opposition.

b. Partners Reports:

1. BLM – TBA

No report

2. CAL FIRE – Megan Scheeline/Jeff Hoag

Jessica Long is our new forester in the Amador - El Dorado unit and she will be the forest practice inspector. Burn permits are required on May 1st and will be online to apply. We have currently been completing vegetation management and fuels reduction.

3. EDC Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience – Tom Meyer

Jenna Patri for Tom Meyer– 4 positions approved on April 2 to fill. Administrative Analyst to be the firesafe council coordinator which will be covered by the CA FSC and the BLM grant. Sr admin analyst and two defensible space inspectors also approved to help with the Weber Creek CWMP grant. We hope to have these positions filled by June. The Weber Creek project has a preliminary contract for environmental review with a start date in June. OWPR grants – we received a \$115k CA FSC grant to help fund the FSC position until December 2024. We are waiting for notification of a BLM grant for \$10M which will help cover defensible space inspections and the FSC position for an additional four years after 12/24. We will have a notification postcard going out to the CEAs and defensible space areas. The mapping program on our website has a list of CALFIRE inspection areas as well as the county areas. County will send their own postcard out to the areas that they will be inspecting. We are working on updates from feedback of public workshops for the defensible space ordinance. Target date to get ordinance to BOS is June 18th. General questions will be covered in FAQs. 2023 fire hazard severity zone maps are scheduled to go to the Board of Supervisors. Approximately 5000 parcels have been identified between CALFIRE and the county for inspections.

4. EDC Fire Chiefs Association – Tim Cordero

No report

5. EDC FPO Association – Lucas Shepard

No report

6. ENF – Brad Stewart

No report

7. RCD – Mark Egbert

No report

8. SMUD – Eric Brown

No report

9. PG&E – Mike Webb

Mike continues to look for opportunities to partner with EDCFSC.

10.EDSO –Lt. Morton

Town Hall is May 18th from 11:30am-noon at Union Mine High School giving tips on what happens when wildfire strikes. Meetings will also be at South Lake Tahoe on June 29 and in Mosquito on July 25. Disaster council meeting on May 15th at 1pm. We continue to push Perimeter and RAVE. Contact us for flyers. Countywide RAVE test will happen pre-fire season with a date to be determined. A link to Perimeter will be in RAVE. Go to ready.edso.org to sign up for RAVE. Go to perimetermap.com to find maps. Code Red has been migrated to RAVE if you didn't migrate then you need to re-sign up again.

11.BOR – Elizabeth Dyer

No Report

10. Program Reports

a. Grants & Funding/Grants Committee– Tamara Johnston

A grant for \$100K was submitted to the CA FSC for an outreach and education project. I will put together a list of FSC requests that were included for this grant. A \$100K grant was submitted to PG&E for the chipping program. The hazardous tree removal grant was reduced to focus on preparing a mitigated negative declaration for CEQA so we can remove trees from 100' near structures to 300'. Requesting \$162k. We have a USFS grant for \$6.6M for hazardous trees and defensible space that we should hear about this month. April is also the month for quarterly reports to be completed.

b. Assistance Programs – Jessica Isabel

- Chipping
YTD - 88 jobs completed, cleared 176 acres, and chipped 15,237 cubic yards and spent \$40,472.

For the chipping events that are scheduled please inform your community to put the 3-letter codes on their applications.

- Defensible Space Services for Seniors, etc.

Not currently active.

- Hazard Tree Removal
51 new parcels were assessed, 95 completed jobs, 121 new trees identified, cut 222 trees and \$248,258 spent.

c. Training – Hugh Council

Alice and Kit have their defensible space workshop titled a deeper dive for landscaping scheduled after today's meeting from 1pm-3pm. We have postponed the defensible space/home hardening workshop for this weekend. Over the last year we had 70 people trained and only 104 assessments done. We anticipated more assessments to be done and there are questions about the form as well. We also need a standard handout package to give to homeowners. CALFIRE and the County inspections are doing same thing as our assessments. We all need to be on the same page when we do assessments. I have also had FSCs that want to know how to get people interested in doing assessments. The defensible space assessment advisory group will include all the people on the training committee. I have a sign-up sheet and put a group together to get everything standardized. The training group is planning to combine the defensible space ordinance and a Perimeter workshop class in the future.

d. Outreach & Education –Alice Cantelow

Alice thanked folks that helped at the Placerville FSC event. She also explained what to expect from the landscape workshop after today's meeting here in the Firemen's Hall. She would like to have volunteers from FSCs at the County Fair booth in June. Please reach out to her if you can help. The Farm Bureau sent an email with information for their August 4th event held from 12-3pm which she will attend. It is an event like the Home and Garden show.

e. Governance and New Council Formation & Orientation – Karen Pullin

We have several people taking an interest in becoming a FSC. Any new councils will go through at the same time we do renewals in June.

11. Project Reports

a. USFS SOFAR Project–David Zelinsky

April 25th at 11am is the Biomass Working Group meeting.

Tonight, at the Breakroom in Shingle Springs is an El Dorado Amador Forest Forum meeting at 6pm.

b. EDC Resource Advisory Committee Mtg WRAP (Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection Project) – David Zelinsky

United Policy Holders meeting via Zoom on April 23 at 1pm.

c. County Biomass Working Group – Kris Payne

Grizzly Flats FSC went to the Board of Supervisors expressing concerns regarding the biomass project in their area and Supervisor Turnbo explained what is happening with the project. There is currently no report.

12. Community Council Reports

Janet Barentson-Aukum/Fairplay FSC- Tonight we have our monthly meeting with a presentation on road maintenance and vegetation clearance in the South County areas. Brian Mullens from the County Department of Transportation and Mark Egbert, RCD, will be speaking. We also invited Grizzly Flats, Sandridge and Omo Ranch FSCs to join us. Aukum/Fairplay received a \$5k West Slope Foundation grant. We will be adding signs to the west and east ends of the council area to advertise events and meetings. Our May council meeting will include Pioneer fire chief Dave Witt and CALFIRE chief Dave Wood and our resident deputy Kris Kersmarki to talk about issues in preparation for fire season. Our council meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We will be having a green waste day the weekend of June 1st. May 4th at Pioneer school we are doing a clearance event to clean up their obstacle course. We have also added Somerset to the Aukum/Fairplay council.

Jeanine Stiles-Greenstone FSC-We had 3 defensible assessments in March not 2. May 3 -10 we are having a green waste event. May 22nd is our Firewise fiesta. There were questions asked regarding propane tanks, screening and location and defensible space around them.

Alice Cantelow-Oakhill FSC-We are having a green waste day coming up soon.

Bob Hess-Coloma/Lotus FSC-We got our Firewise certification for Coloma/Lotus, Arrow B and Riverwood and recognized all the people that helped make this happen. We are having a public meeting that will be on Zoom as well, on April 23rd with Firewise, OES will be talking about RAVE and Perimeter. Mary Beth from the CA Insurance Commission will also be present. We are still working on our roadside fuel reduction project.

Sherry Hawk-Gold Ridge Forest FSC-We are having a green waste day on June 1st. We are also having an evacuation preparedness meeting which will be put on Facebook.

Elizabeth Standeven-Sandridge FSC– We had a neighborhood led effort clearing the roadside and filled a dumpster with logs and chips. We are having a green waste day at Bucks Bar end of Sandridge on May 17-18.

Ken McKinstry-Gallagher Road FSC– We have an evacuation route project this weekend to clear vegetation. The County did work on one of their roads for an evacuation route. Noted that State Farm cancelled 30,000 policies in CA and explained the numbers in different locations.

Tamara Johnston-Georgetown FSC–We had a Garden Valley fuels treatment planning meeting on March 20th with over 100 people that attended. Explained what they did with their forest health grant.

Paul Gilchrest-Greater Cameron Park FSC-several Firewise communities interested in utilizing Title 3 funds. Our FSC is talking about setting up defensible space in the Pinehill preserve in the Cameron Park unit.

Karen Pullin-Mosquito FSC – We are having our first green waste day and a chipping schedule for one week as well. Noted the success of their first block party. CERA had a training on how the radios work on April 6th. Thanked partners that have been helping them out.

Hugh Council-Texas Hill Estates FSC-April 27th we have a green waste day scheduled. We will have two dumpsters and a chipper.

Ken thanked Supervisor Parlin, who is in attendance, for the Title III money from the county that is making the green waste days happen.

13. Public Comment – *Time limit is 3 minutes per person.*

Lloyd Rutherford-Lives on East China Hill Road and has a CSD in their community, he noted they would like to join the Logtown FSC. They have 61 parcels off East China Hill Rd.

Michael Davis-Logtown FSC-The request for East China Hill Road is on our agenda for discussion to include them in the Logtown FSC.

Tom, a representative for Sierra Springs, noted he will be taking over for Kay Campbell. The Fire Adapted 50 came through and masticated their neighborhood. They will also have a green waste day coming up in Sierra Springs.

14. Good of the Order

Hugh Council noted that the people that took the field maps training need to check with him for your log in if your maps are not working. Also, a reminder to everyone to report their monthly defensible space assessments to Carri.

11:38am

a. Next EDCFSC Board Meeting – May 15, 2024

Minutes typed by Carri Lueck
Administrative Assistant
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

