

**Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council
Board of Directors Meeting
9:30 A.M., Tuesday, August 12, 2014
Mountain Resource Center**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Ray Barmore, Lois Clements, Mike Esnard, Jerry Holldber, Larry Kueneman, Doris Lombard, Ron Perry, Marvin Spreyne, Norm Walker

Staff Present:

Pat Boss, Don Patterson, Edwina Scott, ED

Others Present:

Dan Dever; Ed Sherman, Garner Valley Emergency Coordinator; Greff Bratcher, Cal-Fire; Kathleen Henderson, Emergency Services Coordinator - Riverside County

1. President's Remarks (Mike Esnard)

Shela Boynton is in the process of moving to Oregon, she will be sorely missed.

2. Budget & Finance (Jerry Holldber)

a. Financial Report

Treasurer Jerry Holldber presented the financial report. The reports indicated that there was a \$5000 gain this month.

b. 2014 Audit Direction

Jerry checked into the cost and satisfaction with the current audit company verses other auditors. He talked to the audit company that audits our auditor and they are very happy with our auditor. Jerry will start negotiations with Terry Shay for a three year contract. All board members agreed to Jerry's proposal.

Director Ron Perry made a motion to accept the financial report and the board unanimously accepted the motion and the motion was passed.

3. Adoption of July, 2014 Minutes

Ron Perry proposed two spelling corrections. Ron then made a motion to pass the July 2014 Minutes as amended for approval and the motion was passed.

4. Fuel Modification Operations (Edwina Scott)

a. FEMA/CalEMA Roof Replacement Grant

Executive Director Edwin Scott stated that in July, four houses were reroofed at a completed cost of \$28,950, and a reimbursement cost of \$20,498. In July the total number of homes completed was 56, with three houses to be completed in August. Ten homes are pending reroofing which brings the grand total to 69 homes.

b. CFSC Grant

Katie Martel, CFSC grants manager, will be here on Friday while she is on vacation. She is planning a modified site visit that day.

c. County Coop Grant

In July, 16 acres were cleared. Sixteen tons of biomass was removed and taken to the grinding station and 30 tons were chipped on site and spread. Five cords of fire wood was left for the owners. The total cost of this work was \$28,428, with a cost share of \$13,996.

d. Projects and Woodies Report

Project Manager / Woodies Coordinator Don Patterson reported that the Woodies had two working sessions that filled the Help Center Cage. One abatement job was also completed. A total of three cords of wood were split and 98 volunteer hours were used.

Project Manager Pat Boss reported that 3 to 4 abatement jobs per week were completed in July. The average cost per job was in the range of \$2000 to \$3000.

e. Grinding Sites Responsibility and Management

Pinyon and Poppet Flats are the sites concerned. Chief Gregg Bratcher thought that the SRA grants would be available by now, but they are not, so technically there is no funding at this time. Katie Martel will be here Friday and will talk to Edwina about CaFSC funds for these sites, asking participation from the local property owners, i.e. how many acres were cleared, how many hours were spent doing work, etc. This may be used as a match.

Gregg stated that the Fstep program of \$40 million state wide, may become available next month, but then he will have to approve the program before it could start. Other projects may become available in the future, like the SRA greenhouse gas \$10 million fund, etc.

Gregg will work with Edwina on the management of these projects.

f. MOU with MDP: Emergency Responders?

Ron Perry has a copy of the MDP MOU. MCFSC is not an emergency activation group, therefore we don't need a MOU with MDP. At some time, someone suggested that MCFSC might possible remove downed trees blocking the roads, however MCFSC Insurance doesn't cover this activity, so that idea is DOA.

Jerry made a motion that Edwina contact MDP to cancel the directive. Secretary Ray Barmore seconded the motion and the motion was passed with board approval.

g. New Computers

There were various discussions on buying computers for the office. President Mike Esnard stated that its Edwina's decision to select which computers to buy and not the board's. Ray Barmore make a motion to cap the cost at \$5000 and the motion was passed and approved by the board.

h. Update on Code Committee

The meeting went very well. Cal-Fire's Joe Lewis was at the meeting, he enforced the code in Rubidoix and Jakupa. The costs involved with the code were \$130 per acre with a \$254 administration charge.

Sue Nash and Joe Lewis are drafting a new 695 code. This will be a combination of the current code and the San Bernardino Mountain Area Hazard Abatement Code.

5. Education (Edwina Scott)

a. GSOB Detection

Forty two trees have been identified as having GSOB, also Holly Owens three trees and two trees at Stroud's home have GSOB. This makes the grand total of forty seven confirmed GSOB trees.

Ten trees were sprayed at Strouds and a neighbor's two nobby pines, plus one other. These test trees should give some indication of how well spraying works.

A demonstration of the debarking tool was given and the tool works very well.

Jerry says that Dan Cierley is doing good job checking and reporting on the GSOB trees.

b. Larry's Letters

Larry Kueneman, 2nd Vice President, sent a letter on MCFSC letter head without the board's approval. The board will have to approve these letters before putting on letter head and mailing.

6. Agency Reports

Gregg Bratcher, Cal Fire

The fires in the northern part of the state have cut his forces back to Dan Cierley and him.

Resource Management: Stone Creek needs chipping but no crews are available.

Tom Coleman did a flight survey recently and found that the pine needles on some of the pine trees are being eaten by scale. These pine trees appear to be in the Strawberry Creek drainage. The scale weakens the trees, then the bark beetles attack.

7. Meetings:

- a. Brown Bag Meeting: Wednesday, Noon, August 27, MRC Office
- b. Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 9:30 AM, MRC Conference Room

Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 AM

Meeting minutes taken by Dan Dever.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Barmore, Secretary