

Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council

Board of Directors Meeting
9:30 A.M., Tuesday, September 9, 2014
Mountain Resource Center

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Pat Boss, Don Patterson, Edwina Scott, ED

Others Present:

Dan Dever; Gregg Bratcher, Cal-Fire; Freddy Espinoza, Keyanna Warren, USFS; Elliott Taylor, Woodies-GSOB; Sue Nash

1. President's Remarks (Mike Esnard)

The Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Mike Esnard. A card was passed around for Shela Boynton for all the good work she has done on the newsletters. Director Doris Lombard collected donations and has set up a Gift Certificate for Shela in her new home town in Oregon.

2. Budget & Finance (Jerry Holldber)

a. Financial Report

- Treasurer Jerry Holldber presented the financial report. Agency Liaison Norm Walker made a motion to accept the financial report and the board unanimously accepted the motion and the motion was passed.
- It appears that everyone likes our auditors. Jerry passed out a proposed cost break down for a three year contract with Rogers, Anderson, Malody & Scott, LLP (RAMS).
- Director Marvin Spreyne made a motion to accept the proposal and the motion was carried by all.

3. Adoption of August, 2014 Minutes

Ron made a motion to accept the August 2014 Minutes as submitted, Jerry seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

4. Fuel Modification Operations (Edwina Scott)

a. FEMA/CalEMA Roof Replacement Grant

Executive Director Edwina Scott said that in August, 7 houses were reroofed and completed at a cost of \$46,950 with a reimbursable cost of \$35,213. The total number of reroofing jobs completed through August 31 was 63.

b. CFSC Grant

- Katie Mariel, CFSC Grants Manager, had a good site visit with us on August 15. Field Supervisors Don Patterson and Pat Boss gave her a great presentation and tour. The tour consisted of visits to abatement job sites, reroofing job sites, GSOB oak and bark beetle infested trees and petroglyphs.
- The Grant is not funded yet, Katie approved the council starting the project for reimbursed later. The Board members agreed, Jerry asked if we should set a cap on the amount. The Board Members settled on \$50,000. Jerry made a motion to approve the \$50,000 maximum amount and the Board unanimously passed the resolution.

c. County Coop Grant

In August, seven acres were cleared. 15 tons of biomass was removed and taken to the grinding station and 39 tons were ground on site and spread. Six cords of fire wood were left for the owners.

d. Projects and Woodies Report

- Don reported that four Woodies working sessions were held last month. Idyllwild Arts had requested large rounds be cut so they could use them as table tops, this was done. A large amount of wood was split as well. The Woodies logged 124 volunteer hours of work this month. Jan Fast logged an additional 16 volunteer hours of work.
- Pat has been working on the Astro Camp abatement project. The Camp needs brushing out the interior. The responsibility will be broken down to 50% for Pat and 50% for Don. The job will be bid as a single job, but using two contractors. The job should be put up for bid next week with an expected cost of ~\$25,000.

e. New Computers

- The new computers are here and are wonderfully. They have an i7 processor, Windows 8.1 64 Bit operating system, 12GB memory and a 1 TB hard drive. Don got a 22 inch monitor, his old monitor was small and hard to read.
- Each computer cost \$634.50, the single monitor was \$133 the laptop was \$919, Taxes of \$287 and a eight dollar recycle charge for a total cost of \$3885. The MCFSC's credit card limit is \$2200, not high enough to cover the purchase the computers. Edwina charged the whole thing to her personal credit card.

5. Education (Edwina Scott)

a. GSOB Detection

- We are receiving only a few calls from the HotLine. Nevertheless, every Thursday the Oak-K Team does windshield inspections and inspects a limited number of Oaks called into the Hotline. Ron's team has broken up the Idyllwild map and are finding new streets, they will continue for as long as possible.

- As soon as flight season is over we will be doing a debrief with everyone involved.
- In late winter 2015 another Town Hall meeting about the Oak Borer may be needed.
- Jerry brought up the possibility of using other grinding sites in Hemet
- The Newsletter is almost completed.

6. **Special Goals**

a. **Sue Nash on New Fire Code**

- Sue got involved with the New Fire Code because of climate change, the drought is getting worse.
- Code 4291 is the State code for incorporated parcels. SBCode 23.0304 defines all parcels in San Bernardino County.
- Chief Hawkins would like to see this type of law applied to all unincorporated private parcels county wide. He would like to see this new code in place by next spring. The new Code will have to go through county council to be passed. Joe Lewis is still involved in the process. Sue has general notes on the new laws but not in detail.
- Mike thanked her for her work in this project.
- Chief Hawkins will set a date for a meeting to review a new map being draw up that will show areas of concern.

b. **Board Composition**

- Mike stated that the Board was functioning very well and he was very pleased.
- Mike also would like to get the board members input on what qualifications they feel new board members should possess.
- Bob Brown has not attended any Board meetings in the recent past. It appears that he is not interested in becoming a Board member. Ed Sherman, Garner Valley Emergency Coordinator and Holly Owens were mentioned as possible candidates for Board membership.

7. **Agency Reports**

Freddy Espinoza and Keyanna Warren, USFS

- They are working on NEPA for the Pine Cove fuel breaks.
- Work is continuing on the West Ridge and Strawberry fuel breaks.
- Kevin Turner is trying to get thin segments of Black Oak GSOB tree trunks.
- A Firewood Collection Event is being planned for the Mountain Fire burn area this fall on designated weekends. Tree replanting will start soon in the burn areas.

Gregg Bratcher, Cal Fire

- To date a total of 50 to 51 GSOB trees have been identified. Three of the GSOB tree owners have not gotten back to Cal-Fire on what to do with their GSOB infested trees.

- Statements must be submitted to Cal-Fire by no later than September 30.
- There is a possibility that the grant will be extended but using a Deviation of Policy for \$640K.
- The Stone Creek area will be worked on shortly.
- Tom Coleman is writing a document for testing of tree spraying, the testing could continue for two years.

8. Meetings:

Brown Bag Meeting: Wednesday, Noon, September 24, MRC Office

Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 9:30 AM, MRC Conference Room

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10 AM

Meeting minutes taken by Dan Dever.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Barmore, Secretary