Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 10, 2017  
MINUTES

Board members present: Norm Walker, Ron Perry, Doris Lombard, Jerry Holldber, Ray Barmore, Larry Kueneman and Marvin Spreyne

Staff present: Edwina Scott

Public in attendance: Brian Tisdale, Supervisor Washington’s Office; Freddie Espinoza and Matt Ahearn, USFS; Robert Fish, CAL FIRE; April Eugene, County Fire; Gregg Bratcher, CAL FIRE; Ian Tober.

1) Opening Remarks – Norm Walker, President
   President Walker commented on ongoing fires in California and on the aspects of wind and its relationship to fire and the need for fire fuel abatement.

2) Budget and Financial Report - Jerry Holldber, Treasurer
   a. Financial Report: September 2017 financial reports. Treasurer Holldber gave a briefing of each line item and along with the board complimented both Edwina Scott and our C.P.A. Laurie Marcher. Move to file the report for audit made by Ron Perry. Passed.
   b. Delinquent EDD/Taxes: Norm Walker will work with Edwina Scott to draft and send a letter.

3) Adoption of September 2017 Minutes
   The Minutes were reviewed. With a minor correction and on a Move by Jerry Holldber, seconded by Ron Perry, the minutes were accepted.

4) Fuel Modification Operations - Edwina Scott
   b. California Fire Safe Council 2016 Grant: Using CaFSC grant funds, MCFSC worked with three property owners, creating fuels reduction plans and facilitating the contractors’ bidding process to create defensible space.
   c. CWPP: Completed and approved by Steering Committee and County Fire Chief John Hawkins and now in the hands of County Board Supervisor Chuck Washington. Note: Copyright statement to be added.
   d. County funds to assist low-income individuals: No requests received. Edwina Scott to send a report to Opal Hellweg.
   e. SRA Grants:
      I. Dead and Dying Tree Removal: In September, MCFSC worked with two homeowners, helping them remove six bark beetle infested trees.
      II. Fuels Reduction: Last month, MCFSC worked with six home owners, helping them reduce the fuels on their properties and creating defensible space.
f. Projects Report: Edwina shared photos of a pending fuels reduction job on Inspiration Lane and before and after comparison pictures of a fuels reduction job Garner Valley.

g. Woodies Report: Ron Perry related that since a flyer was posted 2 individuals have joined the list of volunteers. He also complimented the trade skills of Ray Johnson who successfully and in a brief time repaired the professional chain saw used by the Woodies.

5) Education – Edwina Scott
   a. GSOB Update: Ron Perry revealed that 6 requests have been received and of those 5 will be inspected. While no funds are available for tree removal the mapping of data will continue.
   b. Correspondence: None. In brief, Norm Walker will compose material for the next newsletter and to include revelation on the Saunder Meadows, a thank you to Ray Johnson, and the topic of basic explanation of prescribed burns requirements,

6) New Business
   a. A schedule conflict prevented Supervisor Chuck Washington from attending this meeting. Brian Tisdale will attempt to get his presence at a meeting in November. The board agreed to change the meeting day if necessary to accommodate the supervisor.

7) Agency Reports – Matt Ahearn touched on San Bernardino fires and fire stats, the current Pine Cove Fuel Break process and other burn projects for this coming winter. Robert Fish gave comments that included info about the firefighters working out-of-county and the current California fires are drawing down on resources. Gregg Batcher gave comment on the Astro Camp Project, Cal-Trans Right-of-Way, Red Hill Fuel Break, and on the changes where SRA funds will be replaced by funds generated by the Sacramento Cap and Trade.

8) Public Comments – Ian Tober questioned whether it is more cost effective to fight a fire or reduce fire fuel which resulted in a generalized discussion.

9) Meetings:
   a. Next Board Meeting: November 14, 2017, 9:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Marvin Spreyne, Secretary

Note takers: Secretary Marvin Spreyne and Executive Director Edwina Scott