

Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council
Board of Directors Meeting
March 13, 2018

MINUTES

Board members present: **Norm Walker, Ron Perry, Doris Lombard, Jerry Holddber, Chris Kramer** and **Marvin Spreyne**

Staff present: **Edwina Scott and Pete Coy**

Public in attendance: **Brian Tisdale**, Supervisor Washington's Office; **Matt Boss**, USFS; **Gregg Bratcher**, Cal Fire; **Greg Ross**

- 1) Opening Remarks – **Norm Walker**, President
Commented and passed around an issue of a magazine entitled 'Living with Wildfire in Northern California. Executive Director **Edwina Scott** will consult with Arrow Printing on the possibility of such a magazine for Southern California.
- 2) Budget and Financial Report - **Jerry Holddber**, Treasurer
Financial Report: February 2018 financial reports. **Jerry Holddber** discussed the financial reports and highlighted on the request for \$60K advance of 2016 USFS grant money. **Norm Walker** moved to file the report for audit.
- 3) Adoption of January 24, 2018 Minutes
The Minutes were reviewed. On a Move by **Jerry Holddber**, seconded by **Chris Kramer**, the minutes were accepted. On a move by **Ron Perry**, seconded by **Jerry Holddber**, the officers for 2018 remain the same by acclamation.
- 4) Fuel Modification Operations - **Edwina Scott**
 - a. California Fire Safe Council 2016 Grant: Relative to fuel modification operations **Pete Coy**, Project Manager, worked with 3 individuals who own a total of 7 parcels equaling 10.34 acres. Creating fuel reduction plans for their respective properties. Sixteen tons of biomass was chipped and removed, and 4.5 cords of firewood was left for the homeowner. CALFSC has requested that a label be added to all our invoices, in addition to submitting copies of checks instead of check stubs. All receipts submitted should be only for items for the MCSFC and the Woodies. Help Center wood distribution would be an in-kind match, not a cash match.
 - b. County funds to assist low-income individuals: No activity
 - c. SRA Grants:
 - I. Dead and Dying Tree Removal: Our final grant report was submitted and approved and submitted for payment on March 6th. The amount of reimbursement is \$30,992.85.
 - II. Fuels Reduction: Our final grant report was submitted and approved and submitted for payment on March 7th. The amount of reimbursement is \$7,048.39.
 - d. Projects Report: **Peter Coy** commented that activity has been slow though he finished 4 jobs, with 3 more pending; one is in Pinyon but we're waiting for additional ones in that

area and continues to be busy educating people on fire fuel reduction issues along with general fire safety issues.

- e. Woodies Report: **Ron Perry** mentioned that they processed 8 cords with a value of \$1,600.00 and provided 100.25 volunteer hours with a value of \$2,853.12, with a total combine value of \$4,453.12.

5) Education – **Edwina Scott**

- a) GSOB Update: We’ve been waiting two months for SCE to remove two pines. The possibility of a second team was discussed.
- b) Correspondence: **Norm Walker** stated he’s been in phone contact with staff of Congressman Ruiz. Scheduling conflicts prevent the congressman from meeting at the MCFSC office thus plans are being considered to meet at the office of the congressman.

6) Old Business -

- a) By-laws Revision - **Ron Perry** commented he is working to condense 7 separate copies of the by-laws to one after which that copy will be reviewed for any updating required. Henceforth any amended copy of the by-laws will require the date at the bottom of that document.
- b) Community Outreach Meeting – After a discussion it was agreed to invite the PIO’s of both the U.S.F.S. and CAL-FIRE to the board’s May 2018 meeting as a precursor to having a Community Outreach Meeting, with reasoning that agency results are not getting to the public and to be a good partner to make awareness to get funding.

7) New Business - **Edwina Scott** provided a list of current equipment. That list will be reviewed by the Woodies for any updating.

8) Agency Reports –**Matt Boss**, U.S.F.S., related that both the Pine Cove and West Ridge projects are finished, and the Thomas Mountain project may be revisited if a window opens and that many other projects need to be done. **Gregg Bratcher**, CAL-FIRE Division Chief, commented that the Astrocamp project continues and the right-of-way work will require the assistance of traffic control by Caltrans. Work is underway on the Red Hill vegetation management document and that CSA 38 is to provide some funding and that the Demonstration Forest needs more space and a supplement agreement with CAL FIRE and Idyllwild to having cooperative burns.

9) Public Comments –**Marvin Spreyne** commented that the Pinyon Fire Fuel Reduction Collection Site (Pinyon Green Waste Site) has reopened after all chipping was completed. **Marvin Spreyne** suggested the idea of procuring ‘MCFSC Member’ decals and then visiting businesses in the mountain communities briefly educating them of the purpose of the MCFSC and how it benefits their business and to encourage them to provide a donation at which time they would received a member decal to display conspicuously at their business. It was recommended that the decal have a year date. **Edwina Scott** will research the possibility and cost with Arrow Printing.

10) Meetings:

- a) Next Board Meeting: Next board meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2018 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, Marvin Spreyne, Secretary

Note takers: Secretary Marvin Spreyne and Executive Director Edwina Scott