

**Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council  
Board of Directors Meeting**

November 12, 2019 Minutes:

Board members present: Doris Lombard, Jerry Holldber, Chris Kramer, Norm Walker and Woody Henderson

MCFSC Staff present: Kathy Wilson, Pete Coy, Courtney Locke

Agency Staff present: Charles Wentz - USFS.

Public in attendance: Greg Ross, Woodies volunteer.

1) Opening Remarks

Norm led a discussion on visit with Ruiz rep in the desert. FSC representatives; Kat, Norm & Jerry met with Ruiz rep regarding masticator and tub grinder funding. No funding immediately available. Jerry to continue to consult with other agencies. Jerry consulted with tub grinder source and showed details on the 1100 being discussed. Woody asked where grindings go. Discussion on need for a December meeting for grants, bookkeeping etc. It will be December 10.

2) Adoption of the Minutes for October 8

The minutes were accepted as printed on a move by Jerry H, seconded by Doris L.

3) Budget and Financial

a. Financial Report for November 15. Jerry Holldber, Treasurer, went through financial reports.

Chris asked if people can stipulate when donating, that funds be sent to say, the Woodies. The answer was yes.

There was a discussion on how Laurie the bookkeeper does the spreadsheet. Jerry will confirm all submittal of finances will be deferred until December meeting.

4) Agency Reports

Charles Wentz – USFS spoke on tree planting operation and multi-agency abatement of burned trees along Hwy 243. About an 1/8 of a mile left, a couple more weeks.

Chris asked what the procedure is for public collection of wood. Answer was yes, with a Forest Service permit.

Norm asked what the procedure is for collecting manzanita on the hill. Answer was that it is not currently legal. FS is working on a permit for that.

Sal Reyes got the division position and he is settling in.

Norm asked about a rep coming to December meeting to confer about informing the community about spring prescriptive burning so as to lessen 911 calls and other concerns.

5) Fuel Modification Operations – Kathy Wilson

- a. CalFire 2018 grant. Fuels reduction – no jobs in October.

Tree removal – contractors removed 10 trees: 6 pine, 4 gsob for 9 homeowners. 32.75 tons of biomass.

Total of both programs to date: 179 trees removed, 110 parcels, 99 property owners, 181.84 acres and 422.34 tons total biomass removed.

- b. California Fire Safe Council 2018 grant.

Field reps worked with 4 property owners; contractors cleared 8.77 acres, 7 trees of which 3 were gsob oak. 30.5 tons of biomass.

Totals to date: 21 trees, 24 parcels, 42.75 acres, 137.25 tons of biomass removed.

Kat asked about what grant amounts to request if we hit our numbers plus needed money to do more vacant lot abatement.

Discussion on lowering homeowner payment amounts from 35-25% during times when there is enough money.

Norm suggested FSC planning for big and small projects was similar, maybe there was room for a reduction on big projects.

Chris suggested keeping as is to protect FSC in times with less grant money.

Kat mentioned vacant lot abatement funding, and that cost per acre can vary widely.

Pete says that tricky properties can cost us more than 35%.

Jerry suggested an informal meeting next week to discuss this percentage. Set for November 20, 1200.

- c. Projects Report. Pete says Cid grant should be spent soon. 7 jobs are pending, 10 jobs we are awaiting checks n contracts returned. 4 jobs are out for contractor bids. Only a few properties are awaiting field inspections. The big season is winding down.

- d. Woodies Report from Doris. October had 12.5 cords cut with a value of \$2500. 136.5 hours worked with a value of \$4088. Total in kind donation of \$6588.

Norm is buying a 42” bar and will be using the existing chain.

Chris noted that when asking contractors for extra wood, sometimes they dump not usable wood that Woodies have to take to transfer station.

Woody asked if we could stipulate where the wood goes in contracts. It was then suggested a flyer be put in owner and contractor packs to encourage donations of appropriate wood to Woodies.

Norm mentioned transfer station deal was needed as they charge Woodies to drop larger bio. Their limit is 8”. Also for grind station.

6) Education

- a. Gsob update from Doris. She spoke of a Gsob tree onsite.  
b. Correspondence, none.

7) Old Business

- a. Pine Cove roads project (CSA 38). A request was passed on from Jesse. Norm will ask Bill Weiser.

- b. Policies and Procedures Update. Doris submitted her corrections and they had been implemented into the document. Woody proposed motion to accept, Norm seconded it, all approved. Everyone needs to sign.
  - c. Team Rubicon is available to come up and do large abatement. Likely where other abatement ended above Idy Arts. Kat found them and set up a meeting. Chris spoke with them, they just need bunk space and bathroom with showers. Buckhorn was proposed. Can't do Idy school as they require 3 million liability and FSC only has 2 million.
  - d. New Grants
- 8) New Business
- a. Contractors annual reporting. Jerry would like to see reporting more often, there is a liability issue if contractors are not using employees as required. Contract for contractors could be updated, we'll look next week. Question for the lawyer, is our due diligence to request annually? Pete said we do it every January/February.
  - b. Bank of Hemet, motion to approve Bank Signers resolution. We need secretary Marvin and a copy of the minutes. Jerry made the motion, Norm seconded, approved.
  - c. Public Education event, showing of Paradise Fire documentary. Kat described how it would work. Discussion on possible locations.
- 9) Public Comments, none.

Next Board Meeting: December 10, 2019, 9:30am

Respectfully submitted, Woody Henderson