

# Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council

Board of Directors Meeting

June 12, 2018

## *MINUTES*

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

Staff present: **Edwina Scott**

Public in attendance: **Brian Tisdale**, Supervisor Washington's Office; **Charles Wentz**, U.S.F.S.; **David Ofahulu**, U.S.F.S; **Robert Fish**, CALFIRE; and **Nochella Funes**

- 1) Opening Remarks – **Norm Walker**, President  
President Walker welcomed everyone. He attended a meeting at Idyllwild about the fire threat that some of the homeless pose to the mountain communities.
- 2) Budget and Financial
  - a) Financial Report: May 2018. **Jerry Holddber** discussed the financial reports.  
The financial reports will be filed for audit.
  - b) Edwina told the council that currently all signers who have online banking have full access to MCFSC's accounts and has full authority to make any transactions to all of the council's accounts. Treasurer Holddber will go talk to the bank about this.
- 3) **Adoption of June 12, 2018 Minutes**  
On a Move by Director Perry and seconded by Director Kramer, the minutes were approved.
- 4) Fuel Modification Operations - **Edwina Scott**
  - a) California Fire Safe Council 2016 Grant  
Things were slow in May, but they picked up this month.
  - b) County funds to assist low-income individuals  
We completed the last final job last week. This brings the total to 12 properties we completed using CID funds. We went over by \$113 which the MCFSC contributed as a match. I will not make my final report until the last check has been written.
  - c) Grants applications:
    - On May 24, the ICF came to interview MCFSC and the Woodies as applicants for their 2018-19 grant. The Woodies were here and did a wonderful job.
    - On May 14, we submitted a CaFSC grant, requesting \$200,000 for fuels reduction.
    - On June 6, we submitted a grant to CAL FIRE, requesting \$600,000 to remove hazardous fuels on private properties and remove dead and dying trees that pose a fire or a health and safety hazard. We included GSOB trees.
  - d) Projects Report (Field Supervisor Coy)  
Pete reported that over the past two weeks calls have really increased and he is very busy.
  - e) Woodies Report (Directors Perry and Lombard)  
Director Perry gave the Woodies report for May
    - 2 working sessions at the Help Center splitting wood.
    - 4 cords of split firewood were donated to the HELP Center for distribution.
    - 55.5 volunteer hours.

5) Education – **Edwina Scott**

a) GSOB Update: Directors Perry and Lombard

Director Perry reported that there is nothing to report at this time. However, when we recruit new inspectors and he would like to participate in the GSOB Training.

b) Correspondence: President Walker reported that District Ranger Delgado submitted a letter of support for the California Fire Safe Grant. ED Scott reported that the MCFSC also received a letter of support from Congressman Ruiz.

c) Director Perry reported that on June 5 he and Elliott Taylor gave a presentation to the Idyllwild Garden Club and it went very well.

6) Old Business: Dispensation of County Funds

Brian Tisdale, Legislative Assistant for Riverside County Third District Supervisor Chuck Washington reported that County Council recommended that the MCFSC send a letter to Bank of America telling them why the county didn't spend the money and how MCFSC plans to use it. He said this is "old money" now.

7) Board Members Reports –

Director Holldber discussed how MCFSC could partner with CSA 38 and Riverside County to remove brush along the non-county-accepted roads in Pine Cove. The CSA has funds to spend on fuel breaks and other fuels reduction projects.

8) Agency Reports –

CAL FIRE, Nochella reported on several projects: Astro Camp; the VMP for Pine Cove; Point of Rocks; and the Spring Crest fuel break.

U.S. Forest Service, Charles reported on the current U.S.F.S. projects: Thomas Mountain; status of the new NEPA for fuels breaks around the town; status of Zone C; and the Pine Cove fuel break.

Idyllwild Fire, Chief Reitz reported on IFPD's projects: County Code Enforcements to help with repeat offenders; 3,000 first inspections are done.

9) Public Comments – None

10) Meetings:

Next Board Meeting: Scheduled for July 10, 2018 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, **Marvin Spreyne**, Secretary

Note taker: Executive Director **Edwina Scott**