



San Luis Obispo County FireSafe Council

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San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council

E-Board Meeting Agenda

APRIL 28, 2011

3:00 -6:00

San Luis Obispo County Government Center

4th Floor Supervisors Conference Room

Meeting called to order by President Patterson at 3:00

Attendees:

- Exec. Committee members present: President Patterson; 1st Vice President Jim Harrison; Treasurer Bob Neumann; Secretary Steve Negro.
- Exec Committee members absent: 2nd Vice President Dan Dulitz; Member at Large Leon Goldin
- Staff present: Division Chief Alan Peters, CAL FIRE; Business Manager Dan Turner
- Guests present: Director Wally McCall, State Fire Safe Council Board of Directors; SLO FSC Director Martin Scott (Ranchita Estates); Manager Dennis Javens, Oak Shores Community Assn.;

Wally McCall

Wally McCall from the State Fire Safe Council Board of Directors gave a presentation about the status of the State Fire Safe Council. Wally has been active with the Ojai Fire Safe Council and runs "The Crew" a community based hand crew that does fuel reduction work for the Ojai FSC and other customers. State Board of Director members are being asked to make direct contact with local FSC to learn more about the organizations other than just being grantees.

Pat Kidder is the new State Chairman. Grant funding from federal agencies for current grants is behind and appears to be in jeopardy for future grant cycles. Senator Feinstein is no longer Chair of the Senate Budget Committee that oversees US Dept. of Interior (BLM, NPS, FWS) and US Forest Service budgets. She has been a strong advocate for federal grant funding for FSC type projects. Wally suggests letters to members of Congress to continue funding grants. State FSC is looking to other grant sources other than federal agencies.

Concern about environmental compliance for FSC projects is a significant issue in some parts of the state, especially San Diego County. Issues are being raised about work in salmon habitat streams and status of chaparral shrub land as a threatened habitat.

New change in federal grant rules now allow for maintenance of previous FSC projects to be eligible for grant funding; previous rules precluded ongoing maintenance as an allowable grant funded project.



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1. YTD Financial status

Dan Turner provided a copy of the current budget status or grants and operating expenses for the FSC.

- a) Check Signature Card- Mission Community Bank

Carl Dudley from Mission Community Bank collected signatures from Exec Committee members present that are authorized to sign checks and approve electronic payments for the SLO FSC (Patterson, Harrison, Neumann, Negro).

2. Oak Shores Request for Focus Group Recognition-Dennis Javens

Dennis Javens from Oak Shores Community Assn (OSCA) presented a written request from their organization asking to be recognized as SLO FSC Focus Group. Their letter was accompanied by a letter of support from CAL FIRE. Mr. Javens described the community's efforts to organize their efforts since the first SLO FSC meeting he attended in Nov 2010. OSCA has formed an internal fire safety committee comprised of permanent residents and vacation property owners. The seven (7) member committee has been working with CAL FIRE and Cal Poly to develop a comprehensive hazard reduction plan for the community located on the North shore of Lake Nacimiento. Mr Javens presented copies of the Community Wildfire Protection Fire Plan (CWPP) developed for OSCA by Dr Dicus' Cal Poly Wildland Urban Interface Class.

President Patterson explained that the full Board of Directors would have to approve the addition of OSCA as an official Focus Group at the next full Board meeting. The Exec Committee did vote to recommend to the full Board that OSCA be accepted as an official focus group (Motion by Steve Negro; Second by Bob Neumann; vote 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent)

3. CFSC Grant Clearing house update

- i) **Grant 383 Grant Status report-** Dan Turner (attachment)
 - (1) Chipping in Nipomo will begin in July using a combination of 383 Grant and the remaining balance of the South County APCD grant. A copy of th flyer for the event was provided by CAL FIRE.
- ii) **The SLO FSC Board of Directors gave tentative approval to three (3) projects at the March meeting, pending formal requests and project details.**
 - a. **Request for allocation of 2010 "383 grant" project funds**
 - 1) **Ranchita Estates Focus Group:** \$1,000 to Ranchita Estates for shaded fuel break work. Martin Scott presented the focus group's multi-year plan that included this year's efforts. The plan has the concurrence and support of CAL FIRE staff.



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- 2) **UCCE Fire Safe Garden proposal**-San Luis Obispo (attachment). \$4,000 to Univ of Calif Cooperative Extension request for a fire safe demonstration garden in San Luis Obispo. Mary Bianchi provided a formal request with plans and specifications of the project. City of San Luis Obispo FD supports the project.
 - 3) **City of San Luis Obispo** -\$5,000 for hazardous fuel reduction projects. SLO City FD Fire Marshal Roger Maggio provided a detailed project proposal and budget; the project is expected to be accomplished using CAL FIRE Cuesta Hand Crews. CAL FIRE Division Chief Alan Peters provided aerial view maps of proposed project areas. Peters also explained that neither CAL FIRE nor CA Dept of Corrections and Rehabilitation have approved the use of Cuesta Crews on the project yet.
- ***SLO FSC Executive Committee approved the Ranchita Estates and UC Co-op Extension projects for official funding (Motion by Jim Harrison, Second by Steve Negro; vote 4-0)***
 - ***SLO FSC Exec Committee deferred approval on the City of SLO Project until confirmation from CAL FIRE on use of Cuesta Crews was obtained, or if Cuesta Crews could not be used then a modified plan from City of SLO would be required reflecting new project scope. (Motion by Bob Neumann, Second by Steve Negro; vote 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent)***

Dan Turner reported that after allocating funds to the three (3) projects above there is approximately \$64,000 in grant funds from the 2010 "383" grant that remain unallocated and must be expended prior to October 2011.

4) Oak Shores Entry Road proposal

A \$28,161 request from Oak Shores Community Association for funding from the 2010 "383" grant was presented by Dennis Javens (OSCA) Manager and Division Chief Alan Peters, CAL FIRE. The proposed project is to reduce hazardous fuel on the entry road into the Oak Shores community and water storage tanks that provide the community's water supply. The request is phase 1 of a multi-phase plan developed by OSCA, CAL FIRE and Cal Poly. OSCA budgets \$21,000 per year for defensible space maintenance. The project has written support from CAL FIRE, CDCR, OSCA, and Nacimiento Water Company including commitments for required match.

Exec Committee discussion included questions about OSCA buying 20 motorized weed whackers in lieu of renting them. Mr. Javens explained that renting them was more expensive than purchasing them and that they would be available for use by Cuesta Crews doing this phase of the project as well as future phases, thereby reducing overall costs. Work needs to begin immediately to assure availability of Cuesta Crews prior to fire season getting into full swing.

Exec Committee approved allocation of \$28, 161 to this project with the caveat that the weed whackers be maintained and stored by OSCA but made available for use by Cuesta Crews on



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other FSC approved projects (Motion by Jim Harrison, Second by Steve Negro; vote 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent).

2. 2011 Grant-See Canyon area

- a. Status update-Alan Peters

Fuel reduction work on the See Canyon project is waiting on approval of the environmental review. Community group has met and is prepared to start work

3. 2012 Grant Workshop update- Dan Turner

Dan Turner gave an update on the upcoming 2012 grant application process (see attachment):

- The primary issue of change for the SLO FSC is the new single organization grant request cap of \$200,000. SLOFSC projects cannot exceed \$200,000 in a single grant request, nor can multiple smaller requests be awarded more than \$200,000 in aggregate.
- SLO FSC can serve as the “FISCAL SPONSOR” for an organization that does not want (or does not qualify) to apply directly to State Grant Clearinghouse. The same \$200,000 cap applies to that organization, but does not impact the SLO FSC cap. SLO FSC would serve as the fiscal agent and grant manager including recovering operating expenses through the SLO FSC 15% admin charge.

4. 2012 Grant Proposals

SLO FSC initially received requests for eight (8) projects for the 2012 grant application

1. Oak Shores proposal-Dennis Javens (attachment)-
2. Ranchita Estates proposal-Martin Short (attachment)
3. See Canyon Phase 3-Alan Peters (attachment)
4. Atascadero City proposal-Keith Aggson (attachment)
5. Botanical Gardens Fire Safe Landscaping-Jim Patterson (attachment)
6. Pismo Beach-Alan Peters (**withdrawn by proposer**)
7. Barron Canyon-Alan Peters
8. Countywide Chipping- Dan Turner

The written proposals were sent to all Board of Director members for review and comment. Responses from Board of Directors that were not able to attend the Exec Committee meeting were logged and used during Exec Committee deliberations. The Exec Committee reviewed written submitted proposals heard presentations from project proponents. Applications must be submitted prior to June 1, 2011 including all required documentation and letters of commitment.

Discussion regarding use of current grant (2010 “383”) unallocated funding for any of these projects was discussed. Funding from “383” grant can be used if the project is within the



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scope of the original grant request without further action from State FSC. Written concurrence from State FSC is required if there are changes from original scope. The priority rating matrix is attached

The Exec Committee took the following actions:

- 1. Remove 2012 \$13,230 request from Botanical Gardens for Fire Safe Demo garden at El Chorro Regional Park and to fund it from existing 2010 "383" grant funds**
Motion: Steve Negro
Second: Bob Neumann
Vote: 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent

- 2. Remove \$75,000 See Canyon Phase # 3 from SLO FSC grant request and have the SLO FSC serve as the Fiscal Sponsor for County Fire with SLO County concurrence.**
Motion: Jim Harrison
Second: Bob Neumann
Vote: 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent

- 3. Approve application for the priority shown below, with the caveat ; if Barron Canyon does not clarify their request, then their allocation will revert to county wide chipping**
Motion: Bob Neumann:
Second: Jim Harrison
Vote: 4-0; Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent

2012 SLO FSC Grant Application priority and letters of commitment required

- 1) \$31,000 Oak Shores Community wide fuel reduction**
 - (i) OPS HOA letter of commitment for project and match**
 - (ii) CAL FIRE/Cuesta Camp Letter of commitment and match above \$200 /day**
 - (iii) CDCR letter of commitment for Community Release crews**

- 2) \$ 5,000 Ranchita Estates shaded fuel break**
 - (i) Ranchita Estates HOA letter of commitment for project, property owner permission, and match**
 - (ii) CAL FIRE/Cuesta Camp Letter of commitment and match above \$200 /day**

- 3) \$96,000 Countywide chipping**
 - (i) Letter of commitment from CAL FIRE/Cuesta Camp for project management, crews and match above \$200/day**
 - (ii) Letters from Templeton, Los Osos, Nipomo, Cambria, San Miguel CSDS for match**

- 4) \$19,500 Atascadero City chipping**



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(i) Letter from ATA for project management and match

5) \$18,500 Barron Canyon shaded fuel break

(i) Letter for match requirements and property owner permissions

(ii) New request that clarifies request amount and match amounts

5. 2011 Strategic Plan—Goals and Objectives

a) Second Draft (attachment)

President Patterson recommended, and Exec Committee concurred, the draft be sent to all Board of Directors for discussion at next Full Board of Directors meeting.

6. May Board of Directors meeting

Recommend the next full Board of Directors meeting originally scheduled for May 25, 2011 be postponed until June 9, 2011.

Motion: Jim Patterson

Second: Jim Harrison

Vote: 4-0 Dan Dulitz and Leon Goldin absent

7. Roundtable

Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 PM



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2012 Grant Application Project Rating Matrix

Project Name	J Patterson	Harrison	Neumann	Negro	Dulitz	Goldin	Roy Parsons/ Skip Dyke
Oak Shores Communitywide fuel management	1	1	1	1	7-move to 2013 funding		5
See Cyn Phase #3	Move to separate application						
Ranchita Shaded Fuel break	2	2	3	2	1		1
Barron Canyon	5	5	5	5	2		2
Atascadero City chipping	4	4	4	4	Cut amount by 50%	4	4
County wide chipping	3	3	2	3	3		3
Botanical Gardens	Move to funding in 2010 "383" grant						