



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 22, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

James Patterson – Co. Board of Supervisors	Keith Aggson – City of Atascadero
Dave Duran – District 4 Representative	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement
Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative	Rob Lewin – CAL FIRE/County Fire
Greg Saenz – Pacific Gas & Electric	Roy Parsons – Cattlemen’s Association
Steve Negro – District 1 Representative	Jim Harrison – Citizen at Large
Leon Goldin – Los Osos Focus Group	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Warren Hoag - SLO County Planning	Turko Semmes – Builders Community
Joseph Cabassi – Insurance Industry	Mark Miller – Fire Chief’s Association
Mark Elliott - APCD	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.	Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau
Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension	Ed Waage – Citizen at Large
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly	Paul Deis – American Red Cross
Bob Neumann – District 2 Representative	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Patterson at 9:10 AM.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the July 28, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes and the September 1, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

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BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Business Manager Dan Turner reported that Mission Community Bank has made changes to its electronic bill paying process resulting in challenges to how the Fire Safe Council bills are processed. Dan is working with Mission Community Bank for a resolution.

Dan Turner informed the council that a new grant opportunity is available through the US Fire Administration-Assistance to Firefighters in the research and prevention area. This grant can only be applied for by non-fire agencies and the funds used for public education i.e. focus on smoke alarms, training, code enforcement, public education and outreach and not used for fuel reduction. Application time is two to three months. Please submit ideas to Dan.

Deputy Fire Chief Alan Peters shared with the council that CAL FIRE submitted a grant application on August 26th for the Western State Foresters grant. The application is for \$291,000 and would be used for fuel reduction in the Parkhill area. If CAL FIRE is awarded the grant, the Fire Safe Council would be requested to act as fiscal sponsors of the grant money. **It was moved, seconded and approved that the Fire Safe Council act as fiscal sponsors of the Western State Foresters grant should CAL FIRE be awarded the grant (Roy Parsons abstained).**

Dan Turner stated that the 2012 FireSafe Grant Application has been submitted to the State of California for consideration, the State is considering now, and their decisions will be made available in two to three weeks.

See Canyon Phase II Project – This project is moving along well. CAL FIRE is requesting reallocation of \$11,000 cost savings from this project to other work in the See Canyon area and updating fire evacuation and pre-plans. The Executive Committee has reviewed this request and has given approval. **It was moved, seconded and approved to redirect \$11,000 funding from "Environmental Review" and "Other" to "Contractual Services" to create firefighter pre-attack maps and civilian evacuation brochures.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

In Bob Neumann's absence Dan Turner reviewed the financial statements through August 31, 2011. He also reviewed a new spreadsheet for Grant 11-182-See Canyon Phase II and Grant 2010-383-Chipping Countywide. Dan reviewed each project spreadsheet in detail. It was recommended that a date be placed on each of these spreadsheets in the future. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Financial Statements through August 31, 2011 for the SLO County Community FireSafe Council as presented.**

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Fire Captain Greg Alex gave an update on current chipping events. Nipomo and Suey Canyon continuing to be successful, reduction in participants; Suey Creek the participation was low due

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to the difficulty of getting the debris out the long driveways to the road; Parkhill just concluded on September 8th with 38 homeowners. He also distributed and reviewed a sheet summarizing the Web Server Statistics for fscslo.org as of September 23, 2011. Since the time of the first request the site has received 55,717 requests. Jim Patterson thanked Greg for his hard work on this project.

Jim Patterson gave a brief update on the Botanical Gardens Project funded with 383 grant monies – the grading and planting portion is underway and invoices have been submitted.

Deputy Fire Chief Alan Peters gave a brief update on upcoming fuel reduction projects. Prescribed burn planned for Montana de Oro is on schedule and a 50 acre fuel break on the east edge of Cambria is due to begin the end of October/early November timeframe. Anyone interested in observing a prescribed burn please notify Chief Peters who he will request approval from the incident commander at the time of the burn.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board subcommittee continues work on the 2011 Strategic Plan-Goals and Objectives. Committee members are going through the standard operating procedures line by line reviewing for accuracy. Findings and recommendations will be presented to the full Board of Directors at a future meeting.

During the review process one discrepancy was found pertaining to the Prudent Reserve. The Business Plan and Operating Guidelines are out of sync; the Business Plan calls for one year of operating expenses be held in reserve and the Operating Guidelines call for a maximum of \$5,000 held in reserve. Currently the annual operating expenses are closer to \$10,000. The Executive Committee is recommending changing the Prudent Reserve to \$10,000. **It was moved, seconded and approved to increase the Prudent Reserve from \$5,000 to \$10,000.**

NEW BUSINESS

There was lengthy discussion regarding whether the SLO Fire Safe Council should take a position relative to the controversial CAL FIRE State Responsibility Fee issue that is before the legislature, including cleanup legislation and referendum to overturn legislation. The Executive Committee recommended that the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council take NO POSITION on this issue.

The November meeting has been moved from November 24 (Thanksgiving Day) to November 17 – location to be determined.

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GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mark Elliott reported that the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) voted to increase burn permit fees from \$25 to \$50. The APCD will be issuing the permits and collecting fees; applications will be available on-line, at libraries and CSD offices. The APCD will be responsible for enforcing the regulations. Roy Parsons voiced that he would like to see the FireSafe Council take a stand against the fee increase. Discussion followed. President Patterson will add this item on the November board meeting agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM followed by a guided tour led by Captain Laurie Donnelly of Fire Safe Council-approved projects in San Luis Bay Estates, See Canyon, Squire Canyon and Baron Canyon.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn W. Moore