



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 23, 2013

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Mecham – Co. Board of Supervisors	Dennis Javens – Oak Shores Focus Group
Dave Duran – District 4 Representative	Keith Aggson – Atascadero Focus Group
Robin Foreman – SLO Assoc. of Realtors	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Skip Dyke – Range Improvement	Greg Saenz – Pacific Gas & Electric
Rob Lewin – CAL FIRE/County Fire	Roy Parsons – Citizen at Large
Jim McCallum – Los Osos Focus Group	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Bob Neumann – District 2 Representative	Leon Goldin – Citizen at Large
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly	Joseph Cabassi – Insurance Industry
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative
James Patterson – Eco-SLO	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Steve Negro – District 1 Representative
Steve McMasters - Co. Planning & Building	Mark Elliott - APCD
Anthony Stornetta – Cattlemen’s Assoc.	Turko Semmes – Builders Community
Jim Harrison – Citizen at Large	Mark Miller – Fire Chief’s Association
Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Mecham at 8:55 A.M. followed by introductions.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the consent item:

- Approve the March 28, 2013 Board of Director’s Meeting Minutes

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BUDGET REPORT

Business Manager Dan Turner presented and highlighted Grant USFS SFA 0197 2012 Chipping Countywide and the Accounting by Fund through May 21, 2013. It was recommended and agreed that the two Accounting by Fund pages be differentiated by “Grant Operating” and “In-house Operating”. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Financial Statements through May 21, 2013 for the SLO County Community FireSafe Council as presented.**

2013 CALENDAR YEAR PROJECT STATUS

Dan Turner asked for a status report for projects allocated under the 2012 Countywide Hazardous Fuel Reduction 12-0197 Grant to be completed by June 30, 2013.

Keith Aggson - stated that all allocated money has been spent for the following projects:

- *Atascadero Fuel Break Mastication
- *ATA-Rayer Road
- *Atascadero City Chipping

Keith Aggson was commended for an excellent job done on the Atascadero Chipping Project.

Dennis Javens – stated their project should come in under the \$15,000 allocated. Roy Parsons commended the work done in the Oakshores community.

Martin Scott – all allocated money has been spent for the Ranchita Estates Shaded Fuel Break – if there is any money available they could still use help with project bills.

Alan Peters – stated the WUI Pre-Plans are on schedule to be finished by the end of the grant period. Chipping in Los Osos should be finished too. Parkhill Chipping is ready to start and should be completed on time as well. Santa Rita Creek and Wild Cherry Canyon are questionable projects and will most likely not occur because of fire activity. The \$10,000 allocated to these projects could be available.

Pismo Heights – Dan Turner stated the goat project has been abandoned because of increased goat costs. They are moving toward mechanical means for vegetation management.

Dan Turner stated there might be \$10,000 to \$15,000 available for reallocation and use by the June 30, 2013 deadline.

After discussion, **it was moved, seconded and approved to reallocate the \$10,000 budgeted for the Wild Cherry Canyon and Santa Rita Creek vegetation management projects to cover additional costs incurred on the Atascadero Chipping Project, cover the cost of masticating a burn pile in Oakshores and any remaining money be used for the Ranchita Estates shaded fuel break.**

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2014 GRANT APPLICATION GOALS DISCUSSION

Dan Turner shared that the 2014 California FireSafe Council Grant application process will open possibly mid-July and close mid-September. Five million dollars will be available state-wide with one proposal per organization with a \$200,000 award limit. Funds will be focused on fuel treatment, maintenance, planning and education. A list of the 2013 FireSafe Council Goals and Objectives was emailed with the meeting materials for Board Members to use when considering projects. Dan Turner will research and identify Board Members to champion each the five areas of interest and return to the Executive Committee with a proposal for review.

Brainstorming ideas:

Hazard Reduction / Chipping

Prescribed burn video

“Rat trails” along roads with publicity

Allocate money to the County and CAL-TRANS for mowing and sweeping

Vegetation clearing at communication sites

Grazing, fencing and water development

Access Roads

Evacuation signage

Suey Creek

Upper Los Berros

Fuel Breaks

Ranchita fuel break

Nacimiento area

Parkhill area

Fuel break maintenance – crew work

Prescribed burns – crew work

Cherry Canyon fuel break

Use of steamer or pesticides

Education

Recreation area fire prevention education

Smokey Bear campaigns to educate visitors

Brand FireSafe Council

Recruit media person (possibly Tony Cipolla from Sheriff’s Office)

Speaker’s Bureau – go out into the community

Farm Bureau Magazine articles

Building materials video

Planning

Identify refuge areas

Pre-plan maps

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Jim Patterson shared that the FireSafe Council set up a booth at the Wildflower Festival and Earth Day festivities. Thanks to Bob Neumann for his help in procuring a pop-up canopy with the FireSafe name and logo helping get the FireSafe Council out in the community. Thanks to all those who volunteered at each event and thanks to Es Berliner and the CAL FIRE firefighters.

Chris Dicus shared that Cal Poly (under his and Dan Turner's direction) leads the wildland-urban interface module for the California Fire Science Consortium. Much valuable information can be found on our webpage at <http://cafiresci.org/wui>. Also, Phill Veneris presented a webinar entitled "Fire Operations in the Wildland-Urban Interface" to professionals around the world (some attendees from Spain) for the California Fire Science Consortium. An archived recording of the webinar can be found at <http://cafiresci.org/webinar-recordings/>.

Next Meeting: July 25, 2013 – location to be determined

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary