



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 22, 2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Mecham – Co. Board of Supervisors	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Jim Patterson – Eco-SLO	Mark Elliott - APCD
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement
Greg Saenz – Pacific Gas & Electric	Roy Parsons – Cattlemen’s Association
Jim McCallum – Los Osos Focus Group	Ed Waage – Citizen at Large
Turko Semmes – Builders Community	Dave Duran – District 4 Representative
Jim Harrison – Citizen at Large	Leon Goldin – Citizen at Large
Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Dennis Javens – Oak Shores Focus Group	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Steve McMasters - Co. Planning & Building	Scott Hallett – Atascadero Focus Group
Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative	Robin Foreman – SLO Assoc. of Realtors
Bob Neumann – District 2 Representative	Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.
Mark Miller – Fire Chief’s Association	Rob Lewin – CAL FIRE/County Fire
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly	Steve Negro – District 1 Representative

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Mecham at 9:00 A.M. followed by introductions.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approve the March 2014 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Approve April 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Notes

CAL FIRE Deputy Chief Steve Reeder gave an update on the drought and potential for a huge fire season. Fire season did not close this year. Focus will be on three major areas:

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- 1) Prevention – Increase in defensible space inspections and projects like the FireSafe Council work on fuel reduction projects
- 2) Staffing – Increase “serge staffing” – the Governor’s Office is augmenting staffing on engines
- 3) Drought – Drought Task Force – Survey water purveyors in the county and identify suppliers in a critical state and possibly bring in more water tenders or use water from another area. A map will be created of all water purveyors in green, yellow and red zones.

SLOFSC GRANT AND OPERATIONS BUDGET REPORT

Business Manager Dan Turner presented and highlighted the Accounting by Fund for Grant Operating Funds and Internal Operating Funds through May 20, 2014.

- A. FSC Grant and Internal Operations Budget
- B. 2013-14 FSC Grant - \$199,997
- C. 2014-15 FSC Grant - \$199,985
- D. 2014 Western WUI-Lake Nacimiento Grant - \$260,820
- E. 2014 CFAA – Parkhill Grant - \$226,000

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Financial Statements through May 20, 2014 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.

2014 CALENDAR YEAR PROJECT STATUS

Chipping – Fire Captain Greg Alex informed the Council that chipping in Nipomo will begin next Tuesday; chipping in Ranchita was done by the CCC’s and it was very successful; Los Osos green waste bring and chip; Parkhill to begin; Creston would like to do a chipping event. Chipping events are posted on the CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo web site. Five hundred vouchers have been printed for the test program and are ready to go out the beginning of June to targeted parcels in high and very high severity zones for up to one ton of green waste recycling. Participating homeowners will take their green waste to North County Recycling Center instead of chipping.

Atascadero hosted a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Preparedness Community Workshop on April 9th and May 7th, 6:30-8:00 PM at the Atascadero Lake Pavilion. This was a public outreach program intended to involve the community and preview Ready-Set-Go.

Jim Patterson reported that the FireSafe Council Booth greeted many visitors at the annual Earth Day event. Attendance increases each year. He thanked Jim Harrison, Leon Goldin, Dan Turner and Es Berliner for their hard work at the event. Jim would like to see handouts and story board created of fuel reduction projects emphasizing before and after photos. For events like this the FireSafe Council needs easels, tables, signage, and handouts. It was also suggested that a public relations person be added to the Board of Directors. ***It was moved, seconded and approved to***

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allocate \$775 out of the workshop fund for the purchase of supplies for the FireSafe Council booth.

Mike Andersen gave an update on California Conservation Crew projects. They had been cleaning up Santa Margarita Lake – Falcon Trail – but ran out of hours. Lopez Lake – they have been working hard in that area opening an access road for residents. Crews have been working in Oakshores for Dennis Javens. Cabrillo Estates is finished and the homeowners are thrilled. Davis/Wild Cherry Canyons – 4,350 hours spent using extra SRA money. They have been working on projects with State Parks, Fish & Wildlife and FireSafe Council. The government has dedicated drought money so a crew will be added in Santa Maria. July 1st the minimum wage will go up but rates will remain the same this year.

2014 WESTERN WUI GRANT PARTIAL AWARD

Business Manager Dan Turner reported that the FireSafe Council submitted a grant application in September 2013 for the 2014 Western States WUI grant which was unsuccessful. The FireSafe Council was advised that a partial award had become available. At the March Board of Directors Meeting the Council approved to accept the 2014 Western WUI grant partial award and discuss project proposals at a future FireSafe Council Board of Directors meeting. The Executive Committee discussed possible projects and suggested nine projects for allocation as listed on Item 5 of the handouts totaling \$72,729. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the proposed grant allocations for nine projects totaling \$72,729 as listed on Item 5 of the meeting material.**

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ed Waage – The Pismo Preserve is going through to the Land Conservancy – they want fuel reduction projects to continue.

Martin Scott – Katie from the State FireSafe Council is helping him with getting Ranchita Estates FireWise Community recognition. They are trying to identify three insurance companies willing to work with homeowners.

Mark Elliott – the annual Camp Roberts VMP is cancelled. Camp San Luis Obispo is looking to burn 250 acres behind the California Men's Colony. CAL FIRE is trying to plan a burn around the shooting range on Highway 1.

Next Meetings: Executive Committee – June 26, 2014
Board of Directors – July 24, 2014

PARKHILL CFAA GRANT OBJECTIVES AND TOUR

Fire Captain Greg Alex gave an overview of the CFAA 2014 Parkhill Grant of \$226,000. CAL FIRE GIS has hired intern Jonathan Gee to map fuel reduction using CALMAPPER. Unit Forester Eric Just has been working on CEQA documents for formal submittal. Being a large area this project contains lots of plant and animal sensitivities. With the drought CAL FIRE will add extra precautions including water tenders, fire watch and follow protocols. They are also working with CAL TRANS on road clearance. Fuel reduction using hand crews, burning and mastication will be studied on this project.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M. followed by a tour of the Parkhill demonstration area.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn W. Moore

Recording Secretary