



NOTES

Executive Committee Meeting

9:00 AM -11:30 AM WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2015

Templeton Sheriff's substation

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Pres. Frank Mecham, V. Pres. Dan Dulitz, V. Pres. Jim Harrison, Ed Waage, Sec'y Steven Negro,

Staff: Alan Peters, Greg Alex, Dan Turner

2. Minutes

- a) DRAFT- March 2015 Board of Directors meeting minutes (attachment pending)

Action: Motion to approve minutes

- March FSC/Cambria town hall meeting Minutes were not available at meeting time; no action taken
- Recommend changing November Board of Directors meeting to Friday November 20

3. 2015 SLO Fire Safe Council EXEC COMMITTEE Calendar-DRAFT (attachment 3-A)

Executive Committee meeting calendar adjusted remaining 2015 Exec Comm meetings will be: June 19; August 26, October 14, December 16

4. YTD Financial status –Turner

- a) 2015 Internal Operating Budget (attachment 4-A)

- 1) Recommend adding \$10,000 more to Working Capital Fund from unallocated funds

Action: Motion to approve budget reports and recommendation 4.a.1

Motion to direct Business Manager to deposit all excess revenue funds into Working Capital fund: M/ Steven Negro S/Jim Harrison Vote to approve motion 5-0

GRANTS REPORT-Turner

5. SRA FEE/Green House Gas Reduction (GHGR) Grant Program

1) SRA applications

Parkhill- \$323,986 (attachments 5-A)

1. **Grant approved; contracts signed and submitted**

Cambria Hazardous tree removal- \$488,906

1. **Application declined**

CEQA will need to be amended slightly to include entire project area; will need to contract with an Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to sign off on plan and CEQA. SLO FSC will solicit written bids from RPF's for completion of Atascadero-Tassajera and Lake Nacimiento CEQA's and Parkhill CEQA and management plans. SLO FSC policy for contracts in excess of \$7,500 requires submittal of written bids; so a Request for Proposal will be prepared and advertised.

2) Green House Gas Reduction applications-June 10 application deadline

- (1) Cambria Forest Hazardous Fuel Reduction- \$1,600,000

- (2) Cambria Forest Health - \$900,000

- Current work activity-Alan Peters
- Cambria community involvement-Turner

- Request for Local Emergency declaration
- **County activity**
 - Grand Jury
 - **Planning and permitting**
Discussions with County Planning are focused on relaxing tree removal permit process, Coastal Commission permit process, and other streamlining to allow for expedited tree removal.
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 - **FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant (PDM)**
- **Cal Poly involvement-Turner**
 - Pre-treatment measurements**
 - Forest management plans and monitoring**
Cal Poly faculty with specialties in Biometrics/GHG and Carbon sequestration; forest silviculture, forest health, economics, and fire and fuels management are working on grant application language, research possibilities, and forest management planning. They are conducting Pre-treatment measurements for analysis of the impacts of hazardous fuel reduction and forest health using students funded by SLO FSC.
- **Wood & Biomass utilization plan-Peters and Turner**
 - Logging operation**
 - Small sawmill**
 - Bio-energy plant in Delano or Local bio-energy plant**

Discussion regarding status of current grant applications.

SRA FEE GRANTS

- CAL FIRE awarded SLO FSC \$323,000 for our SRA FEE grant for Parkhill and denied our Cambria SRA FEE grant request for fuel hazard reduction.

GREEN HOUSE GAS GRANTS

- CAL FIRE did invite SLO FSC to submit 2 Greenhouse Gas /Cap and trade grants for Cambria funded from Forest Pest Control and Hazardous Fuel Reduction funds. The deadline is June 10, 2015.
- Cambria CSD has declared a Local Emergency and requested the County do likewise
- Cambria Fire Dept, CAL FIRE and CCC are currently doing work in Cambria with other funds to reduce hazard of dead and dying trees, educate the public and enforce defensible space regulations.
- County Planning is examining the options of modifying the tree removal permit process to reduce fees (\$126 to remove 1-3 trees), application bureaucracy, and Coastal Commission constraints.
- FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants are being investigated with the County being the applicant (must be governmental agency; SLO FSC does not qualify)
- Greenwaste disposal is major issue; Tim Windsor's facility on San Simeon Creek Road is at capacity. SLO FSC and CAL FIRE are investigating using a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) approach where feasible and establishing a portable saw mill operation in the area to cut dimensional lumber and utilize as much wood as possible in projects and then haul remaining debris to Biomass Electrical Generation plant in Delano.
 - Justin Kephart advised PUC and PG&E would require a local Biomass generation plant be on the customer's side of the electric meter; a location that has space and electrical capacity to utilize all of the electricity generated is required.

- SLO FSC Exec Comm directed that we continue to pursue the THP/sawmill/biomass generation solution for areas where appropriate.
- SLO FSC Exec Comm also cautioned staff to not ignore other areas in the county that are also experiencing extreme drought impacts.

6. Grants Master Allocation Matrix**(attachment 6-A) pending**

Discussion about adding a chipping event to Nipomo this year in response to citizen requests (none currently scheduled). CCC Crews are currently scheduled out through August and CAL FIRE staff do not have time to register residents. NO event will be scheduled in Nipomo at this time.

b) Grant Timeline Matrix**(attachment 6-B)****c) 2014-15 State Fire Safe Council Grant (14-SFA-014)****(attachment 6-C)**

1) Grant Budget status

Reallocation of funds in this grant to purchase door hanger bags for Cambria defensible space inspections (\$4,000), re-printing of evacuation plans (\$2,600), Los Osos chipping \$2,550

d) 2014 WFLC-Lake Nacimiento (14-WUI-004)**(attachment 6-D)**

1) Grant Budget status

Camp Natoma Camp Fire campground staff asked FSC to fund defensible space and additional hazardous fuel reduction work at their facility in Adelaide. CAL FIRE crews have done some work but more is need. The project area does fit within the Lake Nacimiento grant zone. Peters will follow up with Cuesta Camp and Turner will follow up with Camp Natoma staff.

e) 2015-WFLC-Atascadero-Tassajera (15-WUI-093)**(attachment 6-E)**

1) Grant Budget status

Atascadero will be doing their chipping event starting April 25.

Action: Motion to approve status reports: M/Dan Dulitz, S/Steven Negro Vote 5-0 to approve

7) CA FSC Grant Program Overview-Turner

- 2015 CA FSC Grant application filed Feb. 18, 2015
- Decisions on grant award pending

Action: Receive report and provide direction

Discussion regarding possibility of modifying the allocation of funds from the 2015 CA FSC grant application that is pending decision. We have \$40,000 allocated to do fuel break work in Parkhill as a fallback in case CAL FIRE did not approve SRA FEE grant. Parkhill SRA grant was approved, and those funds can be designated for reallocation. Cambria or other projects are possibilities but action is premature until we are assured of grant award.

8) PG&E Grant opportunities**(attachment 8-A)****a) 2015 program similar to 2014****b) \$75,000 already earmarked for San Luis Obispo County; with more potentially available**

Like 2014, PG&E has allocated funds statewide to provide augmented hazardous fuel reduction. SLO FSC is assured of a minimum of \$75,000 for 2015 (potential exists for additional funding). Work must be 50% complete by August 30 and 100% complete by Oct 30, 2015.

- SLO FSC Exe Comm directed we focus PG&E funded work on federal land projects where other grant funds are not allowed. Comm sites at Mt Lowe, Black Mtn and Los Pelados, as well as West Cuesta (TV Tower Road) brushing.
- Second level utilization is for countywide hazardous tree removal wherein we could partially fund cost of tree removal

9) CA Fire Safe Council changes

- a) Executive Director Margaret Grayson retiring
- b) Senior Grant Manager Dan Lang retired
- c) Grants Manager Katie Martel-Interim Director
- d) CA FSC Board Member Kate Dargan request for input:
 - 1) CA FSC Board of Director selection process
 - 2) How to improve connectivity to local FSC's
 - (1) Should local FSC's have a CA FSC voting relationship?

Action: Receive report and provide direction

- Dan Turner provided an update on events happening at CA FSC level and request for input into structure of CA FSC organization received while attending WUI Fire Conference in Reno, NV.
- CA FSC Executive Director Margaret Grayson is retiring and the state organization is reviewing itself for reorganization, repurpose or continuation as current. Primary role is to serve as clearinghouse and grants managers for federal source grants.
- SLO FSC EXEC Comm direction was to monitor.

10) Cambria Fire Season Press Conference

- a) May 6th at Cambria
- b) CAL FIRE Director and USFS Region 5 Director of Fire and Aviation

Action: Receive report and provide direction

- CAL FIRE, Cambria FD and USFS will hold a press conference for Wildfire Awareness Week on May 6 in Cambria. SLO FSC is invited to speak. Pres Mecham will be at a SLO Council of Governments meeting and cannot attend; Exec Comm gave direction for Dan Turner to represent SLO FSC at press conference.

11) May 2015 Board of Directors meeting

- a) Location: Atascadero
- b) Date: Wednesday May 20, 2015 9 AM– 11 PM
- c) Program: Atascadero-Tassajera WUI Project

12) Roundtable

- CAL FIRE will be hosting a "PREDICTIVE SERVICES SYMPOSIUM" at the South Bay Training Center on May 8, 2015. Attendees will be from throughout CA and the objective is to explore the state of current fire modeling, forecasting, and behavior analysis tools. This will be the first time an event of this type has been held.
- Range Improvement Association BBQ will be in Arroyo Grande on April 24

Meeting adjourned at 1130.