



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bob Neumann – District 2 Representative	Michael Wright – Insurance Industry
Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative	Chris Slate – District 3 Representative
Frank Mecham – Co. Board of Supervisors	Jim Patterson – Eco-SLO
Dennis Javens – Oak Shores Focus Group	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Jim Harrison – Citizen at Large
Steve Negro – District 1 Representative	Mark Elliott - APCD
Greg Saenz – PG&E (Alternate)	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement
Bill White – County Fire Chiefs’ Assn.	Chris Dicus – Cal Poly
Tom Wright – Citizen at Large	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Bruce Fosdike – Cambria Focus Group	Steve Reeder – CAL FIRE/County Fire
Justin Kephart – Pacific Gas & Electric	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

John McKenzie - Co. Planning & Building	Turko Semmes – Builders Community
Scott Hallett – Atascadero Focus Group	Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Robin Foreman – SLO Assoc. of Realtors
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Jim McCallum – Los Osos Focus Group
Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board President Frank Mecham at 9:00 A.M. followed by introductions of directors, staff and guests.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approve Draft January 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Executive Committee Meeting Notes
- 2016 Board of Directors Roster

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- 2016 SLO FireSafe Council Meeting Calendar

YTD FINANCIAL STATUS

Business Manager Dan Turner presented and reviewed the FireSafe Council 2016 Operations Budget as of March 14, 2016. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2016 Operations Budget through March 14, 2016 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.**

GRANTS REPORT

Greenhouse Gas Reduction (GHGR) Grant Program

Grant Total \$498,736 – received no money to date, expended \$8,738 thus far

- Cal Poly – to do treatment plan/CEQA/RFP, work has started on plot surveys, harvest plan by June/July – need to enter into agreement with Cal Poly Foundation to pay interns and faculty for supervision. **It was moved, seconded and approved to enter into a contractual agreement with Cal Poly Foundation in the amount ~~not to exceed of~~ \$90,000 for students to complete a treatment plan/CEQA/RFP and Research & Pre-Post Harvest Evaluation under the Cambria Forest Health Grant.** (Chris Dicus abstained)
- Portable Biomass Project – The Cambria Community Services District has determined that the waste water treatment plant is not suitable for the All Power Labs BETA test portable generator. The search is still ongoing to find a suitable location for the portable power plant.

2014-15 State Fire Safe Council Grant (14-SFA-014)

Countywide grant of \$199,985 – ending March 30, 2016 (\$27,121 remaining will be spent by the end of the month)

2014 WFLC - Lake Nacimiento (14-WUI-004)

Grant total \$260,820 – grant performance ends September 30, 2016, \$92,622 expended so far – error on line item “Chipping Supplies” should be \$2,000 not \$35,000 – project supervision budgeted at \$45,000 for funding a project manager to work along with Battalion Chief Steve Crawford. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the resignation of Board Member Dennis Javens (Oak & Shores Focus Group) from the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council.** Dennis Javens is interested in continuing to stay connected to the FireSafe Council and would be interested in contract work with the FireSafe Council in the future.

2015 WFLC – Atascadero-Tassajera (15-WUI-093)

Grant total \$243,516 – grant performance ends October 31, 2016 – moving along the west side of Atascadero inside and outside of the city limits – USFS working on West Cuesta Ridge Road –

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SRA Fee Parkhill Fuel Breaks

Grant total \$323,986 – No dollars advanced from CAL FIRE, \$4,426 expended so far – work is moving along slowly.

Western WUI-Cambria WUI Fuel Break

Award Pending - \$260,000 – Extend and improve Bridge Street fuel break in Cambria.

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the budget reports through March 13, 2016 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.

OTHER GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

SRA Fee Grant Requests

Applications being evaluated by CAL FIRE in Sacramento – Decision Pending
Countywide Hazardous Fuel and Tree Mortality - \$99,758
Hi Mountain and Upper Lopez Canyon Road Right of Way - \$89,170
Countywide CWPP Update and Two WUI Pre Plans/Evac Plans - \$44,694

2016 CA-FireSafe Council-Grants Clearinghouse

Open March 10-April 22, 2016
Federal Funds - \$2 million available statewide (\$4 million last year)
\$200,000 maximum request per organization
Can be used anywhere except federal lands

2016 PG&E Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant

Thank you to PG&E – third year offered to the FireSafe Council
Objective is fuel reduction near PG&E resources/equipment
Work should be 75% completed by August 31st, 100% complete by October 1, 2016
Projects should be less than \$100,000 in scope; larger projects also will be considered

FEMA-Assistance to Firefighters Prevention & Research Grants

Open April 10 – May 6, 2016
Fire Prevention & Safety: Applicants can apply for up to three separate projects within one application. Period of performance is generally 12 months. Each applicant is limited to \$1.5 million federal share.
Firefighter Safety Research and Development: Applicants can apply for up to three separate projects within one application. Period of performance not to exceed 36 months. Each applicant is limited to \$1.5 million federal share.

FEMA Disaster Declaration: Presidential Post-Disaster from Valley and Butte Fires

- 1) County eligible to apply for disaster funds – FEMA declined

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- 2) Government agencies apply for disaster mitigation – Apply through County OES to hire CAL FIRE crews or contract with CCCs (contact Ron Alsop to determine application)

Dan Turner reviewed the three pages of “2016 Grant Application Concepts” – suggested projects, appropriateness of project, funding box. Dan needs help identifying priorities.

Dan shared that he received a request from State Parks last night for consideration:

- 1) Montana de Oro Camp Keep fuel reduction – estimated cost of \$142,000 if CCC’s do the work or \$14,000 if CAL FIRE crews do the work
- 2) Black Hill in Morro Bay State Park – remove dead and dying trees – estimated \$155,000
- 3) San Simeon State Park – remove dead and dying trees – estimated \$90,000

Steve Negro recommends keeping current fuel breaks cleaned up.

Martin Scott recommends using funds from the PG&E grant for fuel reduction around PG&E power lines on a steep slope in Ranchita Estates.

Dan Turner asked the Council members to send him project recommendations to be discussed at the next regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting; recommendations will be emailed back to the Council.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Earth Day is being celebrated this year on April 24, 2016, El Chorro Regional Park, 10 AM to 5 PM. Jim Patterson volunteered to coordinate a group of volunteers to host the FireSafe Council exhibit.

[County and USFS coming to agreement to work on West Cuesta and Hi Mountain Road.](#)

WILDFIRE AWARENESS WEEK

Chief Alan Peters shared that Wildfire Awareness Week is May 1-7 and will be highlighted by a firefighter event and public event in Cambria. A wildland urban interface (WUI) exercise/training will be held Thursday, May 5th. Director Bruce Fosdike shared that the Cambria Outreach Committee is applying to be recognized as a Firewise Community and asked the Board for \$3,000 to help with educational materials in Cambria that week. The Cambria Focus Group has been brainstorming on creating an educational video that would be bi-lingual, focus on tree hazards and evacuation plans. Dr. Dicus will inquire whether the Cal Poly Journalism Department would be available to assist with a video project. After discussion **it was moved, seconded and approved to provide \$1,000 from the expiring 2014-15 State FireSafe Council Grant to the Cambria Focus Group for public education outreach.**

ROUNDTABLE

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Acting Fire Chief Steve Reeder informed the Council that Fire Chief Scotty Jalbert, from the San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit, will be transferring to San Luis Obispo and assuming the CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire Chief duties beginning April 1st. Chief Jalbert possesses excellent leadership qualifications and will be an excellent fit as the Unit Chief in San Luis Obispo County.

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee – Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Board of Directors – Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn W. Moore

Recording Secretary