

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



P.O. Box 1225 - Quincy, CA 95971

530 283-0829

www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes

Thursday April 10, 2008 - 9:00 am.

Plumas County

Planning & Building Services Conference Room

555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Brian West, Chair (08)

Mike Callaghan, Vice Chair (10)

Ed Harrison, Secretary (08)

Jim Graham, Treasurer (09)

Andy Anderson (09)

Jim Hamblin (09)

Frank Stewart (08)

Dale Meese (08)

Allan Setzer (09)

Jay Skutt (10)

Mission Statement:

“To reduce the loss of natural and manmade resources caused by wildfire through pre-fire activities.”

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Brian West
2. Review Agenda – Brian West
3. Next meeting –**May 8, 2008**
4. Review/Approve minutes from March 13, 2007 meeting – Brian West- **Ed Harrison made a motion to approve the notes as presented. Steve Ross seconded, and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
5. Public Comment - Brian West - **None**
6. Status update of Current Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheets)
 - A. PC FSC 02- 9 – NS AQMD Chipping in lieu of burning –John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - B. PC FSC 04-4 & 12 - Canyon Dam HFR - 900 acres– John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - C. PC FSC 04-6 - County Stewardship Proposal – John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - D. PC FSC 05-3, 7, & 07-8 - Greenhorn HFR 30 acres – John Sheehan – **RPF has a purchase order from SPI for the material & project will go out to bid soon. FSC members will provide a presentation at the Homeowner Annual Meeting on 4/19/08, on how to protect homes and property from wildfire.**

- E. PC FSC 05-4 & 8 - Grizzly Ck. HFR- 128 acres – John Sheehan – **Contractors are finishing up with the burning of piles.**
- F. PC FSC 03-1, 05-5, 06-2 & 5 – Eastern Plumas HFR – 175 acres - John Sheehan – **Working on financing a RPF since the prior RPF closed business. Assessing project economics with market and grants.**
- G. PC FSC 06-3 & 9 – Massack HFR – 160 acres -John Sheehan – **Working with Cal Fire on extending the projects and payments. Waiting for soil conditions to dry so operations can resume on remaining 25 acres. All work must be completed & invoiced by 6/30/08.**
- H. PC FSC 06-4 & 10 – Little Grass Valley HFR – 111 acres - John Sheehan - **Nothing New to Report.**
- I. PC FSC 06-6 – La Porte Pines HFR – 75 acres - John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
- J. PC FSC 07-1 & 4 - Indian Valley HFR-200 acres – John Sheehan – **Public outreach meeting held on 4/5/08. Approximately 20 folks attended and expressing interest. There are currently sufficient landowners who have sent letters requesting assistance. There were other landowners interested in contacting their neighbors to increase the acres of treatment in the valley. RPF will begin contacting landowners and assessing project economics.**
- K. PC FSC 07-2 - La Porte Road HFR – 100 acres – John Sheehan –**RPF requesting direction on how to asses property owners in-kind contributions as there is less material available due to a restriction by Cal Fire excluding the use of fire prevention THP exemptions. Project may have to be masticated in lieu of biomass thinning from below. There is presently more interest than available funds.**
- L. PC FSC 07-4 - PC FSC Council Coordination – John Sheehan –**Work continues with developing workshops & materials for community meetings, a Fire Safe Tabloid in the County paper, website updates, sharing of firesafe information, writing grant proposals to seek additional grant funds, and assisting in other grant activities.**
- M. PC FSC 07-5 – C Road right-of-way planning – John Sheehan –**RPF working with C Road CSD on obtaining landowner permissions and concurrence on property boundaries within the easement, to avoid trespasses.**
- N. PC FSC 07-6 – Taylorsville HFR – 30 acres – John Sheehan – **Prospectus is out with a show me field trip planned for 4/7 and bids closing on 4/24/08.**
- O. PC FSC 07-7 - C Road HFR – 40 acres – John Sheehan – **Contractor has completed the 17 acres of hand piling and will begin mastication after completing Massack.**
- P. PC FSC 07-9 – Elderly/Disabled Defensible Space – John Sheehan – **Awaiting a signed contract from the Plumas NF.**
- Q. PC FSC 07-10 County Educational Workshops – SNC - John Sheehan – **Work is progressing on conducting a Home Ignition Zone Educational Consultation Workshop on May 6, 2008 for Mohawk Valley and any other interested communities or fire departments. Additionally, three communities are currently planed in the spring to**

provide presentations on how to protect homes and property from wildfire. A small group is developing a Fire Safe Tabloid to come out in the newspaper at the end of June.

7. Status update of proposed Grant Proposals.
 - A. PC FSC Coordination – PC BoS title III - John Sheehan – **Board of Supervisors approved funding for this project and funds are expected to be available in May.**
 - B. PC FSC HFR Project Development – PC BoS Title III - John Sheehan – **Board of Supervisors approved funding for this project and expects funds to be available in May.**
 - C. PC FSC Coordination – CA FSC- NFP /SNC - John Sheehan – **Project was not accepted for funding by the grantor.**
 - D. PC FSC Public Education Defensible Space– CA FSC- NFP - John Sheehan – **Project was not accepted for funding by the grantor.**
 - E. PC FSC HFR- Gold Mtn.2008 Mastication – John Sheehan - **Project was accepted for funding by the grantor. Some additional application work was completed and awaiting final word.**
 - F. PC FSC HFR Planning – SNC - John Sheehan –**Expect a decision in June**
 - G. PC FSC Grizzly Ck HFR – SNC - John Sheehan – **Expect a decision in June**
8. HFQLG –HFR project overview/relation to communities’ opportunities - Project mapping integration involving USFS, CDF and Fire Safe Council - PNF’s fuel reduction out year program of work – Allan Setzer – **Nothing New to Report**
9. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) – Jim Graham- **The Plumas County Emergency Services Feasibility Study Group is preparing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for County Fire Improvement Standards. The group hopes to have a workshop with the Board on this. Some of these proposed standards will include recommendations in the PC FSC Community Wildfire Protection Plan.**
10. Committee report on recommendations for fuel reduction treatment areas of public lands around communities, beyond HFQLG. – Frank Stewart – **This item is similar to item 8 and will be dropped.**
11. Defensible Space on Public Lands – Jason Moghaddas – **Nothing New to Report**
12. Secure Rural Schools Funding – Frank Stewart – **Being debated in Congress, expect it may be attached to the next war funding bill.**
13. CA FSC legislative issues – Frank Stewart – Encourage local Council attendance at the State FSC meeting on May 5-6 in Auburn.
14. Update of local FSC (Almanor Basin & Gold Mtn.) activity. – Jerry Hurley
Almanor Basin is making plans for the 4th of July activities & a Fire Safe Booth.
Gold Mountain is working with the Beckwourth District to see if there is potential for them to treat adjacent public lands on the south and east of the subdivision.
Valley Ranch is exploring the feasibility of forming a council.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board of Directors selection of Officers - Brian West.

Mike Callaghan was nominated by Brian West & seconded by Ed Harrison as Vice Chair-Attending Board Members approved unanimously.

Jim Graham was nominated by Brian West & seconded by Ed Harrison as Treasurer - Attending Board Members approved unanimously.

Mike Callaghan was nominated by Mike Callaghan & seconded by Brian West as Secretary-Attending Board Members approved unanimously.

Board members in attendance included: West, Harrison, Callaghan, Hamblin, & Stewart.

- 2. Review and set 2008 Council Goals – Brian West – Deferred until May meeting.**
- 3. Hazardous Fuel Reduction Cost Share – John Sheehan – With property interest growing and a demand to treat more acres, the declining value of chips & logs, and fuel costs going up, the current grants may not cover all of the projects. Also with prop 40 grants excluding the use of a fire prevention THP Exemption to recover material, the available in-kind is often less or non-existent. Discussions ensued on how much is fair for property owner in-kind. While our application indicates an estimate, we have not been forced to adhere as closely in the past, as there has been enough in-kind generated from product revenues for the participating property owners.**

Discussion ensued about the fairness of whether we assess cost share on a per acre basis of the project for participating landowners, which in the past worked, or assess based on the treatment methods per property, with all timber product revenues going back into the project, which may help leverage some of the costs.

PC FSC and Plumas Corporation needs to place an increased emphasis on making property owners aware of what they may have to contribute when landowner agreements are signed. RPF's need to inform landowners, after a prescription and product estimates have been generated, about what they can expect to contribute based on treatment and acres.

The Council will continue to talk about this issue at future meetings and will factor into the bids we will be receiving on current projects