

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



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Meeting Notes Meeting – October 9, 2002, 9:00 am. Feather River College Room 101 Vocational Education Building

OLD BUSINESS

1. Opening/Introductions- Mike De Lasaux
2. Next meeting: November 13, 2002 Location yet to be determined. The location and room for this meeting was not optimal. Bruce Livingston will pursue other options. Next meeting information will be posted on the website.
3. Review/Approve minutes from 9/11/02 meeting. **No corrections, Chuck Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes. John Gay seconded and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
4. Update progress of 501 (c) 3 application process. -Jerry Hurley
 - a. Articles of Incorporation Received back on 9/20 To be filed at our office at the CDF office
 - b. Next Step Finalize filing additional forms with Secretary of State, Applying for Employer Identification Number, and applying to Franchise Tax Board & IRS for Tax exempt status. Jerry is working with Richard Cox on this.
5. Status of active and newly approved Grants.
 - A. PC FSC 01- Homeowner Consultation & Education-Jerry Hurley Consultation Progress has slowed. The project will extend until 12/31/02, with additional projects to include: more consultations outside of fire districts; more county-wide GPS; signing of identified evacuation sites; expansion of fire planning. We will also assist Plumas Rural services on assessing defensible space cleanup for elderly and disabled, and develop Fire

Safety Zone Public Assembly signs for those sites identified on evacuation plan maps.

B. PC FSC 02- Fire Safe Council Coordination -Jerry Hurley Articles continue to be placed in the newspaper highlighting Council activities and announcing meetings; web site is close to 1,000 hits. Our display was used at the Rural Electric Association annual picnic, (pictures on our website). We will continue working with Jim Pickering of BLM to refine the display. Jerry is also working with John Sheehan & others on preparing grant request to continue working toward our Council's mission.

C. PC FSC FS 02-1 & 02-III-1-125 Acre HFR Demonstration-
David Hawks
29 applications received for 2,800 acres. Group hopes to offer selection recommendations by 12/11/02 meeting.

As there was only one response from the Almanor Basin area, Almanor West 17 acre community common area, David Hawks made a motion we accept that area for one of the demonstration sites, as it met the first two criteria, so Council members would not have to waste effort to prepare a RAC concept paper for that project. Frank Stewart seconded the motion. After discussion the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

D. PC FSC. 02- III-3 Countywide GIS - John Sheehan - On 11/7/02, representatives from Calaveras County will make a presentation to the committee on this project as to what they did. Later to follow, will be presentations by consultants of what they can offer the County. This is in preparation for the committee to develop a Request for Proposals after the end of the year.

E. PC FSC. 02- BLM-1 Homeowner Consultations - Jerry Hurley

F. PC FSC. 02- BLM-2 HFR Strategy & Assessment - Jerry Hurley

G. PC FSC. 02- BLM-3 Display Material - Jerry Hurley

Jerry contacted Sacramento Regional Foundation (SRF) so far no response, we are awaiting final award letters. Expecting them any day.

6. Pending Grants & Funding Applications - John Sheehan

A. 02-RAC-1 & 02-III-5 Plumas Eureka HFR - John Sheehan Project moved into "Grants Awarded" for this year. USFS should begin working on this project soon.

7. Proposed Grants & Funding Applications - John Sheehan/Jerry Hurley

A. Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) & Board of Supervisors for 750 Acres of HFR (Repackage of unfunded FS Community Assistance Grant)- John Sheehan
This 750 acres of work will be broken into six separate projects so no one project holds up another project and they will stand on their own merits. Concept papers due on 10/16/02.

John Sheehan made a motion to move forward with these projects to RAC for this funding cycle. Frank Stewart seconded the motion. Discussion ensued, and a shared concern exist on how much grant monies should be used on private lands if the landowner is making a profit from any trees being removed. Discussion emphasis continues to be supporting efforts to remove smaller material and treat surface fuels to a higher standard than required by the California Forest Practices Rules. In the past, the Council has been pushing for flame length projections in completed projects to be 2-3 feet. This is a problem also for the RAC 7 FS to deal with if they chose to fund these projects. The motion to move forward with the concept papers was carried by a unanimous vote.

John has the lead and will work with Jerry to prepare them. John also presented to County Board of Supervisors (BoS) a proposed split using Title III funds for each of the projects. See Grant Summary Table for specifics.

B. Elderly/Disabled Defensible Space Grant - Jerry Hurley

Concept paper drafted, Plumas Rural Services (PRS) has sent letter of support and offered \$5,000 in-kind. Final draft to be submitted on 10/16/02. John presented to BoS for their Title III support. Awaiting response from FS as to their support of RAC funds for this project.

8. Grant Management- MoU with Plumas Corp to manage Grants Action Item (approve) - John Sheehan
Richard Cox made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Plumas Corporation and the Plumas County Fire Safe Council if the word "jointly" was removed from the first sentence. Chuck Thayer seconded the motion and after a brief discussion was carried by a unanimous vote.

9. PRC 4291 - Follow-up on letter to Sheriff elect. - Bruce Livingston

Andy Anderson has met with Sheriff elect Bergstrand and reported that Mr. Bergstrand appears to support of USFS personnel enforcing State fire laws on private lands in Plumas County. Forest Supervisor Jim Peña & Butte Ranger

Unit Chief Bill Sager will meet with Bergstrand after he officially takes office.

10. Progress on Shake Roof Replacement to consulted homeowners – Jerry Hurley
Copy of Drafted Letter to be sent to those homeowners who were identified as having a shake roof in their consultation. No database will be kept for this. About 10 homeowners currently have been identified. Also Joe Wilson from PC Community Development Commission, had a press release in September and has received 25 contacts and it appears that 5 of those may qualify. He is currently working with 3 applicants who qualify.

Some insurance companies are beginning to cancel policies in PC for residents with shake roofs

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fuel Reduction Grants from Natural Resources Conservation Service – Renia Rodgers
Rena was not able to attend, but plans on attending the next meeting.
2. Madelene Ransome, Ph.D., NCRS –RORGEN,
Rate Of Return GENERator to guide homeowner decisions by calculating the individual internal rate of return for a homeowner that installs and maintains fuel load management practices on residential property. Designed for public education. Some homeowners have actually invested in vegetative management practices after using RORGEN. Post meeting See a complete description of her project on our website.
Ms Ransome will also made a presentation after lunch on the Trinity County Hazard Risk Assessment process and its potential application to Plumas County.
3. HFQLG –HFR project overview/relation to communities Opportunities – John Gay
John presented maps of the QLG projects planned, and other fuel treatment projects completed on the Plumas NF. There was discussion of John working with the Council and CDF to integrate map work. David Hawks suggested he would be interested.

Meeting Concluded at: 12:15 PM.