

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



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plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes Meeting – November 13, 2002, 9:00 am.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Opening/Introductions- Mike DeLasaux
2. Next meeting: December 11, 2002
3. Review/Approve minutes from 10/9/02 meeting. **No corrections, Jim Graham made a motion to approve the minutes. Dick Castaldini seconded and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
4. Update progress of 501 (c) 3 application process. –Jerry Hurley - **The Council has received an Employer Identification Number (EIN) and can now move forward in submitting our request to the IRS & Franchise Tax Board for “non-profit” status. Jerry & Richard will submit forms next week. The costs, \$25 for the State & \$500 for the IRS will come from the current BLM coordination grant.**
5. Grants Management-
 - A. Product Value recovered in HFR grant funded projects – Mike DeLasaux - **Mike handed out a “Draft Policy Statement” on how much property owners would contribute toward the cost of FSC grant funded HFR on their properties if commercial products are removed and revenues generated from those products. There was lengthy discussion on how much should be provided by the FSC, using grant funds, which are usually public monies, on private lands. Especially if the landowner is generating revenue through the services the Council provides.**
 - B. Landowner Agreements & Liability Insurance – Mike DeLasaux
 1. Agreements & Insurance for HFR **Brian Wayland, John Sheehan and Mike De Lasaux will work with Rob Schulman on an agreement between Plumas County and the FSC for funding HFR projects on private lands and how the Council will be protected. They will report back next month.**

2. Liability Insurance – Meetings Bruce Livingston **Under our agreement with Plumas Corp, the Council may not be covered for legal fees, stemming from liability claims which occur at a meeting unless the Council secures it's own insurance. John Sheehan will check with his carrier and report back next month.**
- C RFP's and hiring for newly active grants (BLM) - Mike DeLasaux - **With the awarding of three BLM grants thorough he Sacramento Regional Foundation, some actions are necessary to begin their implementation.**
1. 02 BLM-119 Coordinator for Consultation Grant. **There is a need to hire a consultant to begin the coordination of this project. John Sheehan made a motion to extend the current contracted consultant, Jerry Hurley, to implement this project. Chuck Thayer seconded, and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote**
 2. HFR Assessment & Strategy RFP - **The Council needs to move forward and prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a contractor to implement this grant. A Technical Advisory Committee will work on this task. Members are: John Sheehan, Mike De Lasaux, Jerry Hurley, Chuck Thayer, Craig Carter & a USFS Representative to be named.**
 3. Educational Publications & Display - **This grant included funding for hiring a web coordinator to maintain the site developed under the 01-02 FSC Coordination Grant contract. Ray Nichol developed and has been maintaining the site, but the planned allocated funds for this task have been exhausted. Jim Graham made a motion that Ray Nichol be hired with funds from this grant to continue maintaining our web site. Chuck Thayer seconded, and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
Sue McCourt volunteered to take the lead with a committee to develop recommendations for uses of these grant funds. Richard Cox (not present) was also mentioned as a possible member.
6. Status update of active and newly approved Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheet
- A. PC FSC 01-1— Homeowner Consultation & Education-Jerry Hurley
About 60 hours left on the contract – Will be meeting with liaisons to finalize tasks. Chipping report will be handed out at the next meeting and to the Board of Supervisors in December. Preparation of the final repost will begin next month.
 - A. PC FSC 01-2– 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 1,300 hits. 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. There is around 275 hours remaining on the contract, which ends in April 2003.

- B. PC FSC FS 02-1 & 2 - 100 Acre HFR Demonstration– Brian Wayland - 28 applications were received. Committee members visited and ranked each of the sites. They met on 11/5/02 to refine their selection and prepare to make recommendations to the Council. They proposed five projects, one in each supervisory district of the County, for 88 total gross acres.

Brian is also working with representatives from Almanor West on their project (selected last month by the FSC). He will need agreements and authority to move forward with a Request for Proposals from timber operators. This item is connected to 11/13/02 Agenda item 5 A and 5 B. (see prior notes)

The Committee plans to offer selection recommendations at the 12/11/02 meeting. They will display why each parcel or portion of a parcel is being recommended.

Next steps are:

1. Form acceptance of landowners
2. RPF Wayland to meet with each chosen landowners.
3. Develop contracts and agreements with landowners and solicit contractors.
4. Confirm with USFS that CEQA requirements satisfy Grant NEPA needs.

- C. PC FSC. 02- 3 - Countywide GIS - John Sheehan - Representatives from Calaveras County were unable to make a presentation on 11/7/02, to the committee on this project, due to illness. A date will be rescheduled. This is in preparation for the committee to develop a Request for Proposals after the end of the year.
- D. PC FSC. 02- 4 - Homeowner Consultations – Jerry Hurley - **See prior agenda item 5.C.1.**

Meeting with fire department chiefs of participating communities is 12/11/02 to get together & discuss implementation

- E. PC FSC. 02- 5 - HFR Strategy & Assessment – Jerry Hurley - **See prior agenda item 5.C.2.**
- F. PC FSC. 02- 6 - Council Display Material – Jerry Hurley - **See prior agenda item 5.C.3.**
- G. PC FSC. 02- 7 & 8 - Plumas Eureka HFR – John Sheehan/John Gay - **USFS is collecting information for the Environmental Assessment.**

6. Grants Submitted & Planned– John Sheehan/Jerry Hurley - **The following grant projects have been submitted and are awaiting a decision from the Resource Advisory Committee that will be meeting on 11/15/02; and the Board of Supervisors**
- A. **02-RAC-3 & 02-III-6 - Delleker/Portola HFR 125 acres**
 - B. **02-RAC-4 & 02-III-7 - Graeagle Fuelbreak 200 acres**
 - C. **02-RAC-5 & 02-III-8 - Indian Falls HFR 50 acres**
 - D. **02-RAC-6 & 02-III-9 - Camp Layman HFR 50 acres**
 - E. **02-RAC-7 & 02-III-10 - Cromberg HFR 350 acres**
 - F. **02-RAC-8 & 02-III-11 - Indian Falls HFR 50 acres**
 - G. **02-RAC-9 & 02-III-12 - Elderly/Disabled Defensible Space Grant**
- H. Results of USFS FY02 Grant Proposal meeting on 10/31/02- Mike DeLasaux - **The committee assigned recommended pursuing three additional grants from the USFS through the Plumas National Forest. They are:**
- 1. **FSC Coordination, Project Administration and Project Development – A grant request through the USFS Economic Action Program as part of the National Fire Plan. For \$75,000 and request the Board of Supervisor to provide \$25,000 of in kind from title III funds. Jerry is preparing the request for a due date of 2/3/03.**
 - 2. **Hazardous Fuel Reduction – A grant request through the USFS Community Protection Program as part of the National Fire Plan. For treating additional HFR acres. Exact request is unknown at this time but will probably be for \$200,000 and we will mention the other numerous Title II and III grant request as in-kind for countywide HFR. John is preparing the request for a due date of 2/3/03**
 - 3. **Education and Tech Transfer – A grant request through the USFS Economic Action Program as part of the National Fire Plan. The grant will be used to develop a localized Rate of Return Generator (ROGEN) (See 10/9/02 FSC notes). The request will be for a 75/25% split requesting USFS and Title III funds. Mike is preparing the request for a due date of 2/3/03.**

Bruce Livingston made a motion that the Council move forward with and support development of these three grants. The motion was seconded by Jim Graham and carried by a unanimous vote.

7. Progress on Shake Roof Replacement to consulted homeowners – Jerry Hurley - Joe Wilson from PC Community Development Commission, is currently working with 3 applicants who qualified and he will be making the awards soon. Nine letters have been sent to homeowners who participated in this years homeowner consultation process that have a shake roof.

8. HFQLG –HFR project overview/relation to communities Opportunities - John Gay. Project mapping integration involving US FS, CDF and Fire Safe Council. Establish a standing committee? **John wasn't present, but he sent project maps that were handed out.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fuel Reduction Grants Natural Resources Conservation Service –
Reina Rodgers

Reina was not able to attend, but plans on attending the next meeting

2. New grant opportunities – Jerry Hurley

Joe Fish contacted Jerry, Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (NSAQMD) regarding available grant monies. They have \$50,000 to put towards chipping of material in lieu of open burning. The monies could be split between the three counties of Plumas, Nevada & Sierra. Mike De Lasaux made a motion that the council pursue chipping contractors and not purchase a chipper for the FSC to massage. Craig Carter seconded the motion. After discussion, it carried by a majority vote. Mike DeLasaux then made a motion to pursue the grant funds through NSAQMD to put towards in-kind for community hazardous fuel reduction projects, for either existing or planned grants, where chipping would be used as the disposal method in communities. Craig Carter seconded. After discussion, it carried by a majority vote.

Bruce Livingston volunteered to pursue this with Joe Fish, to get the grant monies for in-kind support on HFR projects where chipping will occur.

3. Letter to Representatives regarding National Fire Plan funding - Frank. Stewart - **Frank wasn't present to discuss this item**
4. John Radke, UC Berkeley course to provide assistance with County Hazardous Fuel Assessment and Strategy Project (tentative) - **John Radke wasn't able to attend to discuss this item**

The meeting concluded at 12:25 pm