

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



P.O. Box 1225 - Quincy, CA 95971
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www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 13, 2014 - 9:00 am.
Plumas County
Planning & Building Services Conference Room
555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Mike De Lasaux, Chair (14)
Chuck Bowman, Vice Chair (15)
Mike Callaghan, Sect/Treasurer (14)
Jim Hamblin (15)
Deb Bumpus (15)
Shane Vargas (14)
Jerry Sipe (14)

PC FSC will comply with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) by making every reasonable attempt to accommodate any attendee or participant at our meetings needing special assistance beyond what is normally provided. Please contact the Plumas Corporation at 530-283-3739 at least 5 business days prior to a scheduled meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at the time you call if special assistance is required to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis.

Mission Statement:

“To reduce the loss of natural and human made resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities.”

2014 Goals:

- Implement and amend as necessary the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP);
- Increase public knowledge and awareness of hazards associated with wildland fire and inform the public about efforts that can be made to reduce their vulnerability to wildland fire;
- Increase community-based involvement in fuels reduction and facilitate the development of additional Firewise Communities in Plumas County;
- Identify, develop and implement community hazardous fuel reduction projects;
- Develop a strategy to provide for sustainable and renewable project funding and reduce the Council's dependence on grant funding;
- Explore green waste disposal and community chipping options for all communities in the County.

1. Welcome & Introductions--Mike De Lasaux
2. Review Agenda--Mike De Lasaux **Motion-Don Gasser, 2nd Jim Hamblin**
3. Review Meeting Minutes--Mike De Lasaux **Motion-Don Gasser, 2nd Chuck Bowman, Nils will begin to email the meeting minutes from the previous meeting to email recipients when he sends out the agenda for the next meeting.**

4. **Public Comments--Mike De Lasaux Claude Sanders inquired when the new air curtain burner was going to begin operation, Nils pointed out that there is a Green waste disposal update on the agenda.**
5. **Discussion of potential PC FSC funding sources--Nils Lunder, Mike De Lasaux Nils and Mike facilitated a lengthy discussion with the Council regarding the Concept Proposals that the PC FSC will be submitting.**

-State Responsibility Area grant Concept Proposal summary

Mike D has developed a proposal that will engage local Volunteer Fire Departments to help perform Home Ignition Zone Consultations with willing landowners. Additionally, his proposal will re-invigorate some of the outreach efforts that were used during the formative days of the PC FSC. These efforts will increase local awareness of the activities of the PC FSC and will also help to identify neighborhoods that are interested in participating in future PC FSC community HFR projects. Jerry Sipe made a motion to approve the submittal of Mike D's Concept Proposal, Don Gasser 2nd the motion and the Council approved.

Nils discussed the community chipping Concept Proposal. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Council was not interested in seeking funds to acquire a chipper and that they were more comfortable with the development of contracts with local contractors to provide chipping services for communities. The group discussed the potential of collaborating with CAL FIRE work crews where geographically practical. The outcome of the discussion was the approval of a community chipping program that will be coordinated by the PC FSC with assistance from contacts within the County. The Council will develop contracts with chipping contractors who will travel to the communities and chip piles of materials that have been built by residents. Mike Callaghan made a motion to approve the submittal of the Chipping Concept Proposal, Don Gasser 2nd the motion and the Council approved.

The next discussion was regarding the five Community Hazardous Fuel Reduction Concept Proposals that Nils has developed for the following communities: Dixie Valley, Mohawk Vista, Grizzly Ranch, Greenhorn and the American Valley. Some members of the Council were concerned that it may be inappropriate to apply for all five due to a lack of actual identified acres within each community. Nevertheless, the Council decided to proceed with the submission of all five Concept Proposals. The theory was that it would be better to submit all five and to see what CAL FIRE decided to invite us to develop full proposals for. Jerry Sipe made a motion to submit all five Concept Proposals, Chuck Bowman 2nd the motion and the Council approved.

-Greenhouse Gas grant Concept Proposal summary

Then Nils provided an overview of the Concept Proposal that he has been developing for the Greenhouse Gas Program. The big picture is to develop a long term infrastructure to collect Green waste from all of the communities in the County and then identify an appropriate use from these materials that result from the maintenance of forest properties. Nils has been working with the Sierra Institute as well as the Climate Action Reserve to develop the proposal. Don Gasser made a motion to submit a GHG Concept Proposal, Chuck Bowman 2nd the motion and the Council Approved.

6. **Greenwaste Disposal Update—Nils Lunder Nils reported that the Plumas News had run an article that stated the Air Curtain Burner will be accepting Green Waste materials at the FRD site beginning this weekend. Jerry Sipe provided further clarification on the matter including days of operation and hours (Friday 3-5pm, Saturday and Sunday 9-4).**

7. **Status update of Current Grants– Nils Lunder**

A. **PC FSC 09-1- SNC-Community HFR Planning & Project Development -**

- B. PC FSC 10-7 –Stevens 2010- In-kind, C Road–**SPI and Honey Lake Power are looking to purchase chips, HLP is willing to pay up to \$46/Bone Dry Ton**
- C. PC FSC 11-3- PC FSC Council Coordination 2014-2015–
- D. PC FSC 11-2 –Stevens 2011– 200 acres of Soper-Wheeler lands in 3 areas – **SPI and Honey Lake Power are looking to purchase chips, HLP is willing to pay up to \$46/Bone Dry Ton**
- E. PC FSC 11-4 – RAC – Cutler Meadow/La Porte Rd II HFR (partial) 75 acres –**Awaiting a Decision Memo. Info is being prepared by Sara Jones (PC FSC RPF) and will be submitted to the USFS soon. Once Decision Memo has been signed by the USFS, then a prospectus will be developed and contractors will be selected to perform work.**
- F. PC FSC 12-3 – SNC Prop 84 – La Porte Rd. II HFR- 172 Acres-**Piles need to be burned, some additional thinning has been completed by Firestorm**
- G. PC FSC 12-1 –Stevens 2012 – 698 acres of Soper-Wheeler, GL&W, & BNRR lands- **SPI and Honey Lake Power are looking to purchase chips, HLP is willing to pay up to \$46/Bone Dry Ton**
- H. PC FSC 14-1 – Stevens 2014 -West Quincy Highway 70 – HFR 65 acres-**PC FSC will be conducting outreach to landowners to finalize acres to be treated during the winter.**
- I. PC FSC 13-4 – RAC – Crescent Grade II. HFR-68 acres-**In progress, approximately 30 acres of this project were treated with PG&E funds during fall of 2014.**
- J. PC FSC 13-5 – RAC - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project-**New website is up and running-www.plumascollaborative.wordpress.org. Meetings are scheduled with main communities in February 2015.**
- K. PC FSC 13-3 – RAC - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance-**Increased funding will allow this program to serve clients in Plumas County for the next few years.**
- L. PC FSC 13-1 - CA FSC Clearinghouse - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance-**Funding from this source has allowed us to treat numerous acres in the County, depending on logistics, we may return remaining funds to CA FSC depending on our ability to secure matching funds before February.**
- M. PC FSC 13-2– Greenhorn CSD -Firewise Communities USA & CWPP Development-**Application has been submitted to CA FSC, next step is to develop a CWPP for Greenhorn.**
- N. PC FSC 13-6 – Title III - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance –Coordinator
- O. PC FSC 14-2 --PG&E Fire Prevention Grants
 - a. 267-Cutler Meadows Phase 1-Greenspan-**All 15 acres have been completed (hand and mastication work)**
 - b. 268-Crescent Grade-**All 30 acres have been completed (hand and mastication work)**
 - c. 269-Residential Fuel Reduction-**All work has been completed.**
- Q. PCFSC 14-5—Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council Outreach Materials-**PC FSC will be developing these materials and will have drafts submitted by early December.**

Updates

1. Plumas County OES activities-Jerry Sipe/Sue McCourt
2. PG&E Update-Nils Lunder/Mike McCourt-**The program was a success, thanks to the incredible efforts by PC FSC staff, contractors and the communities. We were able to take advantage of \$103,000 from PG&E and complete work throughout Plumas County**
3. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), fuel reduction projects, local Firewise Community activities, community events – Nils Lunder, Mike Callahan,

Chuck Bowman, Sue McCourt-Nils and Sue just met with folks from Bailey Creek and performed a Firewise Assessment, this was their third of the season. Gold Mountain has taken advantage of the Chipping program and were able to chip more materials than in any of the previous 6 years that chipping has happened there, mainly because of the FREE CHIPPING. They are developing a CFIP proposal for additional fuels treatment in their community.

4. **Upcoming webinar: From Randy Wilson:**

We have received an invitation from CAL FIRE to participate in a meeting/webinar taking place next week. The purpose of the meeting/webinar is to get professional and public input on community planning for wildfire. Details of the meeting, to be held at McClellan Wildfire Training Center (and available via webinar) on November 20th, are posted at the CAL FIRE website:

http://frap.fire.ca.gov/frasc/Meetings/frasc_meetings.php

They believe, rightly so, that County Planning Directors (and any of your staff) have a breadth of knowledge and experience that would be extremely valuable to them as they seek to address and improve rural community planning and fire hazard mitigation. As you may know, CAL FIRE has been recently mandated by the state government to provide foresters to assist counties in planning communities that are more resistant to wildfire. They are in training now, and many will be on as participants in the webinar.

They are well aware that this is somewhat late notice, but they are hopeful many of our group can attend/participate via the web. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rich Walker of the Fire and Resource Assessment Program at the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (707-576-8210). **This webinar was discussed by the Council. Someone from the County will participate**

5. **Adjournment, next meeting December 11, 2014**