

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



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Executive Board Minutes

Thursday March 12, 2015 – 8:15 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.

The Chairperson may call meetings of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PC FSC) Executive Board in order to discuss, supervise, and manage the business of the PC FSC. All such meetings are noticed and are open to participation by members of the PC FSC.

Members Present: Mike DeLasaux, Mike Callaghan, (Chuck Bowman was absent)
Others in attendance: Nils Lunder, Shane Vargas, Sara Taddo Jones, Sue McCourt

Potential tree removal program to assist landowners who lost trees during wind event-Nils spoke to the group about an idea that he has regarding the development of a new program to assist landowners that have trees that have blown down within the 100' home ignition zone. The concept would be that the PC FSC would consult with local RPF/LTOs to see if there are any local practitioners that would be willing to help with the effort. Nils would also have conversations with local mills to see if they would be willing to buy logs. Nils sees this as another opportunity to serve the population of Plumas County. Mike Callaghan thought it would be appropriate as long as we only assisted landowners who had fallen trees within the 100' radius around their homes.

Nils will make some calls to see if this concept is worth developing further. Mike DeLasaux was supportive but wanted to make sure that Nils does not spend too much of his Coordination effort developing the project.

Finding funds for project development-Nils spoke about the need to find operating funds that could help to offset the loss of our long standing SNC Project Planning and Development grant, which expired in February. He will seek opportunities that will fund the work that goes into developing projects. The tree removal program was one such idea. Nils will also look for grant opportunities that will fund these important efforts.

East shore Lake Almanor concept for utilizing existing Stevens Funds along BNSF line-Nils **presented to the board a concept for utilizing Stevens funds that have been allocated to this area. He is proposing the creation of a 75-150' wide fuel break between private properties on the East Shore of Lake Almanor and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Rail Road. A number of landowners have contacted the PC FSC regarding the dense fuels in the area.**

Additional Stevens funds for Butterfly Valley/Twain area-A **discussion related to additional Stevens funds occurred. Due to the challenges that the Council has had implementing projects supported by these funds, Mike DeLasaux recommends that Nils does some outreach in the Butterfly/Twain area before we enter into an agreement to accept the ~\$80,000.**

Contracts to landowners who wish to perform their own HFR work-**During a recent public meeting hosted by the USFS, numerous landowners approached Nils regarding the potential to use Stevens funds to do work on their own land without hiring contractors. The Ex. Board discussed this. They agreed that this may be a good opportunity to try this on a pilot project. Nils will acquire contracts from NRCS and CAL FIRE to get a sense of how these are written. This approach may help the PC FSC have better flexibility when spending these Stevens funds.**

PC FSC policy on in-kind requirements for all HFR projects-Nils **once again brought up the in-kind requirement policy. He feels that unfortunately, this is acting as a barrier to engaging landowners, especially with the Stevens funded projects. Nils feels that because of this and the fact that the SRA-funded project was not written with an in-kind requirement, that the Council should consider eliminating the in-kind requirement.**