

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



Meeting Notes

Thursday April 10, 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 Corp 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 Annual Goals:

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Mike De Lasaux
2. Review Agenda – Mike De Lasaux [Shane Vargas-Motion](#), [Claude Saunders-Second](#)
3. Public Comments - Mike De Lasaux [Phil Noia-curious about the 300 foot defensible space extension, new regulations.](#)
[Bob Beckwith](#) is interested in exemptions to approve burning during no-burn days. Wants to know what process might facilitate a change in this policy. The Vegetation Management Program (VMP) is very restrictive, he may look into a LE-5 permit as an alternative to the VMP.

4. Plumas County HFR Map – Presentation & Update Process – Nils Lunder Nils discussed last month's meeting and how the FSC is working to update our County HFR map.
5. Discussion of potential PC FSC funding sources - Mike De Lasaux Mike discussed the Secure Rural Schools Title II and III funding, the Fire Prevention Benefit Fee (SRA), the Timber Tax, and Cap and Trade provisions that may bring funding to forest management programs in Plumas County.
6. Status update of Current Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheets) – Nils Lunder
 - A. PC FSC 09-1- Community HFR Planning & Project Development – Nils described the SNC grant and its importance for the FSC to develop projects
 - B. PC FSC 10-7 –Stevens 2010- In-kind, C Road– Grant is closed, using in kind \$ to masticate
 - C. PC FSC 11-1, 11-3- PC FSC Council Coordination 2012-2013 & 2014-2015– Nils discussed how this grant is being used
 - D. PC FSC 11-2 –Stevens 2011– 200 acres of Soper-Wheeler lands in 3 areas – Company is seeking buyer for biomass
 - E. PC FSC 11-4 – RAC – La Porte Rd II HFR (partial) 75 acres –These funds will be used to treat acres in Cutler Meadows
 - F. PC FSC 12-1 –Stevens 2012 – 698 acres of Soper-Wheeler, GL&W, & BNRR lands Company is seeking buyer for biomass
 - G. PC FSC 12-2 – Cal Fire Prop 40 – La Porte Rd. II HFR- 172 Acres Project is completed
 - H. PC FSC 12-3 – SNC Prop 84 – La Porte Rd. II HFR- 172 Acres Piling and burning is nearly completed
 - I. PC FSC 13-1 - CA FSC Clearinghouse - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Project is underway, Rob Gimble is finishing his last season as coordinator. FSC will be seeking a new project coordinator at this time. Program will continue.
 - J. PC FSC 13-2– Greenhorn CSD -Firewise Communities USA & CWPP Development New draft is being reviewed by community, when approved the FSC will assist the CSD with the development of an application to Firewise
 - K. PC FSC 13-3 – RAC - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Contractors are being contacted by coordinator to supply bids for projects
 - L. PC FSC 13-4 – RAC – Crescent Grade II. HFR-68 acres Prospectus is being developed for contractors. Landowners have received contracts for work to be done in 2014
 - M. PC FSC 13-5 – RAC - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project Nils is coordinating this effort. First meeting was held 4-10-2014
 - N. PC FSC 13-6 – Title III - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance –Coordinator Rob Gimble will finish his season and the FSC is seeking applications for a new coordinator for the program
 - O. PC FSC 14-1 – Stevens 2014 -West Quincy Highway 70 – HFR 75 acres Outreach efforts are being made to include two larger private parcels

NEW BUSINESS

1. Status update of potential Grant Proposals. – Nils Lunder Lake Almanor Country Club Firewise committee has requested that the FSC help them to develop a grant proposal to do a project. Phil Noia recommends that the FSC tries to integrate PG&E into the process.
2. Meadow Valley Drill, Plumas County OES activities-Sue McCourt/Jerry Sipe May 8 meeting to develop interest in Firewise. June 1 major drill with all agencies. June 19 follow up, lessons learned.
3. USFS HFR projects overview in relation to community HFR opportunities – PNF & LNF fuel reduction project updates– USFS Rep(s) –Don Fregulia discussed a 60 acre burn project conducted

on Wednesday the 9th in Genesee Valley. Included USFS and Feather River Land Trust properties. This Collaborative process is a new tool being explored.

Don Gasser is concerned about smoke dispersal.

Phil Noia discussed neglected slash piles near Tobin that have become overgrown by brush. Don took note and will relay this info to Ryan Bauer. Funding may be available to treat the area with money from the Storrie Settlement.

4. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and update of local Firewise Community activities – Nils Lunder & Sue McCourt
 - Gold Mountain-1st meeting with Firewise committee (HOA and CSD) on April 18.
 - Graeagle-5 years as Firewise this month, H12 consultation form has been updated to mirror Cal Fire LE-100, upcoming HOA property meeting.
 - Whitehawk-Voting on CCRs and Architectural Review Guidelines for both occupied and vacant lots, Firewise work day planned for early July.
 - Grizzly Ranch-Meeting scheduled for May 23rd at the Outpost
 - Long Valley CSD has shown interest in this program
 - Mohawk Vista-Ed Ward and Sue McCourt are working on Firewise development. Working on Community Assessment and Living with fire workshop
 - Lake Almanor West-16 acre greenbelt maintenance planned, have sent out notices to residents about upcoming CalFire inspections
 - LACC-Pancake breakfast planned, benefit for Firewise and Fire Department, booth at Seneca Health Fair, working with PC FSC to develop a project
5. CalFire Plumas County update, overview of Home Inspection Program, introduction of new inspectors-Shane Vargas, CalFire
Captain Vargas introduced his new inspectors. Discussed difficulties with their work and the politics in Plumas County. Lots of push back for the inspection program.
6. CalFire SRA Fee Accountability update– Mike Callaghan
Mike discussed the recent application by Plumas County to Cal Fire to purchase and operate an Air Curtain Destructor-it was denied. There is a lot of frustration with the Cal Fire SRA fee, and a lack of transparency regarding how the money collected in Plumas County is being spent. References were made to PRC 4210,4211, 4212, 4213, 4214—which explains the benefits that will be realized by the fees. David Shu is the SRA manager for the state.

We discussed how the green waste issue is a major barrier to yard maintenance and how our CWPP must be updated to address this and how our CWPP has to be included in the Cal Fire LMP plan in order for our concerns to be recognized by Cal Fire.
7. Newspaper Tabloid development-Nils Lunder Nils is coordinating the development of materials for this year's Tabloid.
8. Next Meeting May 8, 2014
9. Adjournment