

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



P.O. Box 1225 - Quincy, CA 95971

530 283-0829

www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes

Thursday April 11, 2013- 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 (13)
Mike Callaghan, Sect/Treasurer (14)
Andy Anderson (13)
Jim Hamblin (13)
Deb Bumpus (13)
Shane Vargas (14)
Jerry Sipe (14)

Mission Statement:

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Chuck Bowman
2. Review Agenda – Chuck Bowman
3. Next meeting – May 9, 2013 – Annual Countywide HFR update in lieu of regular meeting activity.
4. Review/Approve minutes from February 14, 2013 meeting – Chuck Bowman –**Jerry Sipe made a motion to approve the notes as presented. Claude Sanders seconded and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
5. Public Comment - Chuck Bowman – **Representatives of RPM Hand Rake attended to promote their pine needle rake.**
6. Status update of Current Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheets) – Jerry Hurley
 - A. PC FSC 04-12 - Canyon Dam HFR - 900 acres– **Nothing New to Report.**
 - B. PC FSC 09-2 – Senior/Disabled Defensible Space– **Waiting for new grant contract from CFSC to start the program back up. There are approximately 30 residents who have requested assistance for maintenance or establishment of Defensible Space for 2013.**
 - C. PC FSC 09-1- Community HFR Planning & Project Development – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - D. PC FSC 10-7 –Stevens - Long Valley II, C Road & Whitehawk HFR 210 acres – **C- Rd handpile burning- A contractor was selected to burn the remaining piles. There is 33 acres of biomass work remaining pending a chip buyer. Letters sent to landowners for in-kind payments.**
 - E. PC FSC 11-1, 11-3- PC FSC Council Coordination 2012-2013 & 2014-2015– **Work continues with FSC coordination activities. Working with Plumas Corp on grant reports.**

- F. PC FSC 11-2 –Stevens 2011 – 200 acres of Soper-Wheeler lands in 3 areas – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - G. PC FSC 11-4 – RAC – La Porte Rd II HFR (partial) 75 acres – **Contract has been made with the landowners updating them. Biggest obstacle at this time is finding a chip buyer.**
 - H. PC FSC 12-1 –Stevens 2012 – 698 acres of Soper-Wheeler, GL&W, & BNRRL lands **Timber companies seeking a chip buyer in order to treat their lands.**
 - I. PC FSC 12-2 – Cal Fire Prop 40 – La Porte Rd. II HFR- 172 Acres- **Same as 6.G.**
 - J. PC FSC 12-3 – SNC Prop 84 – La Porte Rd. II HFR- 172 Acres - **Same as 6.G.**
 - K. PC FSC 13-1 - CA FSC Clearinghouse - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance – **Selected by CFSC. Working on the award package.**
 - L. PC FSC 13-2 - RAC - Crescent Grade Supplemental – 78 Acres – **Letter of Congratulations sent by PNF Supervisor, to award project. Contract Pending.**
7. Status update of proposed Grant Proposals. – Jerry Hurley –
- A. PC FSC 13-3 - RAC - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance – **Letter of Congratulations sent by PNF Supervisor, to award project. However, the Sequestration Act is planned to take back 5% of Title I, II, & III of the Secure Rural Schools funding. States were given the option of using Title II funds to pay the full amount instead of taking a percentage of each. That decision is due April 19 and the USFS has encouraged that tact. If that occurs, then Plumas County Title II funds would be reduced about 60%, creating a significant shift in project to be funded.**
 - B. PC FSC 13-4 - RAC - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project – **Same as 7.A.**
 - C.
8. USFS HFR projects overview/relation to communities’ opportunities –PNF & LNF fuel reduction out year program of work – USFS representatives – **Nothing New to Report.**
9. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and update of local FSC & Firewise Community activities – Jerry Hurley & Sue McCourt -
- Graeagle –Scheduled a Firewise Day for 5/11/13. Property owners & CSD are developing a project to demonstrate how to treat vacant lots, and create Defensible Space. Will include the “Beyond Defensible Space Workshop”.**
 - Gold Mtn. – Finishing up their annual renewal application and will hold their Firewise Day at their Homeowners Annual Meeting on 5/25/13. Exploring a better community alert system than their phone tree.**
 - West Almanor – Making plans to reduce fuel loading on a 1-acre common area.**
 - Peninsula – Community members have met with a Firewise USA representative & submitted an application for becoming a recognized community. They reviewed the draft assessment and are responding back to Firewise Communities USA.**
 - County Fire Prevention Specialist – Sue McCourt – Provided a brochure for realtors to discuss disclosure issue of fire protection with property buyers.**
10. California RCD- Phil Noia – **Nothing New to Report.**
11. Defensible Space Educational Hands on Workshop. –Don Gasser – **Plans to incorporate the workshop into the Graeagle Firewise Community Day on May 11, 2013.**
12. Plumas Corp Transition– Mike De Lasaux – **Nothing New to Report**

13. Letter Requesting SRA Fees back to PC FSC in the form of Grants – Mike Callaghan – **PC Board of Supervisors signed a Resolution to Cal Fire requesting a return of all fees collected s to the County as a block grant, as Cal Fire lacks the presence to effectively spend the funds. PC OES will send a cover letter with the resolution to Cal Fire and Board of Forestry.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update – Jerry Hurley – **PC FSC was contacted to discuss our role in participating I an update of the Plumas County Integrate Regional Water Management Plan. PC FSC will provide technical fire information in support of the update, but not be a key player developing the plan update.**

2. AB-350 Letter of Support – Jerry Hurley – **AB-350 is a bill to increase diameter limits of trees removed using the Emergency Fire Prevention Exemption. This would give PC FSC foresters more latitude to effectively treat parcels in our Hazardous Fuel Reduction program.**

Mike Callaghan made a motion to approve sending a letter of support for AB-350. Jim Hamblin seconded and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting concluded at 11:00