

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



P.O. Box 1225 - Quincy, CA 95971
530 283-0829
www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes

Thursday September 11, 2008 - 9:00 am.

Plumas County
Planning & Building Services Conference Room
555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Brian West, Chair (08)
Mike Callaghan, Vice Chair (10)
Ed Harrison, Secretary (08)
Jim Graham, Treasurer (09)
Andy Anderson (09)
Jim Hamblin (09)
Frank Stewart (08)
Dale Meese (08)
Allan Setzer (09)
Jay Skutt (10)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Brian West
2. Next meeting – **October 9, 2008**
3. Review/Approve minutes from August 14, 2007 meeting – Brian West – **Mike Callaghan made a motion to approve the notes as written. Brian West seconded and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.**
5. Public Comment - Brian West - None
6. Status update of Current Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheets)
 - A. PC FSC 02- 9 – NS AQMD Chipping in lieu of burning –John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - B. PC FSC 04-4 & 12 - Canyon Dam HFR - 900 acres– John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - C. PC FSC 04-6 - County Stewardship Proposal – John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - D. PC FSC 05-3, 7, & 07-8 - Greenhorn HFR 30 acres – John Sheehan – **Contract awarded, work expected to begin next month.**
 - E. PC FSC 05-4, 8 & 08-4 - Grizzly Ck. HFR- 128 acres – John Sheehan – **Contract awarded & operations began Monday. Wednesday evening the operator’s equipment caught fire and was burned up. Plans to meet with the contractor and landowner after the FSC meeting.**
 - F. PC FSC 03-1, 05-5, 06-2 & 5 – Eastern Plumas HFR – 175 acres - John Sheehan – **John will work with North Valley Resources, RPF, to get prescriptions, and prepare CEQA**

or THP exemptions and prospectus to enable pursuit of additional funds from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC). SNC requires CEQA to approve prior to funding implementation for ground disturbing activities.

- G. PC FSC 06-4 & 10 – Little Grass Valley HFR – 111 acres - John Sheehan - **Soper-Wheeler still looking to find a contractor to accomplish the work.**
- H. PC FSC 06-6 – La Porte Pines HFR – 75 acres - John Sheehan – **Feather River RD is waiting for wetter conditions before beginning mastication activities.**
- I. PC FSC 07-1 & 4 - Indian Valley HFR-200 acres – John Sheehan – **Eight contractors bid on the project. PC FSC, Plumas Corporation, and North Valley Resources, are in final discussions with contractors prior to award.**
- J. PC FSC 07-2 - La Porte Road HFR – 100 acres – John Sheehan – **North Valley Resources has provided the final information to CDF for CEQA approval. Prospectus expected out by the end of this month.**
- K. PC FSC 07-4 & 08-2 - PC FSC Council Coordination 2007-2009– John Sheehan – **A grant proposal for funding of additional HFR planning & outreach was submitted to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) on 8/31/08. Work continues with providing presentations at homeowner association meetings and sharing of firesafe information.**
- L. PC FSC 07-5 – C Road right-of-way planning – John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
- M. PC FSC 07-6 – Taylorsville HFR – 30 acres – John Sheehan – **Piling complete, expect burning to occur after sufficient rainfall. Some discussion on use of remaining funds.**
- N. PC FSC 07-9 – Elderly/Disabled Defensible Space – John Sheehan – **Contracts will be awarded this week for 38 properties to be treated by 6 contractors. Properties spread throughout 12 different communities.**
- O. PC FSC 07-10 - County Educational Workshops - John Sheehan – **Plans being developed to review web page and explore opportunities for additional workshops.**
- P. PC FSC 08- 1 - Gold Mtn. HFR - John Sheehan – **Graeagle Timber has completed approximately 70 acres of biomass adjacent to the community. Operations were suspended as the company moved to a more cost efficient project near Mills Peak, which also will be more constrained by the fall weather. Operations are expected to resume later this fall.**
- Q. PC FSC 08- 3 - HFR Project Development –John Sheehan – **Some of these funds are being used as in-kind for an expanded planning grant to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. See 7.A.**

7. Status update of proposed Grant Proposals. –
 - A. PC FSC Community Hazardous Fuel Reduction Planning 2009- SNC – John Sheehan – **A grant request was submitted to SNC on 7/30/08 for HFR planning. PC FSC has letters from interested landowners for approximately 470 acres of potential HFR projects. To be competitive for SNC funds to implement the projects, we will need to conduct additional outreach, develop prescriptions, obtain landowner agreements, prepare CEQA, for SNC approval, and prospectuses.**
8. HFQLG –HFR project overview/relation to communities’ opportunities - Project mapping integration involving USFS, CDF and Fire Safe Council - PNF’s fuel reduction out year program of work – Allan Setzer – **Burn Severity maps of the recent fires were provided. The Rush DFPZ is being credited with paying a large role in containment & control of the Rush fire. Fire behavior changed from a crown to ground fire when it entered treated stands. There was also discussion of other fuel reduction project on the Mt. Hough RD in the Indian/Genesee Valley areas.**
9. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) – Jim Graham- **Nothing New to Report.**
10. Defensible Space on Public Lands – Larry Craggs – **Public lands covered by NEPA for larger projects, such as the Empire Project, are being evaluated for treatment to create the 100’ of needed Defensible Space for adjacent private properties with structures close to a NF Boundary.**
11. Secure Rural Schools Funding – Frank Stewart – **Nothing New to Report.**
12. CA FSC legislative issues – Frank Stewart – **A letter was proposed to be sent to Governor Schwarzenegger, requesting that he extend immediate emergency action to permit removal of hazardous fuels in our forests that endanger our communities, watersheds, wildlife, and air quality; and take immediate emergency action to set aside red tape that prevents homeowners from removing trees that threaten their homes. Jim Hamblin made a motion to send the letter as written. The motion was seconded by Steve Windward. The motion was carried by a majority for those present with abstentions by agency personnel.**
13. Update of local FSC (Almanor Basin & Gold Mtn.) activities – Jerry Hurley –
 - A. Basin FSC - **Nothing New to Report**
 - B. Gold Mtn. – **Progress on the HFR project adjacent to the community on Graeagle Land & Water Lands.**
14. HFR Cost contribution by participating landowners – John Sheehan - **Nothing New to Report**

NEW BUSINESS

1. None

The meeting concluded at 11:45AM