



P.O. BOX 1225
QUINCY, CA 95971



418 N MILL CREEK RD
QUINCY, CA 95971



(530)927-5294
PLUMASFIRESAFE.ORG

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 13th, 2023 - 9:00 am.
50 Church Street, Quincy

Board of Directors

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chair , John Reynolds Firewise (23) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair , Sally McGowan Firewise (23) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary/Treasurer Mike Flanigan, Insurance (23) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ron Heinbockel Plumas Fire Chiefs (23) | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe Smailes Firewise (23) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Gasser RPF (24) | <input type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Pangburn CAL FIRE (24) | <input type="checkbox"/> Trina Cunningham Maidu Summit Consort. (24) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Bowman Firewise (23) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Tompkins UCCE (23) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Kogge Firewise (23) | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Hall Feather River RCD (23) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracey Ferguson Plumas County Planning (23) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Hunter NSAQMD (24) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bauer USFS PNF (22) |

Mission Statement: “To reduce the loss of natural resources and human values caused by wildfire through Firewise community programs and pre-fire activities.”

5-Year Strategic Plan

Program Strategy: Expand existing programs and establish additional projects:

1. Leverage and expand partnerships
2. Sustainably increase staffing
3. Establish robust monitoring systems & metrics
4. Increase public engagement
5. Develop County-wide community fuels and threat mapping assessment

Funding Strategy: Target sustainable annual budget increase of 20%:

1. Continue to produce competitive grant proposals that are based on funder’s objectives.
2. Pursue approaches for non-competitive funding which reduce administration while increasing long term benefits.
3. Leverage charitable donations to increase public outreach, education, and participation.
4. Continue to pursue potential revenue-generating activities utilizing woody material.

Leadership Strategy: Ensure strong and functional systems are in place to facilitate ongoing organizational capacity:

1. Maintain a Board of Directors with strategically recruited membership.
2. Continue partnership with Plumas Corporation as fiscal agent.

9:00am Board Meeting

Roll Call – not sufficient attendance for quorum

Approve Agenda – no changes

Consent Agenda

1. February Financials

Mike Flannigan reviewed the February financials, discussing personnel costs, revenues, and general expenditures. Mr. Flannigan stated that overall, the PCFSC financial status is secure and healthy. A detailed financial sheet was passed out at the meeting.

2. Status of Grant Budgets

Don Gasser started a conversation about the status of grant 299 (Plumas Disadvantaged Communities HFR). Mr. Gasser inquired about progress with spending the full funds by the end of the grant period. Ms. Hepner explained that the layout for this project is ongoing, and a grant extension may be requested if necessary once the project has been bid. A conversation continued about the status of miscellaneous grants. Ms. Hepner explained that most project implementation is contingent on seasonality and appropriate weather.

3. Status of Potential Projects & Grant Opportunities

PCFSC was awarded \$6.8 million from the Community Wildfire Defense Grant. These funds will be utilized for an updated hazardous fuels assessment of Plumas County. PCFSC will contract Deer Creek Resources to complete the assessment. All additional funds from the Community Wildfire Defense Grant will be utilized for hazardous fuels reduction projects.

PCFSC was awarded \$1 million for the Wood Products Infrastructure Proposal. This will fund Phase 1 of the firewood processing and wood heat facility. Ms. Hepner explained that if PCFSC were to accept these funds, there would be an obligation to provide a match of slightly more than \$1 million dollars. It is possible to find another grant to provide that match, or to utilize PG&E funds. The board will make a decision to accept or deny this grant during the May meeting.

4. March Board Meeting Minutes – no comments

Approve consent agenda

Quorum not present – approval moved to May meeting.

New Business

Ms. Hepner presented the PCFSC 2022 annual report, as well as the updated publication of “Living with Fire.” These resources can be shared with partners and funders. If any member or board member is interested in sharing these resources, contact PCFSC.

Julie Hunter requested to discuss burning activities in the no-burn zone of Quincy during a future meeting. Burning in the no-burn zone will be discussed in a membership meeting sometime in the fall.

John Reynolds shared on current efforts to design a “board member handbook.” A conversation proceeded about unclear responsibilities for board members, and Mr. Reynolds explained that the new handbook will help clarify roles and responsibilities for board members.

Don Gasser highlighted the insecure future of fire protection in Plumas County. Mr. Gasser explained that if volunteer fire protections dwindle, Plumas County will not have adequate defenses. He recommended that PCFSC goes to the state government and stress the severity of this issue and the

need for assistance. John Reynolds, Chuck Bowman, and Mr. Gasser contributed to a conversation about the Fire Safe Council's role on this topic. Questions were posed: does PCFSC have a role to play in mitigating this issue, or should this be the responsibility of the state? Mr. Reynolds remarked that the PCFSC role can be providing grant-writing support. He recommended hiring a PCFSC staff member to provide local fire chiefs with administrative and grant-writing support. Matt West commented on the difference between station types: Schedule B is the "full station" that completes the full expectations of a fire station, like year-round structure and medical response. Schedule A is only staffed during the fire season.

Future Agenda Topics

April – Logan will be sharing some potential prescribed fire module updates. [Moved to May]

May – Rachel will be reviewing the Hazardous Fuel Reduction process. [Moved to June]

June – Liam will be discussing Home Site Visits, as well as an update from the California Fire Safe Council.

July – Matt will be talking about the QWIP project and any involvement we have in the Forest Service Protect Project.

Adjourned