

# Plumas County Fire Safe Council



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 8th, 2021 - 9:00 am.

Via Zoom

**Mission Statement:** "To reduce the loss of natural and human made resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities."

### Board of Directors

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|---|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Chair</b> , John Reynolds<br>Firewise Community (21) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Vice Chair</b> , Kathy Kogge<br>Firewise Community (21) | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Secretary/Treasurer</b><br>Dan Martynn, Retired (22) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lindsay Wood<br>Plumas Audubon Society(22)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don Gasser<br>RPF (22)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trina Cunningham<br>Maidu Summit Consort. (22)             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Callaghan<br>Firewise Community (22)    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Bowman<br>Firewise Community (21) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Hamblin<br>Citizen (21)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bauer<br>USFS PNF (22)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad Graevs<br>Feather River RCD (21)        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Stockton<br>State Farm (21)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Tompkins<br>UCCE (21)   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tracey Ferguson<br>Plumas County Planning (21)             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ron Heinbockel<br>Plumas Fire Chiefs (21)               |   |

1. Welcome & Introductions – John Reynolds
2. Review Agenda – Mr. Reynolds
3. Approval of March Meeting Minutes – Brad Graevs motions, Kathy Kogge seconds.
4. Presentation of Certificate of Recognition Program - Mr. Reynolds presented certificate to April's nominee:
  - Sally McGowan
5. Public Comment: Jeff Greef – thank you to PCFSC for the TRES training. TRES was able to burn on Jeff's property and he hopes to see more of that work in the future.
6. Board Comment: none

## New Business

TREX slide show (available online <https://www.plumasfiresafe.org/mins-2021.html>)

## Old Business

## Updates

- **CAL FIRE:** absent, Chris Christopherson has transferred to Modoc County. Mark Rotlisberger has replaced him.
- **Feather River RCD:** Mike Hall – Four pending fuels reduction grants currently. One is proposal is to PG&E to treat county lands on Radio Hill. Two SNC grants for Round Valley and Canyon Dam area. One more SNC grant for Plumas Pines. One CAL FIRE Forest Health grant that will cover 1,500 acres in Indian Valley.  
Katie Reidy – NRCS gave FRRCD funding for those effected by the North Complex fire. Will be conducting a needs assessment for landowners.  
Brad Graevs – if there are landowners who are seeking assistance, please contact Katie Reidy. Thinning on the 89 corridor near Canyon Dam has begun.
- **Feather River Stewardship Coalition:** Ms. Hepner – FRSC will be doing a North Complex tour on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Will be looking at private and public impacted lands. FRSC will be scheduling a meeting soon.
- **Firewise Communities:** Indian Falls and Crescent Mills will be doing a joint assessment on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The assessment will be the first step in receiving their Firewise designation. On April 14th the Firewise Leads will be hearing from various organizations at the Firewise Annual Meeting. If you would like to attend, the link can be shared.
- **Timber:** not present
- **Insurance:** Richard Stockton – There has been a moratorium on insurance cancelations since December. New Legislation to come. Quincy Firewise includes all inside the Quincy Fire Protection District. April 13th Quincy Firewise kick-off from 4-5pm at Rotary Pavilion in Pioneer Park. Quincy Firewise is on Facebook, please follow the page to stay up to date on news. Mike Flanigan as done a radio announcement regarding Quincy Firewise, you can find it on Plumas News.
- **Utilities:** not present
- **NRCS:** Mr. Graevs – Announced that the new District Conservationist will start on Monday.
- **NSAQMD:** not present
- **Audubon Society:** Lindsay Wood – no update
- **Plumas Fire Chiefs Association:** not present
- **Office of Emergency Services:** not present
- **Plumas County Planning Department:** Tracey Ferguson – checking with OES on filling open position. Looking to apply for grants from CAL FIRE for Hazard Mitigation Planning. Plumas County was identified as a community in need of Hazard Mitigation Planning, more to come on this. Potential Cal OES funding.  
Ms. Hepner asked if there is a way in which the mitigation actions in the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan are being prioritized for funding.  
Ms. Ferguson – no priorities are currently set. PCFSC needs can be prioritized if need be.

- **Plumas Underburn Cooperative:** Mr. Graevs – besides TREX there are still burns planned, Matt West will be sending out information soon. Underburn Cooperative members are encouraged to attend burns. More funding has been secured for Matt West’s position and he will continue to coordinate PUC’s burning activities.
- **Tree Mortality Update:** Mike Callahan – no overflight photos from last fall, there will be no way to compare tree mortality from last year. Water is a major concern this year. Normal amount of young dead cedars this year, nothing to be concerned about at this point.
- **Tribal:** not present
- **UC Cooperative Extension:** Mr. Graevs – Wildfire Preparedness Event on May 15<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm.
- **USFS:** Dave Kinatader keep an eye on Mapes and Long Valley. Burning happening in Lee Summit. Burning in Moonlight fire footprint. Working with Firestorm and burned between 7,000-8,000 acres of piles. Lots of activity and pile building out in the Butterfly Valley area. Putting money towards Biomass Projects in Loyaltan. Working with FRC to develop HFR project.  
Joe Smailes asked if there will be salvage logging on the Claremont Fire footprint? Mr. Kinatader responded yes.  
John Reynolds - Mapes project was going out for contracts this spring. Is that on track? Mr. Kinatader said contracts were pushed back until next year. Pushing for funding.

## 1. Status of Current Grants

- **Senior/Disabled Defensible Space:** Mike McCourt - back in the office. 65 people signed up with 40 more contacted. There will be a list of people we can submit to contractors in about a week.
- **Chipping:** Gary Parque – looking at a busy summer for chipping.

Mr. Callaghan asked if chipping sign-ups gone exclusively online. Mr. Parque and Ms. Hepner responded that the online form is preferred but that paper applications will be entered into the online form if received. Mr. Callaghan followed to ask if it is still possible to see who has signed up. Ms. Hepner said that, yes, that information can be shared. Mr. Callaghan asked that a field be created in the online form for the community name. Ms. Hepner explained that the software is spatially based and that it will be convenient to determine community with the new system.

Mr. Reynolds asked if the new software recognizes lot numbers. Ms. Hepner said no, an address is required.

Tony Taylor clarified that each individual property owner needs to sign up to receive treatment.

Ms. Hepner added that residents can sign up for chipping as late as the Friday before the scheduled week of chipping. However, it is on a first come first served basis and late sign-ups may end up on the waitlist.

**HFR Project Schedule:** Ms. Hepner – Additional acres added to the Butterfly project have been contracted. Lakes Basin operator prospectus is drafted. Little Grass Valley work is partially done and will start again when snow is melted. Greenhorn and Plumas Disadvantaged Communities have been contracted. American Valley East is in progress and mastication is happening now.

Kyle Felker – American Valley is looking really good. The work is 80% done on the west end. Many participating parcels.

Sally McGowan - Congratulations to HFR projects in American Valley.

Mr. Kinader said that Plumas National Forest purchased a masticator with PG&E funding. They are looking for access through private property to USFS parcels near Old Highway.

Mr. Felker will speak to the landowners to get access.

2. Status of Grant Budgets: Ms. Hepner – Cost center 279, Mohawk Vista, will be removed from the spreadsheet next month. Asterisks represent closing grants.

3. Status of Potential Projects/Grant Opportunities: Ms. Hepner – PCFSC was awarded \$440,000 from PNF for implementation of Mohawk Valley. Awarded tool trailer and \$10,000 stipend from the California Fire Safe Council. Waiting to hear about PG&E grant for Radio Hill. Applying for one CAL FIRE Forest Health grant and two Fire Prevention grants for the Lake Almanor area and Chipping Program. RAC funds will be available soon.

4. Other Updates & Upcoming Events: none

Adjourn. Next meeting May 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am.