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PLUMASFIRESAFE.ORG

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 11th, 2023 - 9:00 am.
50 Church Street, Quincy

Board of Directors

<input type="checkbox"/> Chair , John Reynolds Firewise (25)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice Chair , Sally McGowan Firewise (25)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary/Treasurer Mike Flanigan, Insurance (25)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ron Heinbockel Plumas Fire Chiefs (24)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Smailes Firewise (25)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Gasser RPF (24)	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Hall Feather River RCD (25)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trina Cunningham Maidu Summit Consort. (24)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bauer USFS PNF (24)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Tompkins UCCE (25)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Kogge Firewise (25)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Pini Office of Emergency Services (25)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Hunter NSAQMD (24)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jake Blaufuss AFRC (25)	

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

Program Updates – No updates

Consent Agenda

1. November Financials

Mr. Flanigan provided an update. The PCFSC budget remains healthy halfway through this fiscal year. 28% of the budget has been spent. The remaining budget is intended to be spent in the spring once field work resumes.

Mr. Flanigan met with the PCFSC Edward Jones representative. The invested funds are currently maturing in CDs, and the representative will be speaking to the board in February.

2. Status of Grant Budgets

Rachel Wehrman provided an update. PCFSC staff applied for a 3 million-dollar CAL FIRE grant which is to be dedicated to hazardous fuels reduction.

PCFSC has officially been awarded CWDG funds. This will continue to fund the Plumas Disadvantaged Communities project, as well as a hazardous fuels assessment, and subsequent hazardous fuels reduction.

3. Status of Potential Projects and Grant Opportunities – no updates

4. Board Minutes

The December meeting minutes were approved.

Approve Consent Agenda

Motion: Mike Flanigan, Second: Don Gasser

Approved: All yes, none opposed

New Business

1. Terra Fuego Potential Partnership – Bill Jacks

Bill Jacks wishes to build a stronger partnership between Terra Fuego and PCFSC; how can they combine resources to maximize shared goals?

Reasons for Collaboration

- Collaborate efforts, so as to not communicate with the same landowners about the same mission
- Follow up on all past and future PCFSC ladder fuel reduction / redistribution project
 - Increase and preserve treatment efficacy into the future
 - Reduce mechanical re-entry every 10-15 years
- Assist in frequent burn planning
- Eliminate planning redundancy and “stepping on each other’s toes”
 - PCFSC has substantial data on Plumas communities
 - Community members do not wish to be approached by multiple organizations about the same things
- Include prescribed fire on all fuels reduction CEQA

- Every acre needs continued and repeated fuel reduction with the use of Rx Fire
- Increase community resilience
- Provide an additional insurance insulation
- Complete problem projects to maintain grant credibility

Plumas Prescribed Fire and Fuels Work Center

Terra Fuego looks to develop a programmatic prescribed fire workforce

- Build local capacity to prescribe fire
 - 60-70 employees, two 20-person crews, 4 fire engines, and a couple equipment operators
 - Provide a Rx fire management team
 - Burn plan mill and incident command structure for multiple burn implementation
 - Operate on private and public land
 - Support PUC, provide contingency and equipment
 - Support local economy

The Fire Grant Balloon

Mr. Jacks acknowledges that this is a unique time period, where large amounts of money are readily available for hazardous fuels reduction. This is an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of prescribed fire as a stewardship tool that the forest depends on.

- The more fire frequency intervals prescribed fire is utilized for, the less risky it becomes
- If Terra Fuego writes grants with PCFSC, they can strategically use grant money to cover multiple projects
- Prescribed fire is the best option for wildfire resilience

Mr. Jacks sees PCFSC's role as "coordinating" and Terra Fuego's role as being the "professional prescribed fire workforce" – Terra Fuego being a tool that we can recommend.

Jake Blaufuss asked about the standard WUI definition provided by Bill. Bill explains that the WUI plan is not an official plan, but many organizations around the state are adopting it. Establish permanent fire lines that follow topography around communities – this crosses both private and public lands, which is why working together may be valuable. The standard WUI depends on viable fire lines and existing urban fire lines (roads, railroads, etc.).

2. Vote in and approve incoming Board Officers

Sally McGowan nominated Mike Flanigan for Treasurer.

Don Gasser nominated Sally McGowan for Chair, Joe Smailes for Vice Chair, Mike Flanigan for Treasurer.

Mike Flanigan nominated John Reynolds for Chair and Sally McGowan for vice chair.

Final Nomination:

Chair – John Reynolds

Vice Chair – Sally McGowan

Treasurer -Mike Flanigan

All approved, none apposed

Old Business –

Rachel Wehrman provided an update. Rachel is working with Jim Wilcox to develop official policies that addresses the topics of the September 7th special board meeting.

John Reynolds Received a letter of resignation from Jonathan Pangburn. Jonathan Pangburn will continue to attend meetings when possible.

Adjourned

Motion: Mike Flanigan, Second: Ryan Bauer

Approved: All yes, none opposed