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PLUMASFIRESAFE.ORG

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 13th, 2023 - 10:00 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 Flanagan, Insurance (23)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Heinbockel Plumas Fire Chiefs (23)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Smailes Firewise (23)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Gasser RPF (24)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Pangburn CAL FIRE (24)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Hall Feather River RCD (23)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tracey Ferguson Plumas County Planning (23)	<input type="checkbox"/> Julie Hunter NSAQMD (24)	<input checked="" 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.

10:00am Membership Meeting

1. Welcome & Introductions – John Reynolds
 2. Review Agenda – Reynolds
 3. Approve June Meeting Minutes – Reynolds
- Motion: Mike Flannigan, Second: Don Gasser**
4. Presentation of Certificate of Recognition to: None
 5. Public Comment:

The Argentine Rock lookout group is going to be doing work reconstructing the Argentine lookout this upcoming summer. They need help with restoration and hauling materials. If anyone is interested in assisting, reach out to Jeff Greef to be included.

6. Board Comment:

Jonathan Pangburn put out a challenge to fellow board members to donate to PCFSC. Mr. Pangburn insists that board financial contributions demonstrate “skin in the game.” Joe Smailes responded, saying that PCFSC has never done this before, but supports the idea of board donation in general.

Trina Cunningham provided an update. There has been a strong interest from the metropolitan water district to put money back into upstream water communities; downstream communities are getting rich off upstream resources, so it is important to put money back into the communities where resources came.

New Business –

1. Water Solutions Network – Debbie Franco, Managing Director

Debbie Franco has been working on the Watershed Framework. This framework was designed to endorse equitable and sustainable water resource stewardship. Ms. Franco has funding to implement this system on the Feather River and its water use. In the coming months, more will be revealed about how this framework will apply in Plumas County.

2. WUI Map Revision – Ryan Bauer, Plumas National Forest

The forest service has constructed a new potential WUI boundary.

In the old WUI layer, the CAR (communities at risk) portion had swelled over time, and was inaccurate. In the new WUI layer, CAR were updated and sharpened. The forest service then assessed what the threat zone should look like. Watersheds and hydraulic units were utilized to determine these boundaries.

Ryan Bauer explained the new WUI boundary, elaborating on the included defense zone, evacuation routes, threat zone, and urban core.

Hannah Hepner stated that the next step is to take this updated boundary to the board of supervisors for approval. Jonathan Pangburn suggested we revise the CWPP to not need BOS approval. Ms. Hepner says that this is the only part of the CWPP that needs BOS approval, and it might be worth it to keep presenting to them for county inclusion.

The PCFSC is requesting feedback for the new WUI boundary. If you have any input, contact Liam Galleher at Liam@plumasfiresafe.org.

Old Business –

Updates

1. Standing Reports and Discussion

- CAL FIRE: Jonathan Pangburn provided an update. Burn permits have been suspended.
- Feather River College: Not present.
- Feather River Resource Conservation District (RCD): Michael Hall provided an update. Have been working on the Quincy North Project – 9000 acres. The deadline for the draft DA is on August 2nd. Plumas Effort is moving along fast. FRRCD is coordinating another stakeholder's exchange event.
- Feather River Stewardship Coalition: Michael Hall provided an update. FRSC is in search of a forest service lead to contribute to projects.
- Firewise Communities: Taylorsville Firewise is starting to become active. Old highway road is experiencing a lot of tree mortality - neighbors are helping neighbors fall trees. Bill Davies thanked PCFSC employees Logan and Liam for conducting a home hardening/defensible space event at Hamilton Branch East Shore.
- Industry – Timber: Not present.
- Industry – Insurance: Mike Flanigan provided an update. State Farm is no longer writing any new plans in California. Allstate is providing minimal plans going forward.
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS): Not present.
- Northern Sierra AQMD: Julie Hunter provided an update.
- Plumas Corp: Scott Corey provided an update. Very busy field season this year. Plumas Corp is also starting to coordinate projects in the Southern Sierras.
- Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association: Ron Heinbockel provided an update. Mr. Heinbockel advocated to get a new representative for the PCFSC board, and will continue to do so.
- Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (OES): Not Present.
- Plumas County Planning Department: Tracey Ferguson provided an update. CAL FIRE and marshals are again requesting feedback for the wildfire severity zones. Comments are accepted through august 9th. The Plumas County wildfire recovery plan has a public review draft that is anticipated to be released at the end of July.
- Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship: Not present.
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Not present.
- Tree Mortality Update: No update.
- Plumas department of agriculture: Calls for help to get participation in lake Almanor for scotch broom removal. There have been 0 responses to remove scotch broom and a lot of push back.
- Tribal Representatives: Trina Cunningham provided an update. Tribal efforts are mostly focused on wildfire recovery. Tribal representatives are planning to reburn areas with excess chaparral growth.
- University of California, Cooperative Extension: Ryan Tompkins and Hannah Hepner are working on a letter that states where PCFSC and UCCE stand on the Forest Service Protect Project.
- USFS Hazardous Fuels Reduction: Ryan Bauer provided an update. The comment period for the centra west community protect project closes on July 19th. The north Quincy project should start soon. The comment period for the community protect east side will start in august.
- Mule Deer Foundation: Chris Daunt provided an update. Coordinating a 1300 acres of forest service green timber sale. Mule Deer is also working on a 14-million-dollar agreement signed

with the forest service – project layout has started. By fall there will be at least one project out to bid.

2. Status of PCFSC Programs

- Public Lands Projects – Matt West: Crews are actively working on the Lakes Basin Project. American valley CSD will be moving forward.
- Private Lands Projects - Rachel Wehrman:
 - Greenhorn project is finished.
 - Disadvantaged communities project is almost to bid, and archeology is wrapping up.
 - Handwork is continuing for clear creek Hamilton branch.
- County Coordination – Liam Galleher: The Fire Safe Home Visit program is fully active for the Summer and Fall.
- Senior Disabled Defensible Space – Tommy Brenzovich: The crew has been working their way through the East side of the County, and they will be done with the first group within next week. Tommy has received positive feedback from properties that have already been treated. The program has over 230 clients so far.
- Plumas Underburn Cooperative – Logan Krahenbuhl:
 - Attended the central coast prescribed fire exchange.
 - Burned three acres recently with 30 volunteers from the UC Berkeley Forestry Camp.
 - PCFSC did not receive the BLM grant.
 - Prescribed fire burn season is over.
 - PUC has minimal capacity to take on more clients for the upcoming year, but Logan will continue to do site visits for future planning.
- Chipping: Round one chipping finished on the 30th of May. A little over 100 properties were treated.

3. Other Updates & Upcoming Events

Adjourn - Next meeting August 10th, 2023