



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, May 22, 2019**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Arnold – Co. Board of Supervisors	Steve Negro – District 1 Representative
Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	Ed Waage – Citizen at Large
Rodger Maggio – City of San Luis Obispo	Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large
Tom Wright – Los Osos Focus Group	Bill Cochran – Cattlemen’s Association
Bob Neumann – District 2	Jim Harrison – District 4 Representative
Jeanie Hanson – Environmental Representative	William Hollingsworth – County FC Assoc
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Mark Elliott - APCD	Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large
Tom Peterson – Atascadero Focus Group	Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative
Virginia Miyamoto – Lake Naci Focus Group	

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Bill White – Fire Prevention Association	Justin Kephart – Pacific Gas & Electric
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Association	Turko Semmes – Builders Community
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly	Scotty Jalbert – CAL FIRE / SLO County Fire
David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group	Chris Slate – District 3 Representative

### EX-OFFICIO AND STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Turner – Business Manager	Jim Neumann – Project Coordinator
Jonathan Gee – CAL FIRE / Forestry Asst II	Dave Fowler – CAL FIRE/Pre-Fire Engineering
Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE/Recording Sec	Dennis Javens – Project Coordinator

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie Arnold at 1:00 P.M. followed by introductions of directors, staff and guests.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

***It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the following consent items:***

- Draft March 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Draft April 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

## **2019 FIRE SEASON OUTLOOK/RESOURCES**

We have started to see a decline in fuel moistures throughout the County. The readings indicate we are at the same fuel moisture that we were at in May of 2018. The CAL FIRE San Luis Unit (SLU) has six fuel reduction crews, five National Guard crews and an increased allotment of equipment. USFS is increasing manpower right now and Arroyo Grande Hot Shots are available. Twenty-four engines will be available with USFS and aircraft will be totally operational July 1.

## **PRESENTATION**

Marc Horney, Cal Poly Animal Science, and Royce Larsen, UC Co-op Extension, discussed emerging issues in range management. The Rangeland Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is increasing its vegetation management plan (VMP) and looking for sites to utilize grazing as fuel management. It is important to support the sustainable practice of managed livestock grazing to promote the values of rangeland health and diversity.

A new plant species, Forage Kochia, was introduced into the United States to compete against aggressive, exotic annual weeds such as Cheat grass, Russian thistle and Medusa head. It is a perennial sub-shrub averaging 1 to 3 feet tall at maturity. It may live 10 to 15 years, developing an extensive root system that has shown to stabilize soil. It is a high-quality forage for livestock and wildlife. Possibly the most important aspect of the plant is that it's fire resistant. Royce has a few test sites throughout the county to determine whether it will grow on the Central Coast.

## **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BUSINESS**

The California Mid State Fair manager met with CAL FIRE Unit Chief Scott Jalbert to discuss the expired contract for the area where our Fire Safe House is located. CAL FIRE was informed that the lease will not be renewed and we will be relocated after this year's fair. The manager also informed him the Fire Safe House belongs to them since it is built on their property; they are planning to use it for a livestock office. SLO FSC has \$40,000 allotted to develop demonstration gardens at the site, direction needs to be provided on an alternate plan. The idea of a portable display such as a "tiny house" was well received.

***Direction was given to meet with the Fair Board regarding alternative locations and displays and develop a group to discuss those alternatives.***

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**OPERATING BUDGET**

- 2019 Internal Operations Budget
  - Working Capital Fund Balance as of 5/17/19 - \$124,379

***It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2019 Internal Operations Budget for the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council as presented.***

**GRANT TIMELINE AND UPDATE**

- Grant Timeline
  - Active Grants – Total \$5,538,282
- 2016-17 CAL FIRE Grants
  - 16-17 SRA Countywide Tree Mortality and HFR
    - \$152,152 awarded, fully expended and final reports filed
  - 16-SRA CWPP & WUI Pre-Plans
    - \$116,424 awarded, \$65,344 will be returned, not allowed to redirect funds
  - Cambria East Village Tree Mortality
    - \$199,976 awarded, fully expended and final reports filed
- 2017-18 CCI Grants
  - 17-18 Countywide HFR
    - \$833,868 awarded, work beginning
  - 17-18 Parkhill-Huer Huero
    - \$505,848 awarded, work beginning
  - 17-18 Lake Nacimiento
    - \$775,620 awarded, \$427,877 expended
  - 17-18 Monterey Pine Mortality
    - \$1,816,304 awarded, \$0 expended, in Enviro review
- CA Fire Safe Council Grants
  - 17-18 CWPP & WUI Plans – Non SRA
    - \$67,100 awarded, \$42,052 expended
  - Countywide HFR – Non SRA
    - \$68,200 awarded, \$41,197 expended
- Cambria Forest Health Grant
  - \$498,736 awarded, \$262,297 expended
- 2018-19 CCI Grant Applications
  - Countywide Fuel Reduction \$972,606 **AWARDED**
  - Countywide Prevention \$304,197 **DECLINED**
  - Countywide Education \$361,200 **DECLINED**
  - Adelaide Fuel Reduction \$774,547 **DECLINED**
  - Lopez-Huasna Fuel Reduction \$788,721 **DECLINED**

***It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2018-19 CCI Grant of \$972,606 for Countywide Hazardous Fuel Reduction and authorize President and Business Manager to***

*execute agreements on behalf of the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council as presented.*

*It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Grant Timeline and Update for the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council as presented.*

## **UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

- 2018 SB901 Prevention Grant Program
  - \$200 million, application period announced as Summer 2019
- CA proposed FY 2019-20 budget of \$200 million
- California Coastal Conservancy, \$4.5 million for Central California
- CA Fire Safe Council - \$2 million statewide (50-50 match)
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company, \$100,000 per grant, deadline May 31, 2019

*Direction was given to reconvene the Grants Committee before the next meeting and provide input on resubmitting the grants that were declined in the upcoming application period as is or whether to revise those previous submissions on behalf of the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council.*

*Direction was given to continue moving forward with all grant submissions and submit grant applications to PG&E for any project that meets the guidelines on behalf of the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council.*

## **COUNTYWIDE COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION (CWPP) STATUS REPORT**

The Countywide Community Wildfire Protection plan has been accepted by County Fire Chief's Association and signed by President Bryson. It has also been accepted and signed by San Luis Obispo County Fire Chief Jalbert. San Luis Obispo County Planning consultants have been provided the information for inclusion in the Regional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. It will be presented to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors late Summer 2019.

## **RANCH WATER SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT**

Four systems were installed on the Camatta Ranch to develop water sources on ranches where no hydrants or water storage is readily available for fire suppression. The SLO FSC Operation fund allocated \$2,000 for the project and only \$550 was spent. Other sites will be explored.

## **ROUND TABLE**

The California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection will meet at Cal Poly July 16 – 18. This meeting is open to the public. We may incorporate a tour to coincide with their attendees.

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**NEXT MEETINGS**

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, June 19 from 9:00 to 11:00 am at County Government Center in SLO.

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, July 17, time and location to be determined.

**It was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the Board of Directors May 22, 2019 meeting at 3:00 p.m. for the San Luis Obispo County Community Fire Safe Council.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Loree McRoberts*

Recording Secretary