



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Arnold – Co. Board of Supervisors	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Association
Turko Semmes – Builders Community	Ed Waage – Citizen at Large
Justin Kephart – Pacific Gas & Electric	Chris Dicus – Cal Poly
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Tom Wright – Los Osos Focus Group	Bill Cochran – Cattlemen’s Association
David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group	Rodger Maggio – City of SLO
Steve Negro – District 1 Representative	Mark Elliott - APCD
Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Tom Peterson – Atascadero Focus Group	Bob Neumann – District 2
Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large	Chris Slate – District 3 Representative
Russ Johnson – Lake Nacimiento Focus Group	Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Bill White – Fire Prevention Association	Jeanie Hanson–Environmental Representative
Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau
William Hollingsworth – County Fire Chief’s	Scotty Jalbert – CAL FIRE/SLO County Fire

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
Dennis Javens – Project Coordinator	Alan Peters – CAL FIRE / Unit Forester
Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE/Recording Sec	Doug Forrest - Project Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dan Dulitz at 1:08 P.M. followed by introductions of directors, staff and guests. President Debbie Arnold will join the meeting while in progress.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Draft November 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Draft December 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Notes
- 2020 FireSafe Council Meeting Calendar

PRESENTATION

Kim Corella, Forest Pest Specialist with CAL FIRE, provided a San Luis Obispo County forest mortality report. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Eucalyptus trees are negatively impacted by overcrowding, drought stress and root rot. Only way to manage the problem is to remove trees.
- Monterey Pines have an 80 to 100-year life span. Detrimental to the pine population is overcrowding, pitch canker, rust, drought and lack of fire for regeneration.
- Oak trees are experiencing limb failure due to drought stress, root rot, bark canker and beetles.
- Pests in California include Invasive Shot Hole Borer, Ambrosia Beetle (White Oaks) and Goldspotted Oak Borer.

Turko Semmes suggested the pest information be posted on the SLO FSC website.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Operating Budget

- 2019 Operations Budget Year End Report
 - Ending balance of cash in bank 12/31/19 - \$58,436.35

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2019 Operations Budget Year End Report for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented

- 2020 Internal Operations Fund Proposed Budget - \$67,300
 - Balance of cash in bank 1/12/20 - \$58,437.72
- Review 2020 website maintenance agreement

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2020 Operations Fund Proposed Budget and the 2020 website maintenance agreement for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented

Working Capital Fund

As SLO FSC continues to receive additional grants for work throughout the County, the working capital fund grows. SLO FSC would like to extend the monies in that account to local agencies for use in their areas. Direction was given to the Board for the following items:

- Identify a cap on the amount of funds to be kept in the account, \$400,000 was recommended.
- Write a policy to make those excess funds available in form of local grants. These grants will have no restrictions in regards to where they can be used as long as it is for a public benefit, stays in San Luis Obispo County, and are consistent with SLO FSC Not for Profit Articles of Incorporation, By Laws and Policies.
- Identify who will oversee the program, it was recommended that the Grant Committee oversee the program.

Firewise Community vs Focus Group

Frog Pond Mountain is currently seeing an increase with insurance policy cancellations. The residents expressed interest in organizing a group to challenge the decisions. It was determined that forming a Firewise Community would be the best avenue to pursue for these residents.

SLO FSC By-Law Review

Steve Negro and Dan Dulitz revised the organization's by-laws bringing everything current. It was recommended the vote to accept the by-laws be held at the next Board of Directors meeting to give attendees a chance to review the document.

 **Action Item: Present and vote upon SLO FSC By-Laws**

ROUNDTABLE

Two new captains for the fuel reduction crew were welcomed, Luke Bourgault and Cody Dunn.

The Air Pollution Control District is requesting advice on how they can prevent issuing burn permits to people living in community service districts that prohibit burning.

Royce Larsen presented an update on the fire-resistant plant, Forage Kochia, that has been planted at test sites throughout the county. The plants survived the summer and are being monitored for growth throughout this year.

Chief Alan Peters is reaching out to local agencies to secure locations where CAL FIRE's curtain burners can be utilized in burning green waste.

GRANT FINANCIAL SUMMARIES – YEAR END

- Grant Timeline
 - Active Grants as of December 31, 2019 - \$5,304,246

- Grants/Projects closed in 2019
 - 16-17 SRA Countywide Tree Mortality and HFR \$152,152
 - 16-SRA CWPP & WUI Pre-Plans \$116,424
 - 16-17 Cambria WUI \$260,788
 - 17-18 CWPP & WUI Plans – Non SRA \$ 67,100
 - Countywide HFR – Non SRA \$ 68,200
 - 16-17 Cambria East Village Tree Mortality \$199,000
 - PG&E 2019 HFR
 - Del Rio Canyon \$ 60,000
 - Upper Lopez Canyon \$ 60,000
 - 14-15 Greenhouse Gas – Cambria \$498,000
 - Webster VMP – Governor’s High Priority Contract \$400,000

- 2020 Active Grants
 - 17-18 Countywide HFR
 - \$833,868 awarded, \$333,190 expended
 - 17-18 Parkhill-Huer Huero
 - \$505,848 awarded, \$123,834 expended
 - 17-18 Lake Nacimiento
 - \$775,620 awarded, \$620,684 expended
 - 17-18 Monterey Pine Mortality
 - \$1,816,304 awarded, \$557,918 expended
 - 18-19 Countywide HFR
 - \$972,606 awarded, \$261,609 expended

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2019 Year End Grant Status and Financial Reports for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented

NEW GRANT APPLICATIONS – PENDING DECISION

- Fire Prevention Grants
 - Three grants submitted
 - Countywide HFR \$1,888,395
 - Fire Prevention Education \$ 261,686
 - Fire Prevention Planning – CWPP \$ 221,026

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- Forest Health Grants
 - One grant submitted
 - Webster and Lake Nacimiento \$1,170,064

All grants are in review; decisions are expected in March 2020.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

All Board of Directors who had terms expiring this month, January 2020, were recommended to serve another term with the exceptions of:

- 4th Supervisorial District Jim Harrison resigned and Supervisor Compton has not appointed a new member. This position is currently vacant.
- Virginia Miyamoto from Lake Nacimiento Focus Group resigned and Russ Johnson has assumed that position.

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the incumbents as presented and renew their positions on the Board of Directors for the 2020 election of San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council.

The Officers and Executive Committee Members for the San Luis Obispo County FireSafe Council were nominated to continue those roles until 2021 with the following changes:

- Second Vice President is now Ed Waage
- Director at Large is now Royce Larsen

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the slate of officers as presented for the 2020 election of San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council.

A current listing of Officers, Board of Directors, Ex-Officio members and staff is attached to these minutes (Attachment 1).

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Thank you to the SLO FSC Burners for the great BBQ lunch prepared before our meeting today. Also, thanks to the GIS crew for setting up and tearing down the luncheon.

Brian Talley sent a thank you letter for helping secure Las Ventanas as a Firewise Community.

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NEXT MEETINGS

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

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Location to be determined.

It was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the Board of Directors January 15, 2020 meeting at 3:08 p.m. for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree McRoberts

Recording Secretary