



San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council

www.fscslo.org



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
0900-1100 hours**

**Meeting held via Zoom
due to no large gatherings order in place
by San Luis Obispo County**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dan Dulitz – Fifth Supervisorial District	Russ Johnson – Lake Naci Focus Group
Bob Neumann – Second Supervisorial District	Tom Wright – Los Osos Focus Group
Jeanie Hanson – ECO SLO	Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly State University	William Hollingsworth – County Fire Chiefs
Scott Jalbert – San Luis Obispo County Fire	Steve Negro – First Supervisorial District
Turko Semmes – Building Industry	Carissa Reynolds – Air Pollution Control Dist
Casey Bryson – Atascadero FD Focus Group	Keith Aggson – City of San Luis Obispo
Martin Scott – Ranchita Estates Focus Group	Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Bill Cochrane – Cattlemen’s Association	Chris Slate – Third Supervisorial District
Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group	Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large
Justin Kephart – PG&E	Stacy Korsgaden – Insurance Industry
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Bill White – Fire Prevention Offcrs Assoc
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Assoc

EX-OFICIO AND FOCUS GROUP REPRESENTATION:

Baxter Boyington – Toro Creek Focus Group	Mike Anderson - CCC
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STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Turner, Business Manager	Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE
Jon Gee – CAL FIRE	Jim Neumann – SLO FSC Project Manager

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Dan Dulitz at 9:00 A.M. followed by introduction of directors, staff and guests.

MINUTES

September 2020 Board of Directors meeting minutes were presented.

October 2020 Executive Committee meeting minutes were presented.

It was moved, seconded and approved to approve the September 2020 Board of Directors meeting minutes and accept for review the October 2020 Executive Committee minutes as presented

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BUSINESS

- Abbreviated bank statement ending October 31, 2020 was reviewed.
- 2020 SLO FSC Internal Operating budget was discussed.
It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the October 2020 Abbreviated Bank Statement and purchases along with the Operating Budget report for the same time period.
- A meeting was held with the Mid-State Fair’s interim manager and staff. They are recommending to their Board (meeting today, November 18) that a lease be executed with CAL FIRE / San Luis Obispo County Fire for the area that has been used for many years where the Fire Safe House is located. They are asking that SLO FSC proceed with landscaping the area with fire safe plants and materials. They are also asking that SLO FSC install a hydration station allowing people to fill water bottles near the Fire Safe House. Chief Jalbert does not foresee any problems with a contract. Turko Semmes has been named the project manager.
- The SLO FSC Membership meeting will be held in January 2021. Board members that have terms expiring need to submit emails and/or letters reaffirming their desire to continue representing their groups. There are multiple organizations that have expressed an interest in becoming board members. It was decided that these groups need to attend meetings and show an interest in SLO FSC. If they show interest and would like to participate further, consideration will be made in allowing them to form focus groups.

NEW BUSINESS / ROUNDTABLE

- The Pond Fire will be spot lighted by Sacramento showing the impact the SLO FSC fuel reduction projects had in stopping the fire.
- An interdisciplinary group of Cal Poly faculty and staff, partnered with industry and community members, have received support from the university to officially establish a unique institute to research wildfires and risk reduction strategies, tactical and technical firefighting practices and more resilient methods of building in fire-prone areas.
- Legislation has been introduced for a new defensible space law that states no combustibles will be placed 0-5 feet from structures.
- CCC exceeded 1 million hours this summer.

GRANT TIMELINE AND REPORTS

Current grant total being administered by SLO County Fire Safe Council \$ 7,101,667

CCI FIRE PREVENTION FEE GRANTS

Countywide Tree Mortality	\$833,868 award, \$758,852 expended
Parkhill-Huer Huero WUI Project	\$505,848 award, \$504,354 expended
Nacimiento-Adelaide WUI Project	\$775,620 award, \$775,974 expended
Monterey Pine Mortality	\$1,816,304 award, \$1,019,540 expended
Countywide Fuel Reduction	\$972,606 award, \$941,853 expended
Countywide Haz Fuel Reduction	\$1,888,395 award, \$821,246 expended
Fire Prevention Planning - CWPP	\$ 221,026 award, \$0 expended

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PG&E GRANT

Cambria – Village Lane/Tin City (Downtown) \$88,000 award, project complete

Action Taken: Reviewed grant awards and projects associated with each

UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- FEMA – Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention Grant
 - Our proposal was not selected to be awarded
- Western Forestry Leadership Coalition – WUI Grant
 - Administered by CAL FIRE on behalf of WFLC-WUI
 - SLO FSC was invited to submit an application
 - Grant application submitted for Cal Poly – Mioosi project. The goal is to mitigate fire spreading to Cal Poly and Monterey Heights neighborhoods in San Luis Obispo. A total area of 2,000 acres. The request was submitted for \$250,000 with 50/50 match. Decision pending.
- CCI – Winter/Spring 20-21
 - 2020-21 State budget allocations tentative due to Covid 19 impacts on budget. Currently there is no budget authority.
 - According to CAL FIRE, there may be funding for fiscal year 2020-21 after the legislature reconvenes in January 2021.
 - If application opens it is not expected before February-March 2021.

POTENTIAL GRANT PROJECTS IDENTIFIED TO DATE

- Camatta Ranch VMP
- Toro Creek to Santa Rita Creek Road to Santa Lucia Road access and fuel break
- Cal Poly/Mioosi Ranch Hazard Fuel Reduction
- Pecho Valley Road/Montana de Oro State Park-roadside clearance
- Pismo Beach-Price Cyn/Rancho Pismo (PG&E Grant)
- Irish Hills Open Space fuel reduction
- Cypress Mountain Road/Camp Natoma fuel reduction
- Webster VMP Phase 2
- Parkhill-Huer Huero Phase 2
- Mt Lowe-south down East Cuesta Ridge to Reservoir Canyon
- Davis Peak-Coon Creek fuel break
- Lake Nacimiento projects
- West Cuesta-TV Tower road
- Santa Margarita Ranch-East Cuesta ridge
- Toleman-Tassajera Creek - (Spanish Oaks, USFS, Eagle ranch)
- Varian Ranch shaded fuel break
- Pismo Preserve-SLO Land Conservancy
- French Broom eradication-continued follow-up
- Atascadero: CWPP & chipping
- Pismo Beach: CWPP & fuel reduction
- Landscape company outreach re: Mulches
- Santa Rita Creek Road-Old Creek to Sunrise Ridge

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- Salinas River bed – west side
- High Mountain Road – end of pavement to forest boundary

Action Taken: Recommended grant committee convene to recommend, review and prioritize projects

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting

- Wednesday, December 16, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Zoom Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting

- Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Probability of Zoom Meeting unless group gathering restrictions relaxed

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Chief Scott Jalbert has volunteered to speak at the next Board of Directors meeting. Chief Jalbert retires from CAL FIRE on December 12, 2020.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Congratulations to Alan Peters on his upcoming retirement. His enthusiasm, work ethic and integrity has benefited the County of San Luis Obispo through the years. His relationship with SLO FSC has undeniably allowed us to succeed on many levels. Chief Peters will be greatly missed. We wish him well with his next chapter in West Virginia.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Dan Dulitz adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree McRoberts

Recording Secretary