



# San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council

www.fcslo.org



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, July 20, 2022  
0900-1130 hours**

**Meeting held at Templeton Community Center with Zoom**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Debbie Arnold – Co. Board of Supervisors	Russ Johnson – Lake Naci Focus Group
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Tom Wright – Citizen at Large
Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension	Stacy Korsgaden – Insurance Industry
Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group
Dan Dulitz – Fifth Supervisorial District	Steve Negro – First Supervisorial District
Dena Paschke – Fire Prev Officers Assoc	Turko Semmes – Building Industry
Keith Aggson – City of San Luis Obispo	Carissa Zaragoza – Air Pollution Control Dist
Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large	Bill Cochran – Cattlemen’s Association
Martin Scott – Ranchita Estates Focus Group	John Owens - San Luis Obispo County Fire
Spencer Gordon – Resource Conserv Dist	Emily Miggins – Los Osos Focus Group
Ruben Brand – PG&E	Tom Peterson – County Fire Chiefs

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Bob Neumann – Second Supervisorial District	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Assoc
David Van Son – Atascadero FD Focus Group	Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large
Jeanie Hanson – ECO SLO	Chris Dicus – Cal Poly State University
Chris Slate – Third Supervisorial District	Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large
Catie Field – Farm Bureau	

## **FOCUS GROUP and EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:**

Baxter Boyington – Toro Creek Focus Group
---

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Dan Turner – Executive Director	Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE
David Erickson – CAL FIRE	Jon Gee – CAL FIRE
Jim Neumann – SLO FSC Project Coordinator	Greg Alex – SLO FSC Webmaster

## **GUESTS:**

Zach Cipriano – CAL FIRE	Tom Swanson – CAL FIRE
Anais Tournier - APCD	Scott Jalbert – SLO County OES
Clint Bullard - Visitor	David Perry – PG&E
Clint Weirick – Senator Laird’s Office	James Blattler – City of San Luis Obispo
Jerry Diefenderfer - Visitor	Rodger Maggio – City of San Luis Obispo
Alan Meyerink – CAL FIRE	Susie Johnson – Lake Nacimiento
Ken Thomas – Cal Shasta	Dennis Javens - Visitor
Don DeYoung – San Luis Bay Estates	Rob Lewin – Visitor

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2022

Page 2

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie Arnold at 9:00 a.m. followed by introduction of directors, staff, focus groups and guests.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- May 2022 Board of Directors meeting minutes were presented.
- June 2022 Executive Committee meeting minutes were presented.
- 2022 Active Grant Financial Summary was presented.
- 2022 Active Grant/Contract Project Status was presented.
- Abbreviated Bank Statements ending May 31, 2022 and June 30, 2022 were presented.
- Contract Summary graphs ending May 31, 2022 and June 30, 2022 were presented.
- 2022 Fire Safe Operations account ending June 30, 2022 was presented.
- IRS letter dated June 2022 stating they need more time to review the 2019 tax return was presented.

***It was moved, seconded, and approved to approve the May 2022 Board of Directors meeting minutes and accept for review the June 2022 Executive Committee minutes. It was also approved to accept all consent agenda items as presented: Waage Second: Semmes***

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Turko Semmes presented a video showing the renovation of the Fire Safety Education Corner at the Mid-State Fair Grounds. The Mid-State Fair opens today and is expected to attract a record crowd. The original Fire Safe House was built in 2005 with a federal grant. The area has been upgraded with fire safe landscaping and home hardening ideas. With the original grant ending March 15, 2022, the Board approved up to \$20,000 from the scholarship/local grant fund and up to \$30,000 from the working capital fund to complete the work. A special thank you to Russ and Susie Johnson, Dan Dulitz, and Steve Negro for all their help getting the necessary work completed.
- John Owens presented the 2022-2023 CAL FIRE budget. The Governor has approved a \$3.7 billion budget with 10,049 new positions. Each unit will receive two new engines and four more helicopters will be added to the existing fleet. With the passage of AB9 (Community Wildfire Mitigation) and AB642 (Wildfire Risk), an emphasis will be placed on developing, prioritizing, and implementing strategies and projects that create wildfire prepared communities.
- An insurance industry update was provided by Stacy Korsgaden. Since the passage of Proposition 103 in 1988, California's market is heavily regulated. Many insurance companies have stopped doing business in California. The insurance industry has determined that high dollar homes, any home with a replacement cost over \$1 million, is too much of a liability. In this county, that amount is quite common for property sales. The inability to find insurance is forcing many people to seek out the Fair Plan which has extremely limited coverage. It is recommended that if you have the Fair Plan, you seek out a companion plan to complement the Fair Plan in case of loss.
- Mari Lee, author of, "FiSci, The Fire Safety Fox and Friends," shared her inspiration and writing of the coloring/activity book. Ms. Lee has generously allowed SLO FSC to post the book on our

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2022

Page 3

website for download and print the book to distribute at the Mid-State Fair. We will have 2,500 copies available for visitors to the Fire Safety Education Corner.

### **SCHOLARSHIP/LOCAL GRANTS**

The scholarship committee met and reviewed applications that were submitted for the 2022-2023 school year. The following recommendations were made:

- Thomas Elliott - \$2,500 award
- Carlos Rosas Hernandez - \$2,500 award
- Heath Hooper - \$2,500 award
- Matthew Crockett - \$1,500 award
- Sophie Kroesche - \$2,500 award
- Samuel Ericksen - \$1,000 award
- Connor Schuda - \$2,500 award

**It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the Scholarship Committee's recommendations and award the scholarships as noted for a total of \$15,000: Negro Second: Pierson**

### **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- AB1717 requiring paying of prevailing wage for fire prevention grant projects is currently in suspense. The Assembly reconvenes August 1, 2022. A recommendation was made to submit a letter opposing the bill on the grounds it will greatly affect the amount of work that will be completed.
- Succession planning needs to happen. Please invite people to come to our meetings and consider becoming involved in making their communities fire safe.
- SLO County Fire Safe Coordinator grant has been approved for \$175,000. This is an 18-month grant that we can use to expand our outreach footprint. We would like to see stakeholder meetings, more focus groups, social media and communication plans and project development.
- We have new fire safe focus groups forming. With the recent fire in Huasna Valley, a meeting was held last night (July 19) to organize the property owners into hazardous fuel reduction. Avila Valley will meet next week and will include residents of See Canyon, Squire Canyon, Baron Canyon, Avila Beach, and San Luis Bay Estates.

**It was moved, seconded, and approved to send a letter to the appropriations committee, Senator Laird, Jordan Cunningham, and Governor Newsom opposing AB1717 as currently written: Semmes Second: Pierson**

### **NEW BUSINESS / ROUNDTABLE**

- Focus Group reports:
  - Ranchita Estates: Thank you to SLO FSC for all the grant funding we have received. The work performed by Great Tree Tenders has been highly complimented by the residents.
  - Toro Creek: We have installed three high fire dangers signs in our area.
  - Los Osos: Thank you for the funds to perform our chipping projects.
  - Cambria: We have another Townhall meeting scheduled for September, topic will be Disaster Preparedness. Pinedorado is coming up and will be a great avenue for public

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2022

Page 4

outreach. Our chipping event takes place August 1 and 2. We are working with Beautify Cambria to clean up our fire prevention signs.

- Greg Alex reported that our website has had 92 downloads of FiSci's book and 89 downloads of Living with Fire.

### **NEW GRANTS**

#### 2021-22 CAL FIRE Round 2

- Fire Prevention Grant submissions awarded; funding good through March 2026.
  - Planning - \$441,686.78
    - Countywide Fuel Treatment Plan
    - Evacuation models
    - Structural risk assessment
    - CWPP For 5 communities
  - Fuel Treatment/Education - \$4,483,721.09
    - 25 pages of projects identified for this grant
    - 58 miles of roadside clearance including Adelaide and Suey Creek

#### CAL FIRE/SLU Unit Direct Award Program

- New program in which local unit determines project decisions
- Primary focus on fuel treatment planning and implementation
- SLU requesting assistance with project in Huasna Valley/Long Canyon

***Direction was given to Executive Director, Dan Turner, to move forward with the CAL FIRE/SLU Unit Direct Award project in Huasna Valley/Long Canyon***

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Program for the September meeting:

- Invite SLO County Fire Marshal to speak about the new defensible space regulations.
- Invite scholarship recipients to attend meeting.

John Owens volunteered to issue a press release about the grant awards to SLO FSC on behalf of SLO County.

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

#### Executive Committee Meeting

- Wednesday, August 17, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
- Location: Zoom

#### Board of Directors Meeting

- Wednesday, September 21, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
- Location: TBA

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**July 20, 2022**

**Page 5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Debbie Arnold adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m. and invited everyone to stay for the barbecue luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

*Loree McRoberts*

Recording Secretary