



San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council

www.fcslo.org



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
0900-1130 hours**

Meeting held at Cambria Veterans Hall with Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Arnold – County BOS	Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Russ Johnson – Lake Naci Focus Group
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Bob Neumann – Second Supervisorial District
Spencer Gordon - RCD	David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group
Dan Dulitz – Fifth Supervisorial District	Steve Negro – First Supervisorial District
Stacy Korsgaden – Insurance Industry	Turko Semmes – Building Industry
Ruben Brand – PG&E alt	Bill Cochran – Cattlemen’s Association
James Blatter – City of SLO Focus Group	Hayley Barnes CSL RCD
David Perry-PG&E	David Van Son – Atascadero FD Focus Group

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Tom Peterson – County Fire Chiefs	Martin Scott – Ranchita Estates Focus Group
Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	Matt Mohle – SLO County Parks
Tom Wright – Los Osos Focus Group	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Assoc
Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large	Karl Tupper – Air Pollution Control Dist
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly State University	John Owens – San Luis Obispo County Fire
Dan Ponti – Farm Bureau	Chris Slate – Third Supervisorial District
Dena Paschke – Fire Prev Officers Assoc	

FOCUS GROUP and EX-OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:

Baxter Boyington – Toro Creek Focus Group	Kevin Hurt-State Parks
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STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Turner – Executive Director	Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE
Dane Mumford – FSC Project Coordinator	Jon Gee – CAL FIRE
Mauricia Anderson – FSC Project Coordinator	Greg Alex – SLO FSC Webmaster
Keith Aggson-FSC Project Coordinator	Alan Peters – FSC Forester
Jeff Downing-FSC Project Coordinator	

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GUESTS:

Blake Fixler – Supervisor Gibson’s Aide	Steve Auten – Auten Resources
Brendan Cosgrove – Building Industry	Riley McFarland – Auten Resources
Ron Munds – Los Osos CSD	Susie Johnson – Lake Nacimiento
Toni Davis – CAL FIRE	Brandon Sanderson – CAL FIRE
Zach Cipriano – CAL FIRE	Roberta Vitols-CFSFG
Carlos Mendoza-Cambria CSD	Karin Argano-Greenspace
Mary Webb-Greenspace	Jeff Kwasny-Cambria citizen
Tony Church-Cambria FSFG	Michael Thomas-Cambria CSD
Crosby Swartz-Cambria Forest Committee	Laura Swartz-Cambria Forest Committee
Kitty Connelly-Friends of Fiscalini Ranch	Scott Anderson-Cambria
Harry Farmer-Cambria Forest Committee	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie Arnold at 9:10 a.m. followed by introduction of directors, staff, focus groups and guests.

CONSENT AGENDA

- April 2023 joint meeting of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee were presented for approval.
- SLO FSC Operations account summary was presented.
- 2023 Contract Summary was presented.
- Abbreviated Bank Statement ending April 30, 2023 was presented.
- 2023 Active Grant Financial Summary was presented.
- 2023 Active grants, contracts and project status were presented.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to approve the minutes from the April 2023 joint meeting of Board of Directors and Executive Committee and all other consent agenda items as presented: Waage Second: Neumann

GRANT APPLICATION ACTIVITY UPDATE

- PG&E 2023 Hazardous Fuel Reduction
 - Tassajera Creek Roadside – pending decision
- CAL FIRE Direct Award phase 2 grant – storm related projects resolution
 - Not awarded – legislature denied funding, no grants were awarded
- CA State Coastal Conservancy – Wildfire Resilience Grant
 - Decision pending – scope of work and agreement being negotiated
- 2022-23 CA Climate Investment Wildfire Prevention Grants
 - Decision pending

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- CA State Fire Safe – Defensible Space Inspection Grant
 - Assistance for low income, disabled and seniors in high and very high fire severity zones
 - Upcoming webinar, Dan Turner will attend to determine if we qualify

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BUSINESS

The new website has been updated for everyone involved to have an email address/link. This will allow for consistency and professionalism in the group's correspondence. We are averaging about 1200 website visits per month.

ROUNDTABLE

Cambria Focus Group held a Townhall meeting on May 6. The meeting was videotaped and is available on https://slo-span.org/meeting/county-sm_20230506/ Dr. Bisbing, keynote speaker, spoke on climate change affecting Monterey Pine forests. There were also speakers on defensible space, fire resistant plants, and home hardening. David Pierson expressed his thanks to Supervisor Bruce Gibson for the funding of the videotape.

The fire prevention poster contest had 20 entries. The program generated interest for the children and will catch the attention of visitors to Cambria.

Mauricia Anderson attended the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Central Coast workshop held in Santa Cruz. She found that SLO FSC is definitely on the right path with continued communication on what needs to be done and what is being done. Awareness must be increased for everyone.

The Focus Group guidebook project is moving forward. Baxter Boyington and David Pierson were thanked by Dan Dulitz for their undertaking in getting this project accomplished.

SCHOLARSHIP/LOCAL GRANTS

- Scholarship application received for Cal Poly student Chanel Keller
 - Approved for \$2,500 award

It was moved, seconded, and approved to approve the scholarship award to Chanel Keller for \$2,500: Pierson Second: Neumann

- Local grant proposed for development of Cal Poly Architectural course in hardened home design.
 - Motion made to allow Executive Committee to vote on grant application due to time constraints on subject presented.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to authorize the Executive Committee to approve grant application for a Cal Poly Architectural course in hardened home design: Waage Second: Jones

MID-STATE FAIR PROJECT

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The Mid-State Fair will be held July 19 through July 30, 2023. The use agreement has been updated and signed. Maps will identify our area as the Fire Safe Education Corner. Toni Davis has requested not to have the interactive trailer there this year due to it being intensive and a lack of staff to keep it running.

GOOD OF THE ORDER / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- The RCD will be incorporating mobile Bio Char kilns into their management practices when applicable.
- Coastal RCD will be needing access to properties throughout the County for botany study.

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting

- Wednesday, June 21, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
- Location: County Government Center

Board of Directors Meeting

- Wednesday, July 19, 2023
- Location: TBD

ADJOURNMENT

President Debbie Arnold adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The tour of the Covell Ranch will take place after the presentation of the Covell, Hearst and San Simeon projects by Auten Resource Consulting.

Respectfully submitted,

Loree McRoberts

Recording Secretary