

## Mosquito Fire Safe Council

December 12, 2024 @ 6:30 PM

### Minutes

1. Board members met prior to the meeting for an informal social holiday dinner together.
2. **Meeting called to order @ 6:32 pm.**
3. **Roll Call/Verification of quorum:** Board members present: Karen Pullin, Paul Beacham, Wayne Gregson, Ken Joseph, Mary Joseph & Jane Gregson. Quorum met.  
Board member absent: Jerry Pullin
4. **Approval of Agenda** (action item): Request by Chair to amend agenda to include under New Business; Request for MFSC to speak at BOS meeting supporting OWPR on Tues. 12/10. Motion approved/passed.
5. **Prior minutes** previously approved. (no action required)
6. **Financial/Treasurer Report:** Ken Joseph. Deposit of \$350. made for sale of firewood, withdrawal of \$47.63 to Graphix Ink for the lamination of 2 maps showing fire risks areas for MFPD/SCPOA. Motion approved/passed.
7. **Open Forum: No comments**
8. **Old Business:**
  - a. **USFS Grant Update:** The USFS Fuel Reduction Project/ Stevens Authority Project/Grant awarded to El Dorado County FSC/ Mosquito FSC is underway. Archaeological surveys were conducted starting today 12/12/24. Boundary Flagging will continue in the project area. Dave's tree works will mobilize their equipment to the end of Shale Dr. on December 20<sup>th</sup> with work beginning on Monday Dec. 23 and weather and sold conditions permit.  
Completion is expected sometime in February.  
All but 1 property owner signed Right of Entry (ROE) forms. Thanks to board member Ken and Mary Joseph for their time and effort speaking with property owners and getting the ROE forms for this very important project.  
This project will greatly impact the mitigation of wildfire progression in areas in the MFPD and SCPOA areas. More information will be disseminated via social media.
  - b. **Mosquito Neighborhood Radio Watch (MNRW) report:** Wayne Gregson: MNRW continues to grow with 23 members. 4 members on the inactive list (still members,

but currently not active on check in) 1 new member recently added. MNRW will hold their next board meeting in January 2025. MFSC will continue to support the efforts of MNRW. If interested in Mosquito Neighborhood Radio Watch, please contact [wayne.mnrw@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.mnrw@gmail.com) for information.

- c. **Property Assessments:** MFSC need to promote the Voluntary Assessments that our trained volunteers can provide to our community for information on Defensible space and home hardening. Our 3 assessors have been trained by members of Cal Fire, OES, and OWPR and assessments are done on a voluntary basis by the home/property owners for information and educational purposes and to assist with insurance discounts. Wayne Gregson will put together and lead a committee to discuss promotional ideas and costs and bring back to the board for review.
- d. **Firewood Donation:** MFSC offered a free cord of firewood in a drawing for community members who attended the El Dorado County Sheriff OES Town Hall Evacuation Tour in July held at MFPD fire station. David Strick donated much of the firewood. Jerry and David cut, split and delivered the firewood. Thank you both!
- e. **Firewood for sale update:** Jerry and David also cut, split and delivered firewood for sale to benefit MFSC.

## 9. New Business:

- a. A property owner offered their downed oak and madrone trees to MFSC to cut and split as a donation to MFSC. Jerry and David began work on the trees and will continue as weather permits. Wayne will also work together with them on this project.
- b. **1. July OES Evacuation Town Hall Tour:** MFSC received an email from Deputy Chief Lilienthal asking us to promote the Town Hall on July 25, 2024 that was being done in communities with and in conjunction with Fire Safe Councils and local FD. We gladly accepted the offer and paid for signs and door hangers as well as the drawing entry for a free cord of firewood for community members who attended. The signs and door hangers were sent to Deputy Chief Lilienthal for approval prior to placement. There was a good turnout and great engagement from the agencies involved who answered many questions for our community. MFSC received many compliments for our promoting and our signs and door hangers from all the agencies including Supervisor Lori Parlin. Our community had one of the largest turnouts for this tour and the agencies felt it was due to our promotion.
- 2. MFPD Open House:** MFSC was asked to attend and set up a table at the MFPD Open House. We were available and gladly set up a great display with lots of information. Thank you to D'AX for the hot dog lunch.
- 3. MVFA Harvest Festival:** MFSC was again invited to participate at the MVFA Harvest Festival. We have participated in this event for a number of years and thank MVFA for always reaching out to us and inviting us to set up a table/display to offer valuable wildfire mitigation/evacuation/home hardening and defensible space information. This is always a fun event and opportunity to engage with our community. Thank you for the

delicious food prepared by our own **Smoke on the Water** and offered at no charge to the community from MVFA. Looking forward to next year's Harvest Festival participation.

c. Meeting with Chief Brown from Georgetown FD. MFSC was invited to participate in a discussion to address "what is and isn't working with MFPD. MFSC board and key committee members attended. It was requested that information remain confidential. Based on information and a text message from an MFPD board member, some misinformation came from the scribe that was taking notes at the discussion.

d. Discussed meeting and event schedule for 2025.

e. Discussed possible board openings for 2025.

f. Positive discussion on upcoming events, especially the completion of the fuel reduction grant celebration for property owners involved and catering option, and an home hardening/defensible space educational event/block party.

g. Reviewed information that was submitted by community members from Mosquito residents for the CWPP. Some of the comments and statements made by community members were reviewed. The full results will be made available. Some major concerns were with the undeveloped, unmaintained with ground fuels and overgrown properties owned by absentee owners within SCPOA, (approximately 190-200 lots) and approximately 150 acres of unmaintained common area owned by SCPOA. SCPOA should be accountable for the acreage they own and make some attempt to get absentee owners to maintain their property for fire safety purposes. Evacuation routes were a concern (some were questioning routes thru the forest?), communication from MFPD, possible ordinance that MFPD could take and act on. This might be a good opportunity to address these issues with SCPOA and MFPD in order to make our community a little more wildfire prepared and safe and what we could do to assist.

h. Letter distributed on July 25<sup>th</sup> and posted on social media by Interim Chief Dwyer. Karen and David S. met with Chief Dwyer. It was determined that he was given misinformation and acted on that misinformation without first talking to MFSC. We agreed that better communication going forward would make a difference.

i. Title III money awarded to MFSC from grants obtained by EDCFSC. This money is issued on a reimbursement only basis. We have money allocated for food for events, signs, mailers, banners, workbook, and promotion of MFSC. We will determine what to use the money on and when.

j. FireWise designation: MFSC was again awarded our Firewise designation for the 2025 calendar year. This award was attainable only by the hard work of MFSC and our community members who work so hard on their properties and turn in their tracking sheets (available at [www.mosquitofsc.org](http://www.mosquitofsc.org)), have voluntary assessments by our trained assessors and all our residents that participate in the chipping events, hazardous tree removal and veterans, seniors

and low income programs offered through El Dorado County Fire Safe Council. We will announce the Firewise renewal results on social media with a copy of the certificate in the near future for all who need it to claim their fire insurance discounts.

k. BOS meeting: Karen spoke at the meeting in support of OWPR (Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience) on behalf of MFSC and how OWPR has benefited our community. At the end, I again received compliments for MFSC for the promotion of the Evacuation tour with hopes they could count on us for future promotions. Mosquito Fire Safe Council was mentioned as well for the original workbook that was designed by Johnny Valenzuela for us and how the county had him develop theirs the last 2 years based on the one he did for us.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting to be determined.