



Alpine Fire Safe Council

Providing community leadership, resources and a forum to improve wildfire preparedness and prevention in eastern Alpine County.

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 18, 2021

5:30 pm, Markleeville via Conference Line (in compliance with COVID-19 directive)

Present:

Kris Hartnett – FSC Chair / Coordinator, Markleeville Resident	Teri McAlpin – Administrator (minutes)
Steve Yonker – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	January Riddle – BOS Liaison (guest)
Tom Sweeney – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	Matt Tremayne – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident
Mark Quillici – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	John Dion – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident

Absent:

Terry Hughes – Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue

I. Call to order – K. Hartnett

Kris Hartnett, Chair, called the meeting of the Alpine Fire Safe Council (AFSC) to order at 5:30 pm via the Conference Line (phone meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions)

II. Introductions

All present (on phone) were introduced as listed above. Process reviewed regarding how community members can become a member of the Alpine Fire Safe Council

III. Volunteer Time Sheets

Timesheets were updated by Teri McAlpin (Administrator) for all members present on the phone. **Members will verify the entry at the next in-person meeting.**

IV. Eastern Alpine Fire & Rescue Report – T. Hughes

- A. Status of Volunteer Fire Department
 - a. Mr. Hughes was not present at this meeting.

V. Board of Supervisors Report

- A. A letter was received by the AFSC from the County noting Supervisor January Riddle is now the liaison, and Supervisor Irvin Jim is the alternate.
- B. The AFSC recognizes and thanks Supervisor Kathy Rakow for her work with the AFSC.
- C. Ms. January Riddle presented on the topic of short-term rentals
 - a. An ordinance has been drafted regarding the rentals and will be included in tomorrow's Board of Supervisors meeting. A copy is available in the agenda packet on the County website.
 - i. There are requirements in the ordinance for smoke alarms, carbon dioxide detectors, but there is not a stipulation regarding defensible space
 - b. At this time, there are 22 registered short-term rentals, but it is believed there are over 200 within the county. A company has been hired by the county through CARES funding to address this issue.
 - c. Some members expressed that not everyone feels the same way about short-term rentals in hopes that this will be shared with the Board of Supervisors
 - d. The question was posed to Ms. Riddle regarding who is held responsible (owner or renter) should a fire result from actions taken (or not taken) by a renter. Ms. Riddle stated the owner is responsible and may be fined for violations.

- e. The question was posed to Ms. Riddle regarding whether or not a property is required to be to code for defensible space prior to a rental; Ms. Riddle will inquire about the answer to this question.

VI. Oral Communication

Each member of the public shall be allotted three minutes to address the AFSC on no more than one topic. The topic cannot be a listed agenda item. *Members agree that public comment may include more than one topic area, at the discretion of the Chair.*

- A. Public comment was solicited by the Chair
 - a. No public comment at this time

VII. Agency Presentation for Projects under CWPP

- a. No partner agencies were in attendance at this meeting.

VIII. Approve 11/16/2020 regular meeting minutes

- A. K. Hartnett provided updates on all action items in the minutes.
 - a. Action items from the November meeting were reviewed and updated:
 - i. FireWise is being pushed by other fire councils in California and Nevada and strongly suggests Alpine County is able to adopt a FireWise community.
ACTION ITEM: This topic will remain on the agenda for March.
ACTION ITEM: Members will write a paragraph and send it to K. Hartnett explaining how their community would benefit as a FireWise community, and the possibility of this happening.
 - ii. Beehive Insurance - No action was taken on this item.
ACTION ITEM: This topic will remain on the agenda for March.
 - iii. Outreach Program - The AFSC will not participate on the distribution of materials for the California Fire Safe Council
 - iv. T. McAlpin contacted Carson Valley Accounting and made an appointment to have the 2020 AFSC taxes completed. If the cost is projected to be more than the amount paid to Mr. Peters in years past, the AFSC may return to Mr. Peters if needed. At this time, we have all of the records from Mr. Peters.

Motion to Approve 11/16/20 Meeting Minutes: Tom Sweeney

Second: Mark Quillici

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Matt Tremayne, Mark Quillici, Kris Hartnett

Motion Carried

IX. Financial Report

Financial reports were provided to members and reviewed.

- A. General Fund
 - a. Status update on the general fund was provided
 - b. 2 reflective sign requests were received and completed during this period
- B. CALfire Grant
 - a. Status update on the CALfire Grant was provided and the spreadsheet was reviewed
 - b. The invoice(s) for the fuels contractor has been received (in 2 parts). The project is completed, and has been billed in two halves. The first half has been submitted to CALfire for payment. The 2nd half will be submitted as soon as possible. There will be only one other invoice submitted after this to close out the grant.
 - c. At this time, there is roughly \$13,000 left in this grant. The final report is ready to be submitted, but may be held back to allow for another project before the expiration of the grant on 2/1/2022.
- C. Title III
 - a. Balance Report and Expense Report were provided and reviewed
 - b. On 9/15/20, the BOS approved the budget, which included an allotment for Title III for this year. The balances on the reports include that amount deposited into the Title III account.

Motion to approve all financial reports: Steve Yonker

Second: Mark Quillici

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Matt Tremayne, Tom Sweeney, Mark Quillici, John Dion, Kris Hartnett

Motion carried

X. Review & approval of staff vouchers & invoice statements

Discussion for T. McAlpin voucher: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve T. McAlpin voucher/invoice: Steve Yonker

Second: Matt Tremayne

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Matt Tremayne, Tom Sweeney, Mark Quillici, John Dion, Kris Hartnett
Motion carried

Discussion for K. Hartnett voucher: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve K. Hartnett voucher/invoice: John Dion

Second: Matt Tremayne

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Matt Tremayne, Mark Quillici, John Dion

Abstained: K. Hartnett

** Administration of the meeting was turned over to S. Yonker, while the item of K. Hartnett's Coordinator voucher was on the table. K. Hartnett abstained from vote for this topic item.*

Motion carried

XI. Unfinished Business

- A. Continued Discussion: Strive to select a FireWise Community in Eastern Alpine County (covered under Action Items above)
 - a. See notes above as this was discussed earlier in this meeting. It will remain on the agenda for the March meeting.

XII. New Business

- A. Discussion with Possible Action: Future Fuels Reduction Projects (grant or Title III funded)
 - a. K. Hartnett shared 4 maps of possible projects with the Council members.
 - i. The maps and possible projects were reviewed and discussed.
 - ii. The members stated they would like to pursue the projects.
- B. Discussion with Possible Action: Approval for AFSC Membership in Alpine County Chamber of Commerce
Motion to approve renewing membership with the Chamber of Commerce: Steve Yonker
Second: Mark Quillici
Ayes: Steve Yonker, Matt Tremayne, Tom Sweeney, Mark Quillici, John Dion, Kris Hartnett
Motion carried
ACTION STEP: T. McAlpin will pay the membership fee and will request a receipt
- C. Discussion: AFSC 2020 Achievements and Planning for the Future
 - a. A list of accomplishments was presented to the members

XIII. Member Report

- A. No reports provided at this time.

XIV. Staff Report – T. McAlpin

- A. A \$500 donation was received this past week from the same donor as last year. This is planned to be an annual donation.

XV. Coordinator Report

- A. Greens Voucher Program
 - a. A bulk mailing was sent out recently about the greens voucher program.
 - b. Discussion occurred regarding sending out another reminder about the program, in March 2021
 - c. K. Hartnett will ask for an extension for the vouchers as the current vouchers will expire 3/31/21; they are prepared for 6-month periods.
- B. CALfire Grant 2018-2022 Status
 - a. See notes above.
- C. Alpine Village Fuels Project
 - a. There has been a problem with the contractor, but this is still a priority.
- D. Continued Pursuit of 2nd Access/Evacuation Routes in Eastern Alpine County
 - a. Continuing to work on this option
- E. Status of County Fire Mitigation Grant
 - a. Panarama is working on a SEQA document, which should be out at the end of February
- F. Reflective Sign Program
 - a. This program continues to have residents participate

XVI. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 7:00pm

Next regular meeting at 5:30 pm – Monday, May 17, 2021

(will be held at Markleeville Fire Station if Covid-19 restrictions are lifted)

(will be held via Conference Line if Covid-19 restrictions are not lifted)