



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 20, 2020 5:30 pm, Markleeville Fire Station

Present:

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| Kris Hartnett – FSC Chair / Coordinator, Markleeville Resident | Teri McAlpin – Administrator (minutes) |
| Mark Quillici – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident | January Riddle – Markleeville Resident (guest) |
| Matt Tremayne – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident | Christine Aralia – Member of Markley Village (guest) |
| Steve Yonker – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident | Mike Rubini – Rubini Tree Service (guest) |
| John Dion – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident | Bill McAlpin – Douglas Resident (guest) |
| Don Jardine – BOS Liaison, Markleeville Resident | |

Absent:

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| Tom Sweeney – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident | Terry Hughes – Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue |
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- 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 at the Markleeville Fire Station, Markleeville, CA 96120
 - II. **Introductions**
All present 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**
Time sheets were distributed, completed, and returned by all present board members.
 - IV. **Rubini Tree Service**
 - A. Mike Rubini provided a history of Rubini Tree Service and an overview of tasks that would be completed should they be awarded a contract to perform fuels reduction for Shay Creek.
 - a. Tasks would include road and power line clearance, and fire engine ingress and egress.
 - B. Proposal was presented for a total cost of \$70,000
 - C. Discussion occurred regarding the possibility of waiving camping fees for the work crew during the project
 - D. This topic was further discussed later in this meeting (Refer to XII:C below)
ACTION ITEM: K. Hartnett will follow up on the possibility of waiving camping fees for the work crew
 - V. **Eastern Alpine Fire & Rescue Report** – T. Hughes
 - A. Status of Volunteer Fire Department
 - a. Mr. Hughes was not present at this meeting.
 - VI. **Board of Supervisors Report** – D. Jardine
 - A. The Board of Supervisors has appointed Don Jardine as the BOS Liaison again for 2020
 - B. Mr. Jardine presented on the following topics:
 - a. The Hot Springs Bridge will soon be replaced
 - b. The Record Courier recently printed a story that the 911 service now has a texting option
 - c. The Governor reappointed Mr. Jardine to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

- i. A Timber Waiver was approved for fuels reduction
 - d. Mr. Jardine will be working with the Shay Creek Home Owners Association for the Memorial Day meeting
 - e. Homeowners Insurance/Fire Insurance – Mr. Jardine provided a list of possible agencies, but cannot recommend one over the other
 - i. Mr. Hartnett reported that CALfire is pushing for homeowners to participate in Fire Wise
 - 1. Please refer interested homeowners to Mr. Hartnett for further information

VII. 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.

VIII. Approve 11/18/19 regular meeting minutes

- A. K. Hartnett provided updates on all action items in the minutes.

Motion to Approve 11/18/19 Meeting Minutes: Matt Tremayne

Second: Mark Quillici

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

Motion Carried

- B. Action items from the September meeting were reviewed and updated. The following will remain on the agenda for the March 2020 meeting:
 - a. Options for Chipping/Fuels Reduction Contract
 - b. Evacuation Routes/Secondary Exit
 - c. Vegetation Plan
 - d. Continued Fire Awareness

IX. Financial Report

Financial reports were provided to members and reviewed.

- A. General Fund

Motion to approve January 2020 Financial Report: Steve Yonker

Second: Mark Quillici

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

Motion Carried

- B. CALfire Grant

- a. Status update on the CALfire Grant was provided and the spreadsheet was reviewed

- C. Title III

- a. Balance Report and Expense Report were provided and reviewed.

X. Review & approval of staff vouchers & invoice statements

Discussion: No discussion at this time.

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

Second: Mark Quillici

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

Motion Carried

Discussion: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve K. Hartnett voucher/invoice: Mark Quillici

Second: John Dion

Ayes: Steve Yonker, 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. Presentation of E-Polling topics
 - a. The following topics were presented to members via email for an e-poll:
 - i. Teri's voucher
 - ii. Title III balance report
 - iii. General Fund report
 - iv. Hiring individuals to perform fuels reduction on private property
 - v. Beehive insurance increase to cover the Death Ride event
 - vi. Grant application scope, project, resolution, and grant signer
 - vii. Coordinator's voucher
 - viii. Approval of continued Chamber Membership application
 - b. All members voted unanimously to approve all topics via e-poll
- B. No Action Required: Continued pursuit of fire hazard "green zones" in Eastern Alpine County
 - a. This topic was put on hold until such time as Terry Hughes is in attendance at the meeting
ACTION STEP: this item to remain on the agenda
- C. Continued Discussion: Options for Chipping/Fuels Reduction Contract
 - a. No options noted at this time, but Mr. Hartnett will be meeting with a possible contractor in South Tahoe in February
ACTION STEP: this item to remain on the agenda
- D. Continued discussion: Evacuation Routes/Secondary Exits
 - a. This topic remains in discussion
ACTION STEP: this item will remain on the agenda
- E. Continued discussion with possible action: Vegetation Plan for Eastern Alpine County
 - a. No discussion at this time
ACTION STEP: this item to remain on the agenda
- F. Continued discussion with possible action: Continued Fire Awareness
 - a. Mr. Hartnett distributed packets to council members to be given to community members
ACTION STEP: this item to remain on the agenda

XII. New Business

- A. Discussion with possible action: Ms. January Riddle request for Census announcement on AFSC website
 - a. Ms. Riddle is the Census recruiter for Alpine County. She presented on the purpose of the census, additional census workers needed in the County, and recruitment efforts to obtain census workers.
Motion to approve adding census information to the AFSC website: Steve Yonker
Second: John Dion
Ayes: Steve Yonker, Matt Tremayne, Mark Quillici, John Dion, Kris Hartnett
Motion Carried
ACTION STEP: Mr. Hartnett will provide the recruitment statement and information to Karrie Baker to put on the AFSC website
- B. Discussion with possible action: Shay Creek letter and response from AFSC
 - a. Discussion regarding a response letter to the Shay Creek Homeowners Association
 - i. Trees will not be removed from this property by ASFC
 - ii. Increase of project completion to 30-45 days
 - iii. Ingress and egress discussed
 - iv. Location of chips (designated areas)
 - ACTION STEP:** K. Hartnett will draft a response letter to the Shay Creek Homeowners Association
- C. Review of Rubini Tree Service proposal
 - a. Rubini Tree Service proposal
 - i. AFSC cannot afford the \$70,000 proposed
 - 1. AFSC discussion regarding counter-offering \$60,000 to complete as much of the project as possible
 - ACTION STEP:** K. Hartnett will follow up with Mike Rubini regarding a counter-offer and communicate the response to Council members via email
- D. Discussion with possible action: Alpine Village Title III project
 - a. Alpine Village residents are concerned about brush overgrowth. The property has not been cleared since 2006.

- b. This project would be completed in 2 phases
- c. Mr. Hartnett requested approval of spending \$150 (out of Title III Education and Beer Sales) for a community meeting on 1/30/2020 to solicit engagement from property owners

Motion to approve spending \$150 for the community meeting: Mark Quillici

Second: Matt Tremayne

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

Motion Carried

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will follow through with the community meeting for Alpine Village property owners and report back to Council members at the March meeting.

- E. Discussion with action required: Seniors Defensible Space clean-up program with available funding
 - a. K. Hartnett is in discussion with a gentleman who runs the Calaveras County Fire Safe Council, who receives grant money specifically designated for Senior defensible space clean up. He is working to obtain some of those funds for Alpine County.

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will follow up with Calaveras County FSC to learn more about the grant funds

- F. Discussion with action required: Approval for AFSC membership in Alpine County Chamber of Commerce
 - a. Approval to continue the membership was approved via e-poll. This discussion item was to approve the allocation of \$75.00 to pay for the annual membership.

Motion to approve the allocation of \$75.00 to pay for the annual membership: Steve Yonker

Second: Mark Quillici

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

Motion Carried

ACTION STEP: T. McAlpin will pay the \$75.00 for Chamber membership

XIII. Agency Presentation for Projects under CWPP

- A. No presentations provided at this time.

XIV. Member Report

- A. No reports provided at this time.

XV. Staff Report – T. McAlpin

- A. Additional liability coverage fro \$250 premium for the 2020 Death Ride
 - a. T. McAlpin talked with Beehive Insurance regarding paying this additional premium and learned that the premium that has already been paid did not meet the minimum premium requirement, so this additional \$250 was covered under the premium we already paid. This additional coverage was added into the liability policy for no additional charge.

XVI. Coordinator Report

- A. Status of AFSC 2019/2020 CALfire Grant application
 - a. Application was submitted on time, and decisions will be made in March
 - b. We will receive a letter of notification regarding the decision
- B. Ins Commissioner Fire Insurance: Governor awarded a 1-year Moratorium on fire insurance
 - a. This only applies to burned areas at this time
- C. 2019 AFSC Recap
 - a. K. Hartnett prepared and shared a recap of activities completed by AFSC in 2019
 - b. An additional 2 items will be added: increase in reflective signs, and participation in the Hot Springs Road fuels reduction with Liberty Utilities

ACTION STEP: T. McAlpin will add “Desired Accomplishments for 2020” to the March agenda
- D. CWPP signatures completed and presented to BOS in December 2019
 - a. K. Hartnett presented, and the CWPP is fully executed with signatures
- E. CALfire Grant 2017-2018 project status updates on Shay Creek and Mesa Vista
 - a. These are the last 2 pieces to be completed for this project
- F. CWPP reference in County Preparedness pamphlet
 - a. Information will be included in the pamphlet
- G. Burn Pile vouchers
 - a. Thank you Ms. January Riddle for the idea of vouchers for Douglas Waste
 - b. This has been successfully implemented and vouchers are available
 - c. Rules were shared and must be followed to utilize the vouchers.
 - d. The County has agreed to extend Burn Pile weeks to begin earlier in both the spring and the fall
- H. Continued participation by AFSC in County Fire Mitigation Grant
 - a. The Steering Committee has hired a consultant named Pyramid out of San Francisco
 - b. The next step will be a community meeting, and then a plan will be drafted for 3-4 projects that are “shovel-ready”. The areas are currently being mapped out.

- I. 2020 Beer Sales Death Ride
 - a. The Chamber has changed its structure that will affect this year's Death Ride
 - b. Sponsor packets are not available yet; the route is still being determined
- J. Reflective Sign Program
 - a. More signs have been requested
- K. Hiring Washoe workers directly; Wickwire & Farnsworth properties
 - a. These two properties are currently under review and planning
- L. Chris Anthony at CALfire has been promoted; a replacement has not yet been identified

XVII. Adjournment – *Meeting adjourned 6:50pm*

Next regular meeting at Markleeville Fire Station at 5:30 pm – Monday, March 16, 2020