



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 23, 2023 at 5:30 pm In-Person (Woodfords Fire Station) and via Phone

Members Present:

Kris Hartnett – *FSC Chair / Coordinator, Markleeville Resident*
Steve Yonker – *FSC Vice Chair, Woodfords Resident*
Tom Sweeney – *FSC Treasurer, Woodfords Resident*
Matt Tremayne – *FSC Member, Woodfords Resident*
Angela Franklin – *FSC Member, Markleeville Resident*

Guests Present:

Jim Lamb – *Resident Sunrise Trail, Mesa*
Kim Jackson – *Eastern Alpine Fire*
Clint Celio – *Alpine Grants Projects Coordinator*
Gary Ellis – *Owner, Freedom Force Management*
Levi Ellis – *Director of Operations, Freedom Force Mgmt*
Jason Nias – *Operations Supervisor, Freedom Force Mgmt*

Members Absent:

John Dion – *FSC Member, Alpine Resident*
Teresa Wilson – *FSC Member, Markleeville Resident*
Bob Wattles – *FSC Member, Shay Creek*

Guest Absent: Teri McAlpin, *Administrator*

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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
 - II. Introductions**
All present were introduced as listed above.
 - III. Volunteer Time Sheets**
Timesheets will be updated at the next in-person meeting as the Administrator was absent from this meeting.
 - IV. Eastern Alpine Fire & Rescue Report** – *Daryle Balao, Fire Chief*
 - A. Status of Volunteer Fire Department
 - a. Kim Jackson attended this meeting and provided an update
 - i. The department is moving forward with the new Chief; he seems to be very proactive
 - ii. Kris Hartnett asked that a message get back to the Fire Chief regarding maintaining the relationship with the Fire Department regarding open communication about grants and grant projects
 - V. Board of Supervisors Report**
 - A. Charles Dobson, District 1, has been assigned as the liaison to the AFSC, but he was not able to attend tonight
 - 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. None at this time

VII. Agency Presentation

- A. Freedom Force Management
 - a. Freedom Force Management would like to be considered for future fuels reduction projects in Alpine County
 - b. Gary Ellis, Owner, provided an overview of his business, Freedom Force Management
 - a. Safety is priority #1 for this company, and the customer comes first
 - b. This is a disabled veterans company
 - c. Jason Nias will be the primary contact for any work completed in Eastern Alpine County
 - c. Jason Nias provided an overview of his work history; was a firefighter for CalFire prior to working in the tree business
 - d. Levi Ellis provided an overview of their experience with wildfires, specifically the Camp Fire
 - e. Some clarifying questions were asked by council members to better understand the affiliates of Freedom Force Management (to meet grant requirements), and answers were provided
- B. Agencies not in attendance at tonight's meeting: BLM, Forest Service, and CalFire
- C. Clint Celio, Representative of Alpine County
 - a. State Private Forestry Application Process for landowners has been announced
 - 1. The application and information is on the county website
 - 2. There will be a formal PIO released later this week
 - 3. Individual mailings are going to all residents who were in the burn
 - 4. Please submit applications and they will be prioritized based on funding

VIII. Approve 12/5/22 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve 12/5/22 Regular Meeting Minutes: Steve Yonker

Second: Matt Tremayne

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Kris Hartnett, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

Motion Carried

IX. Financial Report

Financial reports were provided to members prior to the meeting as the Administrator was absent from this meeting. Kris Hartnett reviewed all financial reports with the AFSC Members

- A. Primary Bank Account – Monthly Ledger/Financial Reports
- B. CalFire Bank Account (Grant #5GA21107 – Monthly Ledger/Financial Reports)
- C. CalFire Grant (#5GG17113) Expenditure Summary
 - a. No changes since the November report, but there will be a change coming to reallocate funding to cover the CEQA work to be completed
 - i. CEQA work completed will cost \$6,300
- D. CALfire Grant (#5GA21107) Expenditure Summary
 - a. Applied for an advance payment back in November (1/4 of the total grant amount)
 - i. This was done because loggers tend to be paid every 2 weeks, so the funds need to be on hand to pay them
- E. Title III
 - a. Balance Report
 - b. Expense Report

Motion to approve all financial reports: Tom Sweeney

Second: Matt Tremayne

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Kris Hartnett, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

Motion carried

X. Review & approval of staff vouchers & invoice statements

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

Motion to approve T. McAlpin voucher: Angela Franklin

Second: Steve Yonker

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Kris Hartnett, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

Motion carried

- B. Discussion for K. Hartnett voucher: The mileage noted on the timesheet is incorrect. Revision will be made at the time of payment to K. Hartnett.

Motion to approve K. Hartnett voucher: Tom Sweeney

Second: Matt Tremayne

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

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.*

Motion carried

XI. Unfinished Business

- A. Report Only: FireWise Community Update; Application review and submission
- a. An overview of the FireWise efforts thus far was provided to guests at the meeting as a reference for tonight's discussion
 - b. Two applications were shared with the members prior to the meeting
 - i. There were some questions from Council members, which were answered
 - ii. Steve Yonker will correct some typos and return it to Kris Hartnett
 - iii. Once corrected, Kris will meet with Clint Celio and the applications will be submitted

Motion to move forward with the two applications as presented tonight: Steve Yonker

Second: Angela Franklin

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Kris Hartnett, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

Motion carried

- B. Discussion with Possible Action: Terms of Use Policy and Privacy Policy are drafted; Opportunity for input on final drafts
- a. Members were asked to review the policies and to respond to an e-poll at a later time

XII. New Business

- A. Discussion with Possible Action: Future fuels reduction projects (Grant and Title II funded)
- a. Kris Hartnett reviewed the possible projects that will be included in a new grant application
 - i. Mesa Vista complete; Washoe properties (x2)
 - ii. Crystal Springs
 - iii. Pony Express
 - iv. Upper Manzanita properties
 - v. Hot Springs Road properties
 - b. The statement was made that more of an open communication is needed regarding the status of projects, and how the decisions were made about prioritizing projects

- B. Discussion with Possible Action: Approval for AFSC membership dues in Alpine County
- a. Membership cost = \$75.00 per year
 - b. Includes advertisement in Chamber flyer

Motion to move forward with paying the dues and including advertisement space: T. Sweeney

Second: Angela Franklin

Ayes: Steve Yonker, Tom Sweeney, Kris Hartnett, Matt Tremayne, Angela Franklin

Motion carried

- C. Discussion with Action Required: 2023 CalFire Grant application due March 2023; Do we apply?
- a. Council decided to move forward with this application

- D. Discussion with Action Required: Greens Waste program for 2023; more vouchers?
- a. More vouchers will be ordered; demand has continued from residents

- E. Presentation Only: 2018 CWPP/AFSC Task List

- a. Clint Celio is working on updating the CWPP
- b. If anyone has input for the CWPP, please forward it to Clint Celio and Kris Hartnett

XIII. Member Reports

- A. None at this time.

XIV. Staff Report – T. McAlpin (absent)

- A. None at this time

XV. Coordinator Report

- A. Status of 2022 Greens Waste Voucher program
- B. State of CalFire Grant #5GG17113 + Extension Hawkside Court / STPUD CEQA
 - a. We are at the end of this grant
 - b. Final report is in draft
- C. Attendance at County Grants Coordinator’s Meeting 1/13/23
- D. Reflective Sign Program materials to Angela and Steve
 - a. Kris will get the materials to Angela and Steve
 - b. John Baker will provide a training session

XVI. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 7:15pm

Next regular meeting at 5:30 pm – March 20, 2023

Electronically Signed: Teri McAlpin

Audio Recorded by: Angela Franklin
Minutes Transcribed by: Teri McAlpin
Administrator, AFSC
December 5, 2022