



Alpine Fire Safe Council

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

Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 16, 2020

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	Kathy Rakow – BOS Liaison (guest)
Tom Sweeney – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	Annabelle Monti – Forester, Forest Services (guest)
Matt Tremayne – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident	Mike Deacon – El Dorado Battalion Chief (guest)
Mark Quillici – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	Scott Kizziar – AFMO for Fuels Department (guest)

Absent:

Terry Hughes – Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue	John Dion – FSC Board Member, Alpine Resident
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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 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
- Mr. Hughes was not present at this meeting.

V. Board of Supervisors Report

- A. Ms. Rakow updated the Council on the Washoe tribe getting the tribal cemetery deed signed over to the tribe
- In 2014, a request was submitted to have the Woodfords Tribal Cemetery deed transferred over to the tribe. This was never completed, but has been reinitiated and is currently being looked into.
 - The intent is to extend the land around the cemetery as the current cemetery is crowded.
 - This topic was presented to the AFSC in hopes of collaboration for fuels reduction on the land.
 - The deed is currently with the CAO with the County, who is working with the general Council of the Tribe. The BOS approved the transfer of the deed “years ago”, but has not yet been completed.
 - The question was posed to Kathy regarding the possibility of pursuing fuels reduction for the tribal land at the end of California Street.
 - This topic has been requested by the AFSC to the tribe, with no response. Kathy will inquire with the Tribal Council regarding the status of this project.
 - Kathy asked about Christmas Tree permits of the Forest Service
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- d. Kathy asked for information about an update received from CALfire regarding the residential burning restriction being lifted
 - i. Mike with CALfire confirmed that as of noon today, all residential burning restrictions have been lifted for the rest of this year
- e. This will be Kathy's last meeting with the AFSC as the BOS liaison as another individual (Irvin Jim) has been elected for her district

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. Approve 9/21/2020 regular meeting minutes

- A. K. Hartnett provided updates on all action items in the minutes.
 - a. Action items from the September meeting were reviewed and updated:
 - i. K. Hartnett will distribute additional vouchers to Council members for use when the burn pile closes in October 2020.
 - 1. The vouchers have been provided to some Council members, but need to be distributed to other members according to availability
 - ii. K. Hartnett will contact FireWise for a description of what exactly is needed to establish a FireWise community, and distribute the answer/info to Council members.
 - 1. There has not been any progress with this item.
ACTION ITEM: This item will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - iii. K. Hartnett will talk with Beehive Insurance regarding the possibility of volunteers installing smoke detectors in personal homes.
 - 1. There has not been any progress with this item.
ACTION ITEM: This item will remain on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - iv. K. Hartnett will follow up with the family of Shirley Taylor regarding where exactly they would like the plaque at Station #1.
 - 1. The family would like to have the plaque installed at Station #1.
 - 2. The fire chief would like to attach it to one of the rocks around the fire station, but the family and AFSC would like it to be attached to a post. This item will be further discussed.
 - a. The BOS did approve having the plaque hung at the fire station, but noted it may not be attached to the building.
 - 3. The Record Courier will attend the dedication ceremony once it is scheduled and will print a story about the dedication of the plaque.
 - v. K. Hartnett will inquire about the possibility of having a link to the AFSC website on the County website home page, as long as it does not link the AFSC to the County in any way.
 - 1. Approval has been given by the County Clerk, Teola Tremayne, to have a quick link to the AFSC on the main page of the County website.
ACTION ITEM: T. McAlpin will follow up with the Clerk regarding adding the link to the webpage.

Motion to Approve 9/21/20 Meeting Minutes: Steve Yonker

Second: Mark Quillici

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

Motion Carried

VIII. 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. 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, Kris Hartnett

Motion carried

IX. Review & approval of staff vouchers & invoice statements

Discussion: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve T. McAlpin voucher/invoice: Mark Quillici

Second: Tom Sweeney

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

Motion carried

Discussion: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve K. Hartnett voucher/invoice: Matt Tremayne

Second: Mark Quillici

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

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

X. Unfinished Business

A. Continued Discussion: AFSC link on County website home page (covered under Action Items above)

- a. See notes above as this was discussed earlier in this meeting.

B. Continued Discussion: County approval for Shirley Taylor plaque

- a. See notes above as this was discussed earlier in this meeting.

C. Continued Discussion: Installation ceremony for Shirley Taylor plaque

- a. Once a location is determined for the plaque, a date/time will be determined for the ceremony.

XI. New Business

A. Discussion with Possible Action: Possibility of AFSC participation in the California Fire Safe Council Outreach Program

- a. The AFSC received a request to participate in the outreach program. The information about the program was distributed to the members for review.
 - i. This is the 1st contact from the California FSC in the past 18 months.
 - ii. The program requires outreach be to 5000 people in the county. This is not possible as there are only 1100+ residents in the county.
 - iii. If the AFSC were to participate, all outreach events would need to be completed by 4/15/21.
 - iv. Participation would require a written grant proposal and would require the assistance from all members to complete the work.
 - v. It is unclear at this time if there is compensation of any kind to the AFSC for time spent on this project.
 - vi. Discussion occurred regarding this opportunity and the decision was made to allow the members more time to review the material and determine what they would like to do.

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will contact the grantor to inquire about the possibility of extending the deadline to August due to Covid-19 restrictions.

ACTION STEP: all members will think about this opportunity further and will respond to Kris with their input by the first week in December.

XII. Agency Presentation for Projects under CWPP

A. Mike Deacon (CALfire) – nothing to discuss at this time.

B. Annabelle Monti (Forest Service)

- a. Information was forwarded to K. Hartnett regarding obtaining Christmas tree permits. This is the first year that permits are available online (link was provided). There are also 2 vendor locations in Alpine

- County. Permits are \$10 each. The entire area is open to Christmas tree cutting, but anyone sees someone cutting in a restricted area, please inform Annabelle.
- b. A contractor was hired and is completing work (pending snow) in Pleasant Valley, Hot Springs Road, and Thornburg Canyon.
- C. Scott Kizziar (Forest Service)
- a. The piles by Scott's Lake are included in the burn plan, but they are low priority and will not be addressed this year.

XIII. Member Report

- A. No reports provided at this time.

XIV. Staff Report – T. McAlpin

- A. T. McAlpin will include the discussion of a cloud storage option at the next meeting. This topic will be included on the next agenda.
- B. T. McAlpin has reached out to Carson Valley Accounting to inquire about accessing their services to complete the tax documents and filing for the 2020 tax year.
 - a. They are accepting new clients for this tax season. Once all documents are prepared by T. McAlpin, they will be forwarded and an appointment will be made to complete the process.
ACTION STEP: Once the new year begins, T. McAlpin will prepare all tax documents as usual and will forward them to Carson Valley Accounting to be completed and processed.
ACTION STEP: T. McAlpin will contact Mr. Peters (current accountant) to obtain any records he may have for the AFSC that we may not have. It is believed that the AFSC possesses all records from Mr. Peters, but T. McAlpin will confirm this belief.

XV. Coordinator Report

- A. Fuels Reduction Status
 - a. Tribal Trust land; Mesa Vista
 - i. The AFSC has been pursuing completing fuels reduction on the Mesa Vista property for over a year, without success. Both the tribe and Mesa Vista residents would benefit from the project completion as it would allow better access for fire fighter in the event of a fire. A letter was sent from AFSC stating that if the issues are not resolved to allow the project to move forward, all designated money will be returned to CALfire. A response was received saying they will move forward, without success. Issues continued to persist, and a letter was received by AFSC stating they do not want to move forward with the project. This letter will be included in the final report to CALfire.
 - b. Alpine Village
 - i. The contractor was supposed to begin in July of this year, but road paving and fires delayed the project. It is now scheduled to begin in the first week of December, and it will be funded through Title III.
 - c. Hot Springs Road
 - i. Mr. Sullivan and his logging company are still dealing with “the mill” regarding prices due to fires on the west side affecting the product. The mill has too much wood stocked up, so the price for cut trees is low.
 - ii. The logging project area has expanded to Phase I and Phase II.
 - iii. Property owners are being contacted to obtain their input on whether they would like their land to have logging completed.
 - d. Marklee Village
 - i. This project is completed as of last week.
 - e. Shay Creek
 - i. This project is completed as of last week.
 - ii. A member of the Association board will review the area with K. Hartnett.
 - f. The Markleeville Water Company is concerned about its collection gallery area (about 3 miles from Markleeville toward Grover Hot Springs). The Forest Service has a plan to do fuels abatement by a hand crew in this area.
- B. 2020/2021 Title III obligation from Alpine County
 - a. This topic was discussed under the financial report above.
 - b. A large portion of the allocation was directed to Bear Valley.
- C. January Meeting annual AFSC update
 - a. A report will be prepared for the January meeting summarizing all projects and activities completed by the AFSC for 2020.
- D. Invoice to CALfire

- a. This topic was discussed under the financial report above.
- E. Progress Reports to CALfire
 - a. K. Hartnett continues to submit progress reports to CALfire.
 - b. The final report will be submitted by January.
- F. Newsletter
 - a. This is a topic in process.

XVI. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 7:00pm

Next regular meeting at 5:30 pm – Monday, January 18, 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)