



Alpine Fire Safe Council

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

Meeting Minutes Monday, March 18, 2019 5:30 pm, Markleeville Fire Station

Present:

Kris Hartnett – FSC Chair / Coordinator, Markleeville Resident	Mark Quilici – Alpine Resident (guest)
Tom Sweeney – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	Terry Hughes – Eastern Alpine Fire (guest)
Steve Yonker – FSC Board Member, Woodfords Resident	January Riddle – Resident (guest)
John Dion – Alpine Resident (guest, and newest volunteer)	John Baker – Resident/Asst. Fire Chief (guest)
	Chris Anthony – CALfire (guest)

Absent:

Teri McAlpin – Administrator (minutes)

NOTE: The Administrator, Teri McAlpin, was not present at this meeting. Minutes were transcribed from the recording to complete the report below.

- 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 NOT distributed as the Administrator was absent from this meeting. The time for this meeting will be entered onto the timesheets by members at the May 2019 meeting
- IV. **Eastern Alpine Fire & Rescue Report – T. Hughes**
 - A. Status of Volunteer Fire Department
 - a. Search and Rescue has conducted a couple of major searches recently
 - b. During the past week, training has been conducted to prepare firefighters for the Spring
 - c. Negotiations have been happening regarding the possibility of consolidating Kirkwood Fire into Eastern Alpine Fire
 - i. Financial Reports have been submitted as negotiations continue
 - ii. Kirkwood Fire has been requesting this consolidation for the past 2 years
 - iii. Kirkwood Fire has been averaging 5-10 calls per weekend
 - iv. Kirkwood Fire has lost their Chief
 - v. This will be an impact on Eastern Alpine Fire because the road to Kirkwood was closed the majority of the year this past year, which impairs the accessibility for Eastern Alpine Fire to get to the area in case of an emergency
 - d. Met with Lake Valley and the Mutual Aid Agreement is almost ready to be signed
 - e. A recent “save” happened in Markleeville recently
 - i. The Deputies on scene completed an “outstanding initial assessment” that helped to save the person’s life

V. Board of Supervisors Report – D. Jardine

A. Mr. Jardine was not in attendance at this meeting

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. Resident Ms. Riddle Comment

i. Concerned citizens of the Hot Springs/Markleeville corridor met last week at the library to identify 3 priority items in the Prevention Plan that affect their immediate areas to help find ways they can support the Fire Safe Council and to make strong recommended action to the Board of Supervisors. The 3 priority items are:

1. Evacuation Plan – the most critical issue

2. Creating a cooperative among land owners for fuels reduction and to save money

3. Support and extend the fuels reduction program that is already in place (extend the burn pile accessibility)

ii. Resident will be addressing the BOS at tomorrow's meeting to review the recommended actions

iii. Recommended actions are to include the items from the Prevention Plan onto the BOS agenda and to allow for public comment

b. Discussion occurred regarding the possibility of distributing (to be hung) evacuation signs around the community to help direct people in event of an evacuation

VII. Approve 1/21/19 regular meeting minutes

Discussion: Meeting Minutes show a list of action items to be taken; they have all been worked on and further discussion will occur at the May meeting.

VIII. Financial Report

Financial report was provided to members, but was not discussed as the Administrator was absent from this meeting. No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve January 2019 Financial Report: S. Yonker

Second: T. Sweeney

Ayes: S. Yonker, T. Sweeney, K. Hartnett

Motion carried

IX. Review & approval of staff vouchers & invoice statements

Discussion: No discussion at this time.

Motion to approve T. McAlpin voucher/invoice: T. Sweeney

Second: S. Yonker

Ayes: S. Yonker, T. Sweeney, K. Hartnett

Motion carried

Discussion: A math error was noted in the total of hours; this will be revised by K. Hartnett

Motion to approve K. Hartnett voucher/invoice: T. Sweeney

Second: S. Yonker

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.

Ayes: S. Yonker, T. Sweeney

* K. Hartnett abstained from vote for this topic item

Motion carried

X. Unfinished Business

A. Information Only; R. Peters 2018 Tax Preparation Invoice – e-poll completed

a. Invoice was approved via e-poll and the invoice has been paid

B. Review Only: Updated Senior Defensible Space Agreement

a. This will be further discussed at the next meeting

ACTION STEP: Include this topic on the May agenda for further discussion

XI. New Business

A. Information Only: Risk Assessment and Defensible Space Reality Check done by Yosemite West

- a. Yosemite West surveyed the people in the area regarding fire safety of people's property, and rated the properties.
 - i. Suggestion made by S. Yonker to coordinate with the inspections being completed and enter the properties onto a color-coded map
 - ii. Discussion occurred regarding developing a color-coded map of inspected properties in Alpine County
- b. Alpine County Inspections will begin again in May 2019 for Mesa Vista, River Ranch, River Meadows and Shay Creek; notices are being sent out
- c. After the Washington Fire, a risk analysis was completed by CALfire to analyze Hot Springs, down the corridor, into town, and back up the mountain
 - i. The analysis reviewed bridges and access of the entire area
 - ii. Discussion occurred regarding completing a risk analysis of the other areas in Eastern Alpine County
- d. Oakland Fire Safe Council has contacted K. Hartnett asking him to complete a survey of how defensible space and evacuations are completed in Alpine County.

ACTION STEP: Council members will review the report completed by Yosemite West to develop a plan for Eastern Alpine County and distribute that plan to residents for input

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will provide a copy of the report by Yosemite West to any residents who request a copy to review

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will complete the survey provided by the Oakland Fire Safe Council

B. US Forest Service property along Hot Springs Road

- a. The US Forest Service has agreed to work with Alpine Fire Safe Council regarding moving trees and brush back 20 feet from the road on their property.

C. Discussion with Possible Action: AFSC Input for USFS Ranger Selection

- a. Input was solicited from the ABC regarding the selection of the USFS Ranger; no other organizations were contacted for input
 - i. K. Hartnett inquired why the local Fire Safe Councils were not solicited for input; response was that it was an oversight
- b. AFSC has been requested to provide input regarding the interest in the relationship with the Carson Ranger with AFSC and Alpine County, by the end of March 2019

ACTION STEP: Members will provide input by 3/25/19 regarding input and opinions of what the relationship should be with the Carson Ranger to K. Hartnett and he will submit the input by the end of March.

D. Discussion with Possible Action: 2019 Death Ride Beer Sales sell chips and peanuts, and possibly other bagged items

- a. Overview of current AFSC funding sources was reviewed by K. Hartnett
- b. The Death Ride process has changed this year; food will not be provided, which affects the beer sales
- c. There is a possibility of selling bagged items other than beer; this will require additional personnel at the booth to ensure everyone is taken care of
- d. Discussion occurred regarding this possibility, and the decision was made to move forward with selling bagged items.

ACTION STEP: K. Hartnett will proceed with obtaining further information, determining costs, etc.

E. Discussion with Possible Action: Director Renewal

- a. K. Hartnett's Director seat is up for renewal in 2019
- b. Discussion: No discussion at this time.

Motion to renew K. Hartnett's status as Director: S. Yonker

Second: T. Sweeney

Ayes: S. Yonker, T. Sweeney

Motion carried

XII. Agency Presentation for Projects under CWPP

- A. This items has been added to the agenda as an opportunity to monitor the current status of projects and to identify outside entities/community members to implement projects under the CWPP

XIII. Member Report

- A. None at this time.

XIV. Staff Report – T. McAlpin (absent)

- A. Items in this section were not discussed or reviewed as the Administrator was absent.

XV. Coordinator Report

- A. Meeting with CALfire: February 12, 2019 regarding Defensible Space Inspections and Fuel Reductions
- a. Went very well; inspections will commence
 - b. The Washoe Crew is available to do the Defensible Space work if requested
 - c. Overview of Defensible Space was reviewed
 - d. Defensible space defined as:
 - i. The first 30 feet should be cleared “down to the dirt”
 - ii. The next 70 feet (total of 100 feet) should have underbrush and excess cleared
 - e. Discussion occurred regarding a false sense of security that is given when a house passes inspection; a passed inspection does not necessarily mean your house will survive a fire. Various conditions and factors affect whether or not a home will survive a fire.
 - f. Defensible space buys time for firefighters; it does not fire-proof your home
- B. Defensible Space Inspections for Mesa Vista, River Ranch, Shay Creek beginning in May 2019
- a. This was discussed above.
- C. Commencement of Tribal Allotment Land Project 1/28/19
- a. Work has begun; the firewood belongs to the Washoe Community
 - b. Signs are posted when the work is happening that say “Alpine Fire Safe Council at Work”
- D. Presentation to Woodfords Washoe Community Meeting 3/6/19, Update on the CWPP
- a. K. Hartnett presented the CWPP at the Community meeting; presentation went well
- E. CWPP is now at the County Library
- a. It cannot be checked out and taken from the library, but it is available to be viewed at the library
- F. Presentation to Alpine Watershed Meeting 3/12/19, Adjacent Lot Ordinance & CWPP
- a. K. Hartnett met with the Watershed group and presented; went well
- G. Meeting with School Principal regarding School Poster Program
- a. This is scheduled to take place this next week
- H. Continuing Work on 2017/2018 CALfire Grant Fuels Projects, Shay Creek & Mesa Vista
- a. The Shay Creek and Mesa Vista work is still in the CEQA process; work has not yet begun
 - b. 4/27/19 County Clean Up
 - c. 4/20/19-5/27/19 Burn Pile
- I. AFSC Newsletter
- a. Has been distributed
- J. AFSC Defensible Space Flyer
- a. This will be sent out in April
- K. Secure County Health Permit for Death Ride
- a. K. Hartnett will follow up on obtaining the permit
- L. Updated AFSC Website CWPP & Reflective Sign Form
- a. There is a new reflective sign form; these were distributed at the meeting and those present were asked to share them with neighbors and other residents
 - b. If anyone is unclear as to the purpose of the signs, please refer them to K. Hartnett

XVI. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned 7:15pm

Next regular meeting at Markleeville Fire Station at 5:30 pm – May 20, 2019