



Alpine Fire Safe Council

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

Special Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 12, 2020

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

Conference Line Number: (425) 436-6374 Code #: 145707

Present:

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

Absent:

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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
 - a. This meeting was called specifically to discuss the CALfire stipulations concerning Shay Creek.
 - II. **Volunteer Time Sheets**
Time sheets were updated by Teri McAlpin (Administrator) for all members present on the phone. **Members will verify the entry at the next in-person meeting.**
 - III. **New Business**
 - A. Discussion with possible action: CALfire stipulations concerning Shay Creek Fuels Reduction Project under the 2017-2018 CALfire Grant.
 - a. Maps were sent to all members prior to the last meeting of the planned project.
 - i. This project is not a fire break; it will not stop a wildland fire.
 - ii. The project is to enhance the entrance and egress for Shay Creek.
 - b. At that time, one resident of Shay Creek was intending to sue the AFSC if the project is pursued. This homeowner is not on the HOA Board.
 - c. K. Hartnett spoke with the CEQA worker who stated that if the project is not done, all of the money spent thus far would need to be returned as there would not be a project at that point.
 - d. CALfire suggests returning to the HOA and request the Board to step in to identify the trees the homeowner wants to keep, and mark them immediately. Then proceed from there with the project with a limited area, or “diminished project”.
 - e. 100% of the project is located on common ground. The HOA has control over the common areas.
 - f. History provided of the relationship between the AFSC and the Shay Creek HOA Board, as well as the history of the development of this project.
 - g. Discussion opened to members.
 - i. Question of liability discussed should the identified trees not be cut as requested.
 - ii. The letter signed by the HOA included a Hold Harmless clause for the HOA and the AFSC.
 - iii. Should a “diminished project” be approved, a Hold Harmless clause will be included specific to the trees identified.

- iv. A recommendation from CALfire was to ensure the Hold Harmless clause include work that is done as well as work that is not done. This would include having the homeowner and the HOA directly mark the trees to be left.
 - 1. This would be included in the Contractor's liability...if a tree is cut that shouldn't be cut, the liability of the contractor would cover that error.
- v. 3 of the 5 HOA Board members have been in support of the project from the beginning. 1 member has accompanied K. Hartnett through all walk-throughs, and has taken pictures. T. Sweeney requested copies of the pictures from that board member, so there is no question about who took those pictures.
- vi. Discussion occurred regarding the areas to include in the project (B loop and C loop) to ensure the project is conducted responsibly. The general opinion of AFSC members is to continue to work with the HOA to get the project completed.
- h. K. Hartnett is meeting with the HOA tomorrow, and will inform them that a meeting is needed that accommodates all schedules of HOA and AFSC members. K. Hartnett will inform the members of the time/location of tomorrow's meeting once it is determined.
 - i. Mark would like to attend via conference call if possible.
 - ii. Matt would like to attend in person.
 - iii. Tom would like to attend in person.
- i. Mark requested to be present during the walk-through, and he would like to take pictures. All members are invited to attend the walk-through as well.
- j. K. Hartnett requested that each member email with their thoughts and opinions regarding this project. This topic will be included on the next meeting agenda in July.

IV. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned 6:30pm

Next regular meeting at Markleeville Fire Station at 5:30 pm – Monday, July 20, 2020