



Logtown Fire Safe Council

P.O. Box 1601
El Dorado, CA 95623



Meeting Notes Logtown Fire Safe Council November 14, 2015

1. Call to Order: Chairman Pat Dwyer called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Board members present were Pat Dwyer, John Lindberg, Rod Repschlaeger and Marc Regelbrugge.
2. Public Comment: none
3. Chairman's Report & Old Business: Dwyer introduced his year-end report by reading a note from District 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen thanking the Council and Logtown residents for inviting her and her family to the Hot Dog Social, and commending both the Council and the community for their active work to mitigate the dangers posed by wildfires in Logtown.

Dwyer offered his perspective of 2015 by congratulating the community for their "good work" during the year to maintain and enhance firewise awareness and preparation within our community. He pointed to several community achievements over the year, including maintaining defensible space, a successful Spring Cleanup event and the "best ever" Hot Dog Social and Firewise Day.

Dwyer noted the Hot Dog Social made \$2,899.99 for the Council, bringing the Council's bank balance to roughly \$9,741. He thanked all the volunteers and donors for their contributions to make the event a success. He also noted that although the Council had run out of Logtown T-Shirts, anyone who wanted to order one could do so by signing up for the next order.

Dwyer mentioned tentative dates for next year's Spring Cleanup (April 9th, 2016) and Hot Dog Social (October 8th, 2016), and urged residents to put those dates on their calendars.

4. New Business: Dwyer noted that Cal Fire AEU had lifted burn restrictions in our area, but that burn permits are still required and can be obtained for burn piles (a) not exceeding 4x4x4 feet, with a 10-foot cleared space around the pile, (b) under adult supervision and (c) having an accessible, charged (pressurized) water source. He also mentioned to call the burn line before burning, but noted that the line provides information for air quality management, and burn-line approval to burn does not necessarily mean that conditions are safe to burn. Pay particular attention to the winds, and avoid burning on windy days to prevent scattering of hot embers.

Dwyer also urged attendees to be vigilant regarding fire dangers through the upcoming Holiday Season. In particular; avoid overloading electrical circuits, be mindful of fireplaces and stoves, and exercise particular care when using candles to avoid in-house ignition of flammable furnishings.

Project LT-9a is moving forward to develop a shaded fuel break between Highway 49 and Crystal Boulevard from Mica Street north to Lauren Lane. Dwyer mentioned that the Council has signed a contract with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) for the work, which is scheduled for mid-January. Regelbrugge noted that he and Hasse had walked the project at the end of October with forester Barry Callenberger to flag the route, and that while road access to the project area was good at the northern and southern ends of the project, the greatest density of vegetation was closer to the center of the project area. As a result, Dwyer and Regelbrugge noted that Callenberger is looking into the possibilities to hire a tracked chipper for a couple of days to work the dense vegetation, and rely on CCC crews to haul the remaining trimmings to the road-heads for chipping or other disposal. Dwyer noted that funding for the CCC's work on the LT-9a project is provided by CCC funds set aside for community projects. Ho noted that the County Fire Safe Council is working with other Councils in the State to better understand and take advantage of the CCC as a resource for this type of work.

Dwyer mentioned that Regelbrugge has volunteered to lead the effort to draft an LT-10 proposal for submission to the upcoming Cal Fire SRA grant opportunity. The LT-10 project area is on the east side of Monitor and Galena, about halfway up the ridge from Union Mine Road. Grant proposals are due on January 7th, and are limited to \$100,000 per grant. The original LT-10 proposal was well in excess of double that, so this year's proposal will be scaled down to treat only the southernmost 35-37 acres east of Monitor Rd., leaving the remainder for future work. Dwyer mentioned the County Fire Safe Council will hold a grants workshop on December 8th, to discuss key elements of this year's grant solicitation and evaluation factors. Cal Fire's focus for these grants is on improving survivability of habitable structures so the number of structures impacted by a proposal will likely be one important metric evaluated for award.

5. Treasurer's Report: Ken Hasse was absent. No treasurer's report was made except that Pat Dwyer noted that the Council now has nearly \$10,000 in the bank after the successful Hot Dog Social.
6. County Fire Safe Council Update: Dwyer noted that, after many issues with the chipper-program contractor, new contracts are being put in place with two other contractors to support the program. Contractor workload is being more tightly managed, and the chipper-request backlog has been cleared. The goal for the program is to provide about one week turn-around for chipper requests, and the program is funded to do so sustainably through March 2017. Each resident can request up to 8 hours chipper work per year (disposal not included). You can learn more about, and sign-up for chipping services at <http://www.edcfiresafe.org/programs-grants-2/chipper-program/>.

Dwyer announced that he will be delivering a summary of the County's Fire Safe Council activities for 2015 at the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting at Pioneer

Park on December 8th. He gave a well-received preview of this summary to the audience. The presentation addressed the four central elements of the Fire Safe Council's mission: Education, Cooperation, Innovation and Action. Dwyer deftly described how the Council's work is structured around these elements, and highlighted significant accomplishments in each area over the past year, including that five new satellite councils were established (the plan had been for two), over one-half million dollars in grants were awarded in 2015, and over one million in grants were awarded in the past three years in El Dorado County. The presentation closed with a vision for the future that seeks to integrate a county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), increase grant funding, preserve the Council's operating efficiency while expanding its reach across more satellite councils, and continue to encourage individual involvement in taking responsibility for fire safety and firewise awareness within El Dorado County.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 9th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.