Logtown Fire Safe Council  
P.O. Box 1601  
El Dorado, CA 95623

Notes of the February 14, 2015 Meeting  
Station 44, Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire Protection District

Introduction and Sign-In: Pat Dwyer convened the meeting at 9:05. Board Members present: Ken Hasse, John Lindberg, Rod Repschlaeger and Marilyn Olson-Petersen.

Events for 2015:

- **February 14 Mtg** Guest Speaker, Jeff Mussell, PG&E Vegetation Management
- **March 14 Mtg**: Guest Speaker, New District 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen.
- **April 11 - Annual Spring Clean-up Day**, Location: Bobby’s Market 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. It’s a good time to clear out the clutter that may have accumulated. We will have 2 Green Waste Dumpsters for a 3 week period – starting one week before. We are asking people to fill out a form to track resident hours used in fire safe cleanup. This documentation helps us secure matching funds for grant projects. Snowline Hospice Collection Truck will be present accepting clothes/donations, e-waste etc (no appliances). El Dorado Disposal will have Garbage Dumpsters for regularly bagged household trash. This year we will have it staffed/secured to discourage illegal dumping. Also contacting Habitat for Humanity to see if they would be interested in having a collection for “used” paint as there is a law that allows for some reimbursement and they might be interested. General Information hand-outs will be available. Bobby’s Market will provide Hot Dogs.
- **April 24,25,26**: Home and Garden Show – FS Council Booth at Placerville Fair Ground. Need folks to volunteer to staff (4-hour shifts) the booth and handout literature. You will get a free pass for volunteering at the show. Please contact Pat if you are interested.
- **May 9 Mtg**: This is Pre-Election month so if you would like to help out on the board we welcome your involvement. **May 2** is Community Wildfire Preparedness Day. This is the second year – it is a national campaign. Connaught suggested a poster competition for Log Town Elementary Schools. Ken suggested perhaps it could be coordinated with “Spring Cleanup Day”. Everyone thought it was an excellent educational project and Connaught will look into it, draft a plan and get the ball rolling.
- **June Mtg**: This is Election Month. We welcome and invite you to become a member of the board – 2 year terms. Your ideas make our community a safer place. Also in June we are inviting a guest speaker - a Master Gardener -- to talk about fire wise landscaping/local native plants.
- **October 10 – Annual Hot Dog Social** – Fund Raiser and Fun Social Event. By way of advertisement Pat shared that the infamous gourmet “Dinner for 8” will be an “Italian Feast” and be hosted this coming weekend. This was one of the auction items from last year’s “Hot Dog Social” and a very popular one. John Connaught also added that the “Vino Noceto Wine Tour” they bid on last year was a great day and he encouraged others to bid on it this year if it is offered again. Special thanks to Mark and Trudy for securing the item.
Adopt a Hydrant: Pat added this is a good time of year to use pre-emergent etc. and if there is a fire hydrant nearby that may need a little attention it would be great if you would “adopt” the hydrant and keep the immediate area clear of debris.

Treasurer Report: Ken advised our bank balance is $7,329.09. Since last meeting we spent $70.00 for an RFP review of the LT10 proposal.

Fire Station Flag Pole Status: Fire Chief Coombs was looking into a 30 foot pole with a vendor installing it and John noted there were others in 25 foot range, good quality and less expensive. More research is needed and he will report back at next meeting for decision.

Poster Competition: Discussion of an award for the winners. Perhaps present competition at 2 school levels (Kindergarten and 2/3 Graders) and consider three levels for prizes (1st, 2nd and 3rd place). Maybe $20.00 for winner and $10.00/$5.00 for other placements. This amount is reasonable for this age group. Perhaps we can complement $ with ribbons and other acknowledgements: a special award presentation; acknowledgement in local News Paper. More thought and research needed but all in favor of general concept.

County Fire Safe Council Update:
SRA Grant Submittals: Will know next month the status of our submitted grant applications.
USFS Grant: Applications due next month and we are requesting extension of chipper program ($100,000)
American River Conservancy: $10 million available for watershed projects: fire prevention projects are eligible. What is important here is that these funds can be used to do the upfront “environmental review” work which is needed in advance of contracting the actual work. Often there is a timing conflict in getting the advance environmental review done prior to submitting a grant application. These grants are due in the summertime. So in summary there are some good opportunities available for grants this year and we will do our best to review/select/process the ones we can. Processing grants is time consuming from beginning to end and any help you would like to offer is always appreciated.

Our Community Wildfire Protection Plan has designated areas for fuel reduction (LT1, LT2, 9A and 10). We use grant funding to reduce fuels in these areas surrounding our community – like creating a moat around a castle – working with residents to secure permission to access the property and do the work. This is an on-going effort as once reduced these areas need to be maintained. It can cost a considerable amount depending on the terrain/vegetation. Some grants require “matching” local funds which may not be available – but some allow for a match with “in-kind” service – such as time/$ used to keep our own properties fire safe. So please keep track of your time/$ and submit this information to the Board at our meetings etc. and we can use this as a “match, forms are available at our monthly meetings or you can email Pat or Ken and request a form.

Location of Smokey Bear Sign: Best “visible” and “safe” location still to be determined. Another point – is it better to see it when “exiting or entering” our community. Idea needs more research.
Neighborhood Coordinator Updates: John, in an effort to get as much of our community connected/ready for Fire Season, offered to advertise on “Log Town Nextdoor” and request residents to provide their “cell phone/service provider” to him, as a LT FSC Board member. This information would then be incorporated in the LT Phone Tree Alert System and enable Pat or Ken to convert an email “Fire Alert” notice to a “text” message. Cell phone text messages seem to be the most convenient/expedient way to reach residents. We used it during the Sand Fire and it worked really well.

Public Comment:

Quest Speaker: Jeff Mussell, PG&E Vegetation Manager for the Sierra Region. Jeff was instrumental in helping us get a PG&E $60,000 grant for Chipping and a Fuel Reduction Project in Grizzly Flat. His presentation was very information and here are some highlights and access to more detailed information.

Handouts: These are valuable resources (1) A Selection & Planting Guide to Small Trees near distribution lines in Northern CA. (2) PG&E’s Vegetation Management Program – Clearing Vegetation from Power Lines (3) Guide to Tree Planting and Care. Call PG&E 1-800-743-5000 to ask for any of these free publications. Also CA PUC has a handout “California Homeowners and Utility Companies – Understanding Our Shared Vegetation Responsibilities”. Available on line ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/gopher-data/CSD/Brochure_5doc. Click the words “Tree Trimming”

Utility companies prune/remove trees near high voltage power lines for public safety, fire safety and to reduce outages.

Vegetation Program Mission: Annual ground inspections of every mile (100%) of overhead power lines. Address through pruning/removal, any tree that will encroach within the minimum clearance distances and any hazard tree to maintain regulatory compliance

Sierra/Sacramento Area has 16,000+ miles of Distribution line, 229,000 planned trees, 46,000 planned trees in El Dorado District for 2015, and El Dorado has 11 ACRT Inspectors and 18 Davey Tree Crews.

Here are some internet access links that may be helpful as you look at your trees/vegetation near power lines.

Tree Worker Safety & Public Safety around Electric Utility/Gas Lines:
-Link to tree worker safety materials: http://www.pge.com/safety/diggingyard/powerline
-Tree Worker Safety
Video:https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eVW9Vpk_Z4&list=UUd11v4o2Yhbv4Yg-sZvgM2A

Adjourn to Next Meeting – March 14 2015

Signed: Marilyn Olson-Petersen

Logtown Fire Safe Council: Pat Dwyer, President (622-7121), Ken Hasse, Treasurer (620-7220), Marilyn Olson-Petersen, Vice Chair/Secretary (620-2461) Rod Repschläger (621-3219) and John Lindberg (303-3672)