



Logtown Fire Safe Council

P.O. Box 1601
El Dorado, CA 95623



Notes of the March 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:

March 14 – Cal Fire Fund Raiser for “burn victims” Cameron Park is hosting in several locations their fund raiser so please stop by. It is a worthy cause.

March 24 – Defensible Space Evaluator Training USFS 1:00 to 3:00. Learn how to be an “Evaluator” (not inspector). Location: USFS Bldg 100 Forni Road near Thompsons Toyota. You will be given some training and a form to use to evaluate a parcel. You will get a “Certification”. Property owners can request this service to help them decide what actions they want to take to “READY” their property for a wildland fire.

March 24 – USFS Presentation on the “Cohesive Strategy” for our region. 11:00 at USFS Office (location same as above).

March 24 – County Fire Safe Council Meeting – 9:30 USFS building (same as above)

March 31 - National Wildfire Mitigation Award (Ken & Nancy Hasse) 10:00 El Dorado County BOS Chambers. Logtown residents are encouraged to attend the award ceremony. There is also a proclamation in the works. Congratulations to Ken and Nancy.

April 11 – Logtown Spring Clean Up Day 7am to 2 pm. Location: Bobby’s Market 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. Two Green Waste Dumpsters will be available (Monday April 6) for a 2 week period. Snowline Hospice Collection Truck will be present accepting clothes/donations, e-waste etc. (no appliances). If numerous residents are interested in the “Chipping Service” please get your piles ready and contact us and we can set a day for chipping during this period. El Dorado Disposal will have Garbage Dumpsters for regularly bagged household trash. Bobby’s Market will provide Hot Dogs and Pat and Rod will be at the BBQ.

April 24, 25, & 26 - El Dorado Home and Garden Show – FS Council Booth at Placerville Fair Ground. The focus this year is on Recreation along with the regular home/garden theme. RV’s to be highlighted. 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 2 – Community Wildfire Preparedness Day Connaught reported that she contacted the local elementary schools in our Logtown area and distributed flyers announcing the “Wildfire Preparedness Poster Contest”. The posters will be collected on April 10th which will allow time to evaluate/select the winners. She is looking into an Awards Presentation at a BOS Mtg. and local newspaper recognition. We will have the submittals evaluated in time for an award presentation by May 2. The children will go to the FSC website to get one idea for their poster. Pollock Pines Fire Station will be hosting day’s activities for the “Preparedness Day” so

please check it out if you are in the area. This will be our first year and we can modify accordingly next year to improve and or expand the program.

May 9 Mtg. – CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Brian Mackwood (replacing Mike Webb at the Y) will be invited to do a presentation.

June Mtg. - 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. We will have a Master Gardener talk about firewise landscaping/local native plants.

October 10 – Hot Dog Social – Our annual Fund Raiser and Fun Social Event.

Treasurer Report: Ken advised our bank balance is \$7,379.09. This month we will expend \$550.00 for postage of the “LT Newsletter”. Those who have email address will receive an email version of the newsletter.

County Fire Safe Council Update:

March 24: 11:00 – Supervisor of El Dorado Forest Service will present to the County FSC a presentation on the evolving concept for a “cohesive” forest management plan that emphasizes fuel reduction and forest management. Previously there had been a more “hand’s off” and this allowed the fuels to build up and hence made fire suppression more difficult. Location of meeting is 100 Forni Road

SRA Grant Submittals: County collectively submitted \$1.4 million in proposals. 3 out of 9 were approved by CAL FIRE at total amount of \$228,000. The LT 10 (East side of Galena) did not get funded at this time but may do so if funds are released from other projects. The County Wide CWPP was funded to provide a coordinated plan for our region. Pollock Pines fuel reduction south of King Fire (\$200,000) and Sand Ridge road side clearance (\$150,000) received funding.

Neighborhood Coordinator Updates: Fire Alert Text Messaging John reported 25 “Logtown Nextdoor” residents responded to his request for “cell number/provider” for the LT Fire Alert Text Message System. He will continue this effort to contact/reach as many of our residents. Also as new people come on board he “welcomes” and advises them of the LT Residence “Fire Alert” program. The text alerts were very helpful to the community during the 2014 Fire Season. Information is kept confidential and used only for a “Fire Alert” in our area.

Public Comment:

Location of Smokey Bear Sign: No decision on best location. Multiple ideas but more research needed. Nancy suggested when people are at Bobby’s Market to think about best “visible” location for the sign. Agreed to resolve issue at next meeting.

Weed Abatement Volunteer: Steve Morgan generously volunteered that he had an electric sprayer with a 50 foot hose and would help LT property owners with weed abatement (state sanctioned product) for a \$100.00 donation to the LT Fire safe Council. If there are any of you out there that need help this is a bargain. You can contact Steve at 620-3946

Thank you Steve.

PG&E – Tree Trimming Dave Smith reported that PG&E is active in our neighborhood using ACERT evaluate trees. They are marking the trees with red paint: a “dot” to trim and an “X” to cut/take down.

Fire Station Flagpole: John reported it costs \$300-400.00 to purchase a flag/flag pole depending on size of pole/length. Agreed to reach closure on this issue by next meeting.

Wagon Train Fund Raiser - Jack Rouleau advised they are having a Fund Raiser in Pollock Pines - a Spaghetti Feed at \$10.00 per person. It costs a lot to put on the historic Wagon Train Event which goes from Tahoe to Placerville. It is a wonderful Event so please go up and support them – auction items etc. will also be available. For tickets and information contact Jack at 530-344-0774.

Quest Speaker: Supervisor Shiva Frentzen, District 2. She complimented the role that FS Council plays in protecting rural local communities and acknowledged that LT had a very effective council with dedicated individuals volunteering extensive hours behind the scenes to make it successful. She has her own business (23 years of info/technology); married with 2 adult children. She entered politics last September in a Special Election which covers Cameron Park (her home area), Shingle Springs, El Dorado, Diamond Springs, Placerville, Fairplay, and Somerset to Grizzly Flats. This is her first government job. Her first issue/challenge was reviewing a “Budget” which though “balanced” she questioned “continuous” appropriations funded by “one-time” funds. She was instrumental in creating an “ad hoc” committee to re-evaluate the County’s priorities. She wants clear goals for Budget expenditures. For FY15-16 the County is looking at a deficit of \$19 million and there was talk of a 6.25% reduction and she did not like across the board reductions – hence her request for clarity of priorities – ability to weigh the effectiveness/efficiency of each department and the present/future needs/priorities of the County. On how to increase local revenues she did not advocate raising taxes. She emphasized need to focus on increasing economic development; getting jobs in the area – bringing in new business. Adding more “rooftops” increases the need for greater services and hence more dollars in the budget for those services. Important to have a solid budget as a platform to balance new housing/development proposals. The Board’s top priorities: financial sustainability; infrastructure and public safety. Her request, if you have ever have any questions about the Board actions/non-action or want to raise an issue please contact her office (530-621-5651) or email bostwo@edcgov.us if she does not know the issues are she cannot represent you. Also if you would like to be added to her information network email or call.

Question/Answer: Revenues from Timber Tax The Timber Tax used to bring in significant dollars to the County for police/fire/school services. At one time there were 20 saw mills – today there are none. Many counties are in similar situation – how can we make up this loss. The SRA (tax) exists but it is a different tool focused on fire prevention. Shiva acknowledged the loss of revenue and said the USFS has developed a plan weighing environmental and logging interests – it is a conservative plan balanced on a fine line. A challenge at this time would result in long legal action by the environmental community and everything would be at a standstill. She understands the need for revenue but felt best to work with the existing agreement of the USFS.

How do we become economically sustainable when we have a District with constant tension – Agriculture vs Development Interests? She felt that bringing revenue from property taxes (more

rooftops) is not the answer for more revenues. These developments place greater demand on existing County services which are struggling to manage current mandate. If she had to make a choice with \$1 to spend for “new homes” or “new jobs” she would vote for New Jobs.

Why isn't the water shortage itself enough to slow down development? There is disagreement on the data as to the availability of water to cover proposed development. The situation is similar to Cal Trans assessment and use of “traffic demand modeling” on Highway 50 where in local residents clearly see congestion but the reports generated do not reflect there is an issue.

How do we get more jobs? Need to make it easier for new business to come into our area. The current permitting process is extensive, expensive and often takes 3 years to complete. She is pleased to report that last week the BOS approved a measure to allow for a UC Davis Extension in Placerville – excellent job opportunity. She noted it took a lot of diligence (3 years) to get Blue Shield in our area and it is very unfortunate that we could not retain them. We need to make it a top priority to solicit new business and review our processes to secure and retain them. We are a diverse community and we need to make community “planning” a priority and pull together and work as a unit and find the common good.

What is being done to ease the permitting process for those who lost their home in the King Fire? The Hotline and Web site that were made available were very helpful to residents. The Community Foundation hosted a fund raiser for the fire victims and it would be good to contact them. If there are any people you know who have not been helped or are having difficulty getting answers/assistance please let me know (office number 530-621-5651)

In closing she complimented the Board for doing excellent work and said Pat is on top of it and is aware of the actions at the BOS and related agencies.

Meeting adjourned. 10:20

Adjourn to Next Meeting – May 9th, 2015 (April 11th is our Clean Up Day)

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 Repschlaeger (621-3219) and John Lindberg (303-3672)