Meeting Notes  
Logtown Fire Safe Council  
September 12, 2015  
Station 44, Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Protection District  
6109 Quartz Drive, Logtown CA 95623

1. Call to Order: Chairman Pat Dwyer called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Board members present were Pat Dwyer, Ken Hasse, John Lindberg, Rod Repschläger and Marc Regelbrugge.

2. Public Comment: Kevin McAllister queried as to whether the snake contest will be held at this year’s Hot Dog Social (October 10th at Station 44 – see the flyer at the end of these notes). Dwyer replied that prizes will be awarded for greatest number and largest size of (dead) rattlesnakes this season, and cautioned entrants to provide photographic evidence to support their claims for the “largest rattler” prize.

3. Upcoming Events: Dwyer reminded all of the Logtown Hot Dog Social and Firewise Day on October 10th at Station 44. The event features great food (hot dogs, potluck dishes), music, a raffle and auction, and an opportunity to meet and talk with your Logtown neighbors – all while learning more about Firewise awareness and preparedness. Come one, come all, and please bring your own chairs!

   More information about this year’s Hot Dog Social is under New Business, and the official Logtown Hot Dog Social Flyer is included at the end of these notes.

4. Special Guest: Dwyer informed that Casey Kish of Sierra Home Alternatives was unable to attend to talk about fireplace maintenance and safety. Instead, Dwyer urged folks to consult the Cal Fire web site for tips on fireplace and home heating safety, and to be sure fireplace and wood stove ashes and embers are completely extinguished before transferring them to flammable containers or sites.

5. Chairman’s Report: Dwyer reported on activities of the El Dorado Fire Safe Council, including an upcoming report to the Board of Supervisors detailing volunteer time contributions, active and upcoming grants supporting fire safe activities, and the assembly of the County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which will present a unified County-wide approach to wildfire preparedness, prevention and protection, and incorporate community-specific CWPPs from the satellite Fire Safe Councils.

   Dwyer also noted that District 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen will be holding Town Hall meetings on Thursday, September 17th (6:00-7:30 p.m.) at the Cameron Park
Fire Station #89, 3200 Country Club Drive in Cameron Park, and on Thursday, October 1st (6:30-8:00 p.m.) at the Shingle Springs Community Center, 4440 South Shingle Road in Shingle Springs. Dwyer further noted that the Supervisor Frentzen and the entire Board of Supervisors are enthusiastic supporters of the County’s Fire Safe Councils. The public wished to be sure Sup. Frentzen was invited to our Hot Dog Social, and Dwyer took the action to send her a formal Hot Dog Social invitation.

Regarding news on recent events, Dwyer noted the Butte Fire southeast of Jackson was roughly 64,000 acres and 10% contained as of meeting time as area residents in attendance noted the smoke filled morning air outside. Discussion noted that both the Cal Fire website and Yubanet.com are doing a very good job of updating status of the fire. Robin Spicci noted that the web site at www.wildlandfire.com has postings from fire fighters, residents and others giving an “on-the-ground” view of happenings in wildfires across the country – checkout the “HotList” link on the site.

6. New Business: The first item of new business was the final preparation underway for our October 10th Hot Dog Social. Volunteers were identified to transport tables, provide pop-up shade canopies, and bring hot-dog grills and warmers, ice chests, and signature dishes such as chili and sauerkraut. Event Chairwoman Nancy Hasse reminded the public to “Bring your favorite pot-luck dishes and your own chairs.” She also encouraged donations for the raffle baskets. She said people do not have to donate an entire basket, they can donate a bottle of wine, hand towels, or other individual items and the “basket team” will assemble them into a beautiful basket for the raffle.

A new offering this year will be Special Issue Logtown T-shirts, featuring the Logtown oak logo above the word “LOGTOWN.” These will be available for a $15 donation each at the Social and possibly thereafter, depending on demand. The public expressed its interest to spread the Logtown community spirit, prompting Dwyer to quip that whenever anyone asks him where Logtown is, he replies “Halfway between Mud Springs and Pokerville.”

As the second new-business item, Dwyer announced that the County Fire Safe Council is requesting community input to the County-wide CWPP. For example, where do residents see fire dangers and fire-wise opportunities, are planned fuels reduction projects in proper priority, where should future fuel reduction projects be located? Community inputs will be used to help assess the County fire model and to help shape future project plans. You can review the current County and Logtown CWPPs at www.edcfiresafe.org under the “CWPPs” link.

7. Treasurer’s Report: Hasse reported the Council had $6,840.75 in the bank, and noted that some donations from the public have recently been received.

8. County Fire Safe Council Update: Discussion focused initially on Logtown’s LT-9a project; a fuels reduction project to provide a shaded fuel break to the east of Crystal Boulevard, about halfway up the ridge from Highway 49. The work will be donated by the California Conservation Corps (CCC), and will treat approximately 17 acres from Mica Street north to Lauren Lane. The expected time window for the project is November-February, depending on precipitation. Hasse noted that the El Dorado
County Fire Safe Council will provide $1,000 for flagging the project. He also noted that the CCC will be encamped at the fairgrounds in Plymouth for the project, and that there will be some cost to provide food and shelter for the camp. Lindberg moved to appropriate $1,000 of Logtown Council funds to cover CCC camp costs for the LT-9a project. Repschlaeger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with great community support. A map of the LT-9a project area appears below:

Dwyer mentioned the LT-10 project east of Galena, which remains unfinished. The plan is to submit an SRA grant to complete the project and thus complete the ring of fuel breaks around the Logtown community. Dwyer expects the SRA grants to be open for applications in the October timeframe.

Other projects ongoing in the County include CCC work along Wentworth Springs Road, an approximately $200,000 effort for ridgeline fuels reduction in Pollock Pines, and an approximately $150,000 project in Auburn Lake Trails on ridgeline fuels reduction between the American River and Cool. In addition, the County-wide chipping program continues, although Hasse noted some delays in getting piles chipped because the contractor must work on several nearby sites in the same day to keep transportation costs low.

9. Text/Phone-Tree Progress: Dwyer noted that migration of the text-message notification system to Office 365 has not been seamless, but that the facility remains functional. Those wishing to sign up for text alerts should provide their cell number and cell carrier to John Lindberg, Ken Hasse or Pat Dwyer. Dwyer further impressed upon the public that the Logtown text-message facility is reserved for use in situations that have a direct bearing on the Logtown community. As such, alerts for events not directly threatening Logtown, such as the Butte fire, are not made through the text facility.

10. Neighborhood Coordinator Updates: No coordinator updates were made. Lindberg inquired as to the status of the flagpole project for Station 44 and relocation of the Smokey sign to a more visible location near the Crystal-49 intersection. Dwyer noted that he was continuing discussions with DSEDFPD Chief Combs regarding the Station 44 flagpole, and agreed to work with Lindberg as a committee of two to
solidify options for re-locating the Smokey fire-danger level sign to one of two possible alternate locations.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.