CALL TO ORDER: Pat Dwyer called the meeting to order at 9:02. Members present: Pat Dwyer, Ken Hasse, Rod Repschlaeger, Kevin McAllister and Marilyn Olson-Petersen.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pat advised that Jeff Mussell, PG&E Vegetation Management could not attend as he was on alert standby and hence unable to be present. Pat will try to reschedule the presentation to May. PG&E has been very cooperative in reducing the outages caused by trees and is going the extra mile to trim trees/vegetation. It was suggested that we include points from Jeff’s presentation in the upcoming News Letter. Marilyn agreed to assist Ken with the Spring Newsletter.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: Fire Incident and Evacuation Exercise--Saturday March 8th. This is a Table Top Exercise. Pat advised that we will have the following agencies represented: Diamond Springs El Dorado Fire Protection District (Incident Commander (Mike Web) and Fire Chief (Rob Coombs)), Deputy Sheriff of Search and Rescue (Jamie Morgan) and County Office of Emergency Services, CHP, Cal Trans, County DOT, Animal Control and Red Cross. Pat pointed out that it is most important to have your property cleared properly as the reality is there are 7,000 homes to protect and only 2 engines locally. They have a term “Bump and Run” and if your home is determined it cannot be saved they will move on to the next home. So best to have your property prepared. Self responsibility is key to surviving a wildfire and knowing the do’s and don’ts is critical – so please attend the next meeting and encourage your neighbors to attend. We will pick 2 scenarios for ignition sites – historical locations where fires have started or likely to start: Martinez Creek/Union Mine Road and Nashville with its southerly winds and maybe Nielsen Ranch. We will have an advance preparatory meeting on Wednesday (March 5–4:00) to help us ensure the presentation on Saturday March 8th goes smoothly and meets our needs.

Community Clean Up DayApril 12 - 7:00 to 2:00 at Bobby’s Market. Snowline has agreed to come and will accept donations, e-waste, and recycle, NO Appliances. There will be dumpsters for bagged household trash (no construction debris or hazmat) and a green waste dumpsters at Station 44 and the common area. These have been very successful events, use this opportunity to de-clutter your house.
READY Campaign Brochures. Cal Fire Preparation Guides help residents prepare for a wildfire. The “READY” brochure outlines steps to get your home “Ready” by instructing you on how to create defensible space and harden your home against wildfire. Copies are available here today. Although your home may be far from the active fire, embers can fly into your attic and foundation vents unless you have the proper size metal mesh cover. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh. Go to www.ReadyforWildfire.org/hardening for important information.

Dolomite/Galena Fuels Reduction Project – A grant request was submitted for this area but we were not awarded a grant. We asked for feedback on the application evaluation process and hope with new information we have a good chance to resubmit the application and be successful. Ken stated we may need a 50% match.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Ken reported the bank balance is the same as last month: $6,812.22. Pat presented several proposed expenditures: Community Clean Up Signs, Hot Dog Social Signs and rental of a Port-a-Potty for the Table Top Evacuation Fire Meeting in March. Pat did not have an exact amount but Ken moved the motion and it passed with no dissenting votes. Rod suggested may be good to consider renting a Port-a-Potty for the Spring Clean-up Event.

FUEL REDUCTION UPDATE LT-10: Ken reported a contract was signed in October, but we were unable to get a start date due to fire danger. March 31 is the end of the grant period. The original contractor dropped out. We anticipate getting a new contract signed next week and get as much work as possible done in the remaining month of February and March before the grant expires.

CCC Fuel Reduction – There are 40 acres along Highway 49 and Mica. The CCC has access to some dollars available in 2015 for chipper and hand crews. If we want to tap into the funding we need several owners on either side of Highway 49 for the proposal to be considered. Contact Ken if you are interested in being a part of this proposal.

COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL UPDATE: Been advised that the County (Board of Supervisors) will become more involved in our “Community Wildfire Protection Plans” as there is a requirement that the CWPP be updated every 5 years and approved by a local government entity. Auburn Lake Trails ran into this when they were doing their update. So the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors may become more involved in our planning process.

New County Website – The County has a new website up and running please check it out. Chipper Requests can now be made on line at www.edcfiresafe.org. Get your request in early as the funding period ends March 31.

Friends of Seniors – Sponsors an “All You Can Eat Spaghetti Feed Fund Raiser Dinner” at the Lions Hall on March 16. We have tickets ($10) here for sale. They have asked us to help with their fundraiser and would use the proceeds to restart the senior assistance program. County Fire Safe Council has committed to match that amount up to $2,000. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help serve meals or prepare a basket for their auction, please contact Pat.
Fire Inspection Training—February 25 at 12:30 Cal Fire will host “Inspection Training” for Defensible Space” at the Forest Service Bldg 100 Forni (Briw) Road near Thompson’s Toyota. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about defensible space for your home and help neighbors in the community have fire safe homes. Presently Pat and Ken are the only two people in our community with the training. They are volunteers who will come out to your property at your request to help identify actions (listed by Cal Fire) that can better protect your property.

Kevin brought up that Insurance Companies are nervous about fire safety and engaging in serious research i.e. looking at the “parcel” not just the” zip code” to make a determination of whether to grant/cancel coverage. It was suggested that we make a list of what we do in our community to make ourselves more fire safe and this could be used by residents if they are contacted by their home insurance company. Pat agreed that we would prepare such a list and make it available to residents.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Hot Dog Sign – it was suggested that we eliminate the reference to “free” hot dogs so as not to invite those that are not part of the community. Someone asked the name of the Address Sign Company referred to last week: it was Foothill Sign and Graphic (FSG) in Folsom – 530-677-3230. Also another source was provided by Pat Relfe. The cost was reasonable $22.95 (no shipping or handling) and it arrived in about three days. The choices are horizontal, vertical, green or blue and come with pre drilled holes. http://www.alphabetsigns.com/ under search type reflective house number sign.

Chipper Service – someone asked if there was a specific time to expect the Chipper Service. Ken remarked application requests are submitted to Mountain Enterprises and they usually try to wait until they have several requests from the area so as to maximize and stretch the grant funds for travel etc by doing several jobs at once. His suggestion was to get a couple of your neighbors to submit a request together. He advised they do not go off-road and they will chip up to 7 inches.

NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATOR’S REPORT: Happy to have rain. There was nothing new reported other than working to update the “phone tree”. Some “zones” in Logtown are better organized. For the first time in a while we do have a lead person for each zone. We will retain the “Tree” as we explore other options. It was noted that having a scanner is important to learn first-hand status of fire activity in the area and it was requested that we host a “Clinic on Scanners”. Pat agreed that we would set up a presentation. Nancy Hasse requested attendees to please sign-in each time at the meetings to ensure we have the correct contact information and advised that meeting attendance also acts as a tool to give us credit for “in-kind matching”.

ADJOURN TO MARCH 8 2014 MEETING: Fire Event and Evacuation Exercise (TableTop). Meeting adjourned at 10:24.

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), Kevin McAllister (295-9123) and Rod Repschaeger (621-3219)