



Logtown Fire Safe Council

P.O. Box 1601
El Dorado, CA 95623



Meeting Notes
Logtown Fire Safe Council
May 13, 2017

1. Call to Order: Chairman Pat Dwyer called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Board members present were Pat Dwyer, Rod Repschlaeger, John Erickson and Marc Regelbrugge. Dwyer began the meeting by leading the assembly's Pledge of Allegiance, and informing the public of the passing of Fire Safe Council Board Member John Lindberg.

John passed on May 9th after a struggle with cancer. He was a long-time, ardent supporter of the Fire Safe Council, having taken charge in previous years of the text-message alert service and spearheading the effort to bring a flagpole and flags to Station 44. Dwyer paused the meeting for a moment of silence in John's memory – he will be greatly missed.

2. Public Comment: Dwyer noted that he, Jim Davies and Mark Egbert (Resources Defense Council) had the opportunity to address the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce on May 9th. The trio's discussion of forestry, wildland fire and the Fire Safe Council's planning and outreach activities in the County was well received by the Chamber.
3. Special Guest Speaker: Dwyer introduced Don Spear, Deputy Director of Maintenance and Operations for the County Development Administration (CDA) Transportation Division (formerly County DOT). Spear discussed planned improvements to the County roads in the Town of El Dorado, including safety, access and parking upgrades. Some 45 persons attended a public meeting on the subject in El Dorado on May 9th, chaired by County Supervisor Veerkamp. Veerkamp and Spear listened attentively to the concerns and recommendations of the residents, and their ideas will be incorporated into the two-phase plan.

The plan's first phase addresses street and pedestrian improvements west of the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Highway 49, including micro-surface treatment, improved pavement markings, better integration of on-street parking spaces and improvements to pedestrian crossings – particularly at Poor Red's, the El Dorado Grocery and the Vocational School.

The second phase of the plan involves improvement of storm drainage, particularly into Slate Creek. This phase is presently unfunded, but Spear mentioned that several sources of funding may be available.

Following some questions from the public, Dwyer presented Mr. Spear and with an official Logtown Coffee Mug in appreciation for his informative discussion and as a token of good luck in his impending retirement.

4. Chairman's Report/Old Business: Dwyer mentioned that Logtown hats and T-shirts are still available, as are the newly minted Logtown Coffee Mugs. Contact John Erickson to purchase any of these items. The substantial Coffee Mugs are \$8 each, and feature the Logtown logo on one side and a simple map on the other side showing Logtown located halfway between Mud Springs and Polkerville.

Marc Regelbrugge described recent happenings on the Logtown East-Side Fuel Break (LT-10). The Project Manager is completing Environmental and Archaeological studies in advance of flagging the project area. Some archaeological sites have been identified within the project area, so those must be flagged as "keep-out" areas. Work on the southern end of the project area is scheduled to begin in the fall.

Responding to a comment from a resident regarding home owner insurance rates and availability in the High Fire Hazard Severity Zone areas of Logtown, Pat Dwyer mentioned that County Supervisor Ranalli is working with the Rural Counties Association to improve insurability and insurance provisions for residences in fire hazard areas, and to promote development of a Statewide insurance pool – similar to earthquake insurance – for wildfire. Dwyer also noted that Logtown is a certified, Firewise Community, and that some insurance underwriters are taking that status into account when rating properties. A copy of Logtown's Firewise Certificate for this year is appended to these notes. Feel free to discuss our community's Firewise status with your insurance agent.

One of the important factors allowing Logtown to be certified as a Firewise Community is the level of community involvement in preparedness and education activities. We quantify these factors by taking meeting attendance and tracking volunteer effort using timesheets. The Fire Safe Council can claim \$24.14 per volunteer hour as an in-kind matching contribution for State and Federal grants, and uses the annual work-hour tally to support our annual Firewise Certification. Please use the timesheet form attached to these notes (or a reasonable facsimile) to track your time spent maintaining defensible space or otherwise working toward wildfire preparedness.

The annual Logtown Spring Cleanup was held on April 8th, despite the rain and occasional snow. Snowline Hospice collected donations and e-waste, and the two household waste dumpsters were well utilized. Hot dogs from Bobby's sustained the event crew led by Rod Repschlaeger and John Erickson, and assisted by several drop-in volunteers.

A resident questioned El Dorado Disposal's green waste community pickup day, which had been scheduled for Logtown on April 18th, but apparently did not occur throughout the community. Dwyer volunteered to follow-up with El Dorado Disposal.

Dwyer also discussed the Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which has been published and signed. A copy of the CWPP will be available for review at our June meeting. Other work-in-progress includes continuing discussions (a) with CalTrans to install Logtown community signs on Highway 49, and (b) with Diamond Fire to work toward installing a flagpole at Station 44.

5. **New Business:** Dwyer announced that the El Dorado Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES) is conducting training for the County Emergency Response Team (CERT) early in June. Call (530)621-5895 for more information.

In view of the inclement weather featured at our recent Spring Cleanup Day, and the scheduling of National Wildfire Community Awareness Week in early May, the Fire Safe Council is considering moving the Spring Cleanup to the second Saturday in May. Stay tuned.

Dwyer also reminded folks to sign up for Code RED, the automated emergency notification system used by the County Sheriff's Office. A link is provided in the "On-Line Resources" section of these notes.

Cal Fire has published its new "Ready for Wildfire" app. The app alerts you to wildfires happening near you and/or near your home, and is available at the App Store and Google Play Store. Useful features include "ready" and "to go" checklists to help you maintain your defensible space plan for an unforeseen evacuation. Cal Fire's announcement of the app's availability is appended to these notes.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** John Erickson reported the Fire Safe Council's total assets at \$7,740.40 after a \$208 cash deposit and expenditures of \$521.21 for printing the spring Newsletter, \$155.48 for U.S. flags for our meetings at Station 44, and \$135.65 for signage and Supplies for the spring Cleanup event.

7. County Fire Safe Council Update: Dwyer announced that the previously unfunded chipper program has been extended by a \$75k grant from PG&E through October 2017 (see the Mountain Democrat's article from May 12th). Ergo, the Chipper Program is alive and well, and you can sign up on the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council web site (see the link on the "On-Line Resources" page of these notes). The PG&E grant monies is are from their funds committed to Vegetation Management responsibilities. Dwyer also mentioned that he had submitted a U.S. Forest Service grant application for \$200k to continue the Chipper Program thereafter. He mentioned that homeowner participation provided the 1:1 in-kind matching contribution required for the grant.
8. Neighborhood Coordinator Reports: none
9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m. The next meeting will be on June 10th, 9:00 a.m.at Station 44. We hope to hear from a PG&E Vegetation Management specialist. Please join us then.

**Logtown Fire Safe Council
On-Line Resources**

<http://www.edcfiresafe.org>

El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

<http://www.edcfiresafe.org/about-the-council/satellite-councils/logtown-fire-safe-council>

Logtown Fire Safe Council

<http://www.edcfiresafe.org/programs-grants-2/chipper-program>
(FREE!)

Chipper Program

<http://ready.edso.org>

Sheriff's Office Emergency Notification System
Sign-up for "Code RED" (replaced reverse-911)

<https://wildfiresnearme.wfmrda.com>
and

Web-based "beta" application providing email
and text-message information about wildfires
near users' locations of interest.

<http://www.friendsofedcseniors.org/>

Friends of Seniors, a private, non-profit
advocacy organization supporting wellness,
life enrichment, dignity and independence of
El Dorado County Seniors and their caregivers
through advocacy and financial assistance.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Southwest County Resident Sheriff's Deputy Steve Wunschel (530)957-3581

EDSO Dispatch (No emergencies. FOR EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911) (530)621-6600

Logtown Fire Safe Council LT-10 Project Coordinator Marc Regelbrugge (415)640-3068

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Lynne Tolmachoff
Information Officer
(916) 651-3473

RELEASE DATE: April 17, 2017

CAL FIRE Launches New Ready for Wildfire App

SACRAMENTO - Being Ready for Wildfire has never been easier with CAL FIRE's new Ready for Wildfire app. This new tool puts a whole library of step-by-step checklists in the palm of the user's hand. It allows homeowners to track their progress while creating Defensible Space, hardening their homes with fire-resistant construction, assembling an emergency supply kit and creating a family communication and evacuation plan. App users, with the tap of a finger, can check off each step and see their progress as they reach 100% Ready!

While being a great educational tool, the Ready for Wildfire app also provides critical wildfire alerts. Users can sign-up for customized alerts that will send a text or push notification to their device when a CAL FIRE is responding or assisting to a wildfire in their area. Additionally, users can set up alerts for single counties, multiple counties, or statewide. If a user travels or enjoys recreating in forested areas, CAL FIRE has that covered, too! The app lets users enable an alert system to notify them if a wildfire is reported within 30 miles of their device.

"One of the many benefits of our new Ready for Wildfire app is the timely and accurate information it provides to residents about a wildfire in their area," said Chief Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE director and California's state forester. "I am excited about this new valuable tool that will provide early alerts to the public to help ensure their safety."

Now through May 21, 2017, users can enter the Ready for Wildfire Sweepstakes for a chance to win up to \$10,000 when they download or update the app! The grand prize winner will be able to purchase home hardening materials to prepare their home against wildfire and flying embers that can travel up to a mile ahead of a wildfire. This sweepstakes promotion is sponsored and funded by iHeartMedia in partnership with the Ready for Wildfire campaign. No state funds were used for prizes.

To download the app, visit the App Store or the Google Play Store – search for CAL FIRE and install. You are now on your way to becoming Ready for Wildfire.

For more resources visit ReadyForWildfire.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter @CAL_FIRE

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Media Notes:

[CAL FIRE Ready for Wildfire Campaign Graphics, Audio and Videos](#)