



# El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

P.O. Box 1011  
Diamond Springs, CA 95619  
Phone: (530) 647-1700  
Email: [board@edcfiresafe.org](mailto:board@edcfiresafe.org)

Website: [edcfiresafe.org](http://edcfiresafe.org)

**COUNCIL** "Public and Private Partners Working Together to Protect People, Homes, and Natural Resources"

## Board Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2021

**9:30 am to 11:30 Remote Business Meeting**

**1. Meeting Call to Order** 9:35 a.m.

As this is a remote meeting, all Board Action Items will be deemed approved unless there is an objection.

**2. Roll Call: Sign In**

Willis, Pullin, Atencio, H. Campbell, K. Campbell, Connelly, Dwyer, Gilchrest, Hawk, Hess, Johnston, Kruse, Lory, Payne, Wirt and Zelinsky attending  
Julian excused

Also attending: Riesenhuber (ENF), Tinsley (CAL FIRE), Lubetkin (Oak Hill Area FSC), Phillips (Chiefs/FPO), Wilcox (EDC VM), Barbara Bills (Placerville FSC), McKinstry (Gallagher Land Owners FSC), Kordes (Texas Hill Estates FSC), Anthony Garcia (Gold Hill Estates FSC), Richards (Sierra Springs Regional FSC), Manley (Cool-Pilot Hill FSC), Charles Schnell (EDC FSC Grants Committee), Kiehne (Placerville FSC),

**3. Approval of Agenda:** 1/20/21 **Board Action Item**

*Agenda approved without opposition.*

**4. Consent Agenda:** 10/21/20 Board Meeting Minutes **Board Action Item**

*Minutes approved without opposition.*

**5. Public Comment** – *Time limit is 3 minutes per person.*

- None

**6. Information Items:**

a. Chairman's Report & Communication

- Updated agenda items
- Marshall Cox will take over FPO report
- Ron Phillips will do Fire Chiefs report today
- Connell Persico, Vice Chair, resigned – position open, Willis will fill until someone volunteers or elections in June
- EDC is creating potential risk vegetation management plan, will discuss under VM item
- January 11<sup>th</sup>, along with Ernie Lory, spoke to Wilcox and EDC VM inspector to keep in touch
- Shout out to Lory for accepting EDC VM request to tag along on inspections to see how defensible space inspections are being done
- ALT Firewise renewal came through, 15 years!
- Gold Ridge Forest, Gallagher Estates and Mosquito became Firewise, that makes 14 or 15 councils that are Firewise
- E-board met last week, Stewart brought Willis a gavel
- Will ask Riesenhuber to cover two fires that are currently going
- Received two e-mails from people concerned about fires near their homes, people do not understand that we are not an emergency/government agency, when educating community members please let them know we can't help in emergencies

- b. Vice Chair Report
  - Looking for volunteer, feel free to reach out to any board member
- c. Secretary Report
  - Reminder that if there are any in-person events, meetings, etc., you need an event insurance rider to cover those
  - Council renewals coming up in June
  - Keeping compliance calendar updated
- d. Partners Reports
  1. Chiefs Meeting
    - Willis spoke to El Dorado Hills Fire, they are very involved in rolling out COVID vaccine, any questions- contact HHS
    - Trying to get all fire stations set up as vaccination sites
  2. FPO Meeting
    - Tracking state initiatives: processing regulatory update for Title 14
    - Watching for definitions for 5-foot clearance from home regulations
    - Working with county on fire hazard area regulations, identifying subdivisions with 30 units or more that only have one way in and out

Questions posed to FPO Association:

- *Water source and equipment signage for emergency responders. Ken from Gallagher.*
    - Specifically, Gallagher Estates, there is a Rural Water Supply Standard that addresses signage, an update will be going to Fire Chiefs this month, will send to Willis for distribution
    - All agencies have mapping system that identifies hydrants and can add other water sources
    - State law requires marking on street for water sources
  - *EV fire response capability of fire districts. Mike from ALT.*
    - Larger fire agencies have been trained on EV and solar panel fires, would have to check with smaller agencies about their training,
  - *Siren Alert Systems. Karen from Mosquito.*
    - Not aware of any areas moving forward with siren alerts
3. CAL FIRE – Tom Tinsley
    - New unit chief in AEU, Chief Lindgren left in December, Mike Blankenheim became new chief on Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, he is very familiar with AEU
    - Due to recent wind events recommended to AQMD to restrict burning until at least Friday
    - January 2020 vs January 2021: 5 acres burned in 2020, 1,000 acres burned in 2021
    - In process of completing target hazard areas defensible space inspections, inspectors due back March 1, recommended county emphasis areas to EDC
    - DS training for spring may have to be virtual
    - Fire Adapted 50 work continuing around Sly Park Rec area and Slab Creek to Pollock Pines, there are a number of grants in play there, phase three has piles ready to burn
    - There is a billion dollars in governor’s budget for “fire issues”, hopeful that there will be grant period, there was no grant cycle last fall
    - Grants process is about to take major electronic overhaul, there will be workshops about the new process
    - Have an agreement with EDC Fire to keep an engine in Camino
    - Now have 5 engines instead of 4 in service over “winter”
  4. ENF Updates – Teresa Riesenhuber
    - Union Fire: 25 acres Fire in Ice House area, also Coal Fire 30 acres, both 50% contained
    - Riesenhuber has received a temporary promotion in December to Acting Natural Resources Staff Officer until March, her position has not been filled
    - Has had a major budget change and how moneys are distributed has changed, no idea when grants will be available
    - With new administration coming in it may be a couple of months until anything is heard about grants
    - No burning this year yet, still logging since lack of precipitation
    - Will Stephens grants be extended, can do modification if needed

- Monthly outlooks are available on website, summer projection probabilities should start in March or April
- National fuel moisture database is online

5. EDC Vegetation Management – ~~Kristine Case-Guth~~ / John Wilcox

- New areas for 2021, Hanks Exchange area-150 parcels, Deer Valley Road area-300 parcels, inspections will start April 1
- Still a lot of work to complete 2020 inspections in Garden Valley and Pollock Pines
- Lots of requests for inspections
- Will continue to respond to complaints
- Expecting to deliver annual report to EDC board in the next couple of months, included in that will be concept approval for 5 year master plan
- Concerns that people can't report anonymously, website requires a name, EDC VM keeps all reporter information confidential
- Requested compliance statistics

7. **Treasurer's Report:** Maureen **Board Action Item**

a. Operations

- Two \$40,000 accounts have been established to keep council operating for FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023
- Cleaning up old files
- Zelinsky wants report to show what comes in and goes out every month, difficult to do with the way grant funds are received and paid out

b. Grant Funding Status (Projects Report)

- Currently \$1.9 million in grants in works
- Completed USFS education grant for \$44,000 and CA FSC Mosquito grant for \$500,000
- Two more grants are in works and will be added
- \$1.9 mil will go up to about \$3.5 million

*Treasurer's Report approved without opposition.*

8. **Old Business**

a. Use of Logo + shirts policy. **Board Action Item**

- Made suggested changes
- Logo policy was approved without opposition.*

b. EDC joint grant initiative. Update.

- Moving forward, due date is soon
- Hoping for chipping grant for next three years, originally required each property have CEQA and NEPA, have come back and said to resubmit and will try to waive inspection component, high population areas selected due to better value for dollar

c. Strategic Goals

1. EDCFSC to establish common file system on Microsoft Office / 365.
  - Still in the works
2. Establish Stewardship or Good Neighbor Agreement with federal agencies.
  - Moving forward
3. Joint Executive Committee with RCD – Status
  - Moving forward

9. **New Business**

a. Code Red / emergency notification system. Discussion / direction.

- There have been many e-mails regarding emergency notifications, including sirens, GRMS radio and Code Red
- Code Red is for evacuation purposes only, not a local incident notification system, you must sign up for the notifications in order to receive them
- Will discuss GMRS in February
- Need mechanism to liaise with county to discuss these items, Pullin has volunteered
- Pullin will also be representative from EDC FSC to Disaster Council
- Changes will have to come at county level
- GMRS coordinated through EDC Amateur Radio Club, not through FSCs or other agencies

## 10. Program Reports

- a. Chipping – Jodi / Pat
  - Closed
  - Still a little money left from grant but not enough for even a month, will hold until we receive another grant
- b. Dumpster Program 2021
  - Will have to revisit cost share when program reopens as different areas are different costs
- c. Senior, Veterans & Low Income DS Assistance – Ernie
  - Closed
  - Have a little money left but will hold until we receive another grant
  - Current contractor contracts have expired, will have to do RFP when program re-opens
  - \$3,500 vet mini grant funds should be coming soon

## 11. Project Reports

- a. Current Grant Projects (Projects Report)
  - Recipient of Listos Grant through CA FSC for education outreach: pop-up, materials and \$3,000 for outreach, need to make contact with 5,000 residents in the next six months
- b. Countywide CWPP – Pat
  - Moving along, should wrap up initial contacts by end of this quarter then will start coordination part
  - Hope to take to BOS by late this year for approval
  - Grant application available right now for vegetation trailer and equipment, EDC FSC will not be pursuing this grant but encourages FSCs, HOAs and fire districts to apply
- c. USFS SOFAR Project – Heather
  - Fuels reduction has begun with the Camino-Pollock Pines Fuel Break (Phase 2 of the Cohesive Strategy), project is approximately 11 miles long and 600 feet wide along the South Fork of the American River ridgeline from the east side of Pollock Pines to the west end of Camino
  - RCD has acquired a \$2.5 million forest health grant to begin Phase 2
  - New Forest Supervisor is a resident of Sly Park area
  - There will be greater emphasis on prescribed burning
  - H Campbell and Zelinsky to follow up on wood pellet industry that was planning on starting up in California
- d. USFS SOFAR Project Chili Bar – Tamara
  - Putting out to bid for work along Shoo Fly
  - Extending the project to Spanish Flat
  - Pursuing another grant to extend work
- e. Community Council Reports
  - Connelly: Congrats for ALT on 15 years Firewise, working with other agencies for projects adjacent to Auburn Lake Recreation Area, had chipping day on January 9 for Christmas trees and other materials
  - Pullin: Mosquito Fire has new chief, very pro FSC, thanks to everyone who helped them with their Firewise application
  - Wirt: Omo Ranch FSC chair moved out of state, Wirt is now acting chair, close to being certified as Firewise
  - Hawk: small grant from NFPA for fire preparedness day is available, projects have been pushed to spring
  - Gilchrest: was asked by Cameron Park CSD to participate in strategic planning process, encourages all councils to participate in local CSD or fire agency process, there are portable lumber mills and graders that may take trees that are being removed

## 12. Committee Reports

- a. New Council Formation & Orientation – Karen
  - No report
- b. Community Outreach & Public Speaking – Heather
  - No report
- c. Marketing & Communications – Kristine
  - No report
- d. Defensible Space – Ernie
  - No report

- e. Governance Committee – Karen
  - No report
- f. Grants & Funding (Opportunities) – Pat
  - No report
- g. DC Resource Advisory Committee (Heather and David Z.) Last mtg 12/17/20.
  - Projects on forest service property
  - Committee advises on which grants to accept

**13. Good of the Order**

- a. Next EDCFSC Board Meeting – February 17, 2021

Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

*No opposition to adjournment*