



El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

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

**Board Meeting
Minutes-FINAL
March 15, 2023
9:30 am to 11:30**

**Diamond Springs / El Dorado Firefighters Association Memorial Hall
3734 China Garden Road, Diamond Springs**

1. **Meeting Call to Order: 9:32am**
2. **Roll Call: Sign In:** Pimlott, Council, Barentson, Pullin, Atencio, Ball, Cantelow, Connelly, Dwyer, Gilcrest, Johnston, Lory (via phone), Payne, Willis, Zelinsky, Zoom: Hawk, Kruse
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Hugh Council
4. **Approval of Agenda:** 03/15/2023 **Board Action Item**
 - Approved no opposition
5. **Consent Agenda:** 02/15/2023 Board Meeting Minutes **Board Action Item**
 - Approved no opposition
6. **New Business**
 - a. Presentation – Commission on Aging - Liz Powell & Raelene Nunn
 - Presented origin, purpose, and goals of the organization. Discussed services available to seniors; living independently, senior housing, free legal services, nutrition programs, family care program and home safety assistance. Further outreach to rural areas. Literature and brochures available. Ken will get email and contact information out to our Fire Safe Council contacts.
 - b. Defensible Space Training Class – Hugh Council
 - The defensible space training classes (which are free) will be April 21-22 and May 10-11 here at the Firemen's Hall and the sign-up sheets are on back table. Ken will be sending out online form to sign up for the classes as well. If there are people wanting to sign up for classes out of personal interest please wait. We want to get the members of the FSC's trained so they can go out and make evaluations within their FSC boundaries. Part of these classes will be field work from homeowners we got permission to do evaluations on as well. We may have around 700-750 inspections per year within our county. There is a possibility for FSC's to be compensated for each inspection to put into their respective councils. These classes will be looking at defensible space, home hardening and the county defensible space ordinance. If your council is a Firewise community, you are required to do a certain amount of assessments and record what percent of homes have hardening and what percent have defensible space. Contractors can do the evaluations, but they can't do them for the same homeowner's they

would be doing the work for (conflict of interest). We have just over 55,000 occupied houses in fire hazard severity zone within the county and we would like to get to the collective defensible space team to get to every home to do evaluations at least every 7 years. The counties that give reports on the defensible space status of homes gets preference for grants. These evaluations are for education not to cite the homeowners.

Ron Phillips, from Defensible Space working group, echoed the value of the assessments data not only for Firewise and grants but getting a better profile and understanding of our communities and how we can help people going forward.

We have 14 major grant projects.

7. Information Items:

a. Chairman's Report & Communication:

- Airshed grant we got approved for the program. \$355,000 for chipping program with the opportunity to provide \$150,000 up front. Pat has left a copy of the grant for anyone interested in looking it over. The board has approved the grant and can move forward on signatures. This would provide funds for our existing chipping program. Funds expire the end of 2026.

b. Vice Chair Report:

- Continuing with committees and meetings. Hugh, Karen, and Alice will be working the event. Elections are coming up. All E-Board members are up for re-election and noted regular board members who are up for re-election.

c. Secretary Report – Karen Pullin:

- Insurance forms are not available off the website for right now. Carri is working on it. I have copies on the back table for councils to complete and send to me if needed, or just email me your request.

d. Treasurers Report: Janet Barentson **Board Action Item**

- Accountant has completed taxes for last fiscal year. Cleaned up work on projects page. Card reader process: recommended process is the Square. Councils can go online to purchase the Square. The fee is \$40 for the equipment and 2% transaction fee per transaction. The Square attaches to your phone which attaches to the council's bank account and processes direct deposits to the council's bank account. This allows councils to accept credit cards for sales and donations.

e. Partners Reports:

- BLM – Jason Schroeder
Grant opportunity opens on May 6. Pine Hill burn has been moved to April.
- CAL FIRE – Jeff Hoag
Wildfire Protection Grants due today by 3pm.
- EDC Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience – Sue Hennike
Recruitment for office and senior defensible space coordinator. Meeting on Monday regarding County Fair and group organized attendance. GIF data is moving forward.
- EDC Fire Chiefs Association – Tim Cordero
No Report
- EDC FPO Association – Chrishana Fields
Cameron Park and EDH Fire are updating their vegetation management ordinances. There will be public information out with respect to the updates.
- ENF Updates – Jacobie Waters
No Report

- RCD – Maia Davis
Working on new Steven's Authority it will cover Mosquito & Volcanoville & a portion of Sierra Springs which might be an extension. Maya will be at Placerville FSC event Saturday to talk about Firewise communities. RCD will have informational literature at the event as well.
- SMUD – Eric Brown
No report
- PG&E – Mike Webb
No Report
- EDSO – Sgt Bare
No Report
- Firesafe Coordinator – Maia Davis
Placerville FSC recently received their Firewise community recognition. Met with the team, starting to fulfill tree orders from the nursery.

8. Committee Reports

- a. Grants & Funding– Pat Dwyer
 - Introduced Robert Galliano from Mason, Bruce, Girard the corporation the board approved last month to move forward on the hazardous tree grant. The contract is now ready to be signed. This program will help people remove hazardous trees that threaten their home or access to their home. Mr. Galliano is looking forward to the program being executed. No further vote is needed to move forward.
- b. Governance Committee – Karen Pullin
 - We are continuing to update our compliance calendar.

9. Program Reports

- a. Chipping – Jessica Isabel
We are currently implementing community chipping days. Creating a spread sheet with a 3-letter code identifying each community. Program is well funded though we are starting off slow due to all the storms.
- b. Defensible Space – Jessica Isabel
Slow due to all the storms and safety of the contracting crew.
- c. Outreach & Education –Alice Cantelow
Creating a list for the webpage of speakers. If you used a speaker not on the list and had positive feedback, let Alice know so that speaker can be added to the list. EDC Fair is June 15-18, please consider signing up for a slot to volunteer your council's time for a slot.
- d. New Council Formation & Orientation – Karen Pullin
I attended the Greenstone and Fort Jim FSC meetings. Information requested from Martin Entwistle of Thompson Hill Road Association about possibly joining with another FSC or starting their own.

10. Community Council Reports

Placerville FSC event this Saturday, March 18th.
Paul Gilchrest – Will be hosting a town hall on May 12th in Cameron Park.

11. Old Business

Carri and Jessica are working with Lanitech to upgrade and resolve some functionality

issues on the website.

12. Project Reports

- a. USFS SOFAR Project– David Zelinsky
April 12th live at EID.
- b. EDC Resource Advisory Committee Mtg WRAP (Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection Project) – David Zelinsky
WRAP meeting April 12th. Biomass meeting on April 22nd which will be a Zoom meeting.
- c. County Biomass Working Group – Kris Payne
Gave an update on Fatal Flaw Report of the SPI

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

None

14. Good of the Order

- a. Next EDCFSC Board Meeting – April 19, 2023