



## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

**Friday, May 19, 2017**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Debbie Arnold – Co. Board of Supervisors	Scotty Jalbert – CAL FIRE / SLO County Fire
Turko Semmes – Builders Community	Jeanie Hanson – Environmental Representative
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large
Chris Slate – District 3 Representative	Justin Kephart – Pacific Gas & Electric
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly	Steve Gasperson – Oak Shores Focus Group
Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative	Mark Elliott – Air Pollution Control District
Bruce Fosdike – Cambria Focus Group	Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group
Bill Cochrane – Cattlemen’s Association	Tom Wright – Citizen at Large

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Steve Negro – District 1 Representative	Jim Harrison – District 4 Representative
Michael Wright – Insurance Industry	Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.
John McKenzie - Co. Planning & Building	Robin Foreman – SLO Assoc. of Realtors
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Jim McCallum – Los Osos Focus Group
Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Association	Bill White – County Fire Chief’s Association
Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large	Scott Hallett – Atascadero FD Focus Group
Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension	

### STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Turner – Business Manager	Loree McRoberts – Recording Secretary
Alan Peters – Division Chief / Forester	Dave Fowler – Captain / Pre-Fire Engineering
Jim Neumann – Project Manager	

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie Arnold at 9:00 A.M. followed by introductions of directors, staff and guests.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

***It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the consent items:***

- Draft March 2017 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Draft April 2017 Executive Committee Meeting Notes

## **YTD FINANCIAL STATUS**

Business Manager Dan Turner presented and reviewed the FireSafe Council 2017 Operations Budget as of May 16, 2017. It was noted that one (1) grant has recently closed and is awaiting reimbursement. ***It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2017 Operations Budget through May 16, 2017 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.***

## **2017 FIRE SEASON UPDATE**

San Luis Obispo County Unit Chief Scott Jalbert reported that this year's fire season will be heavily impacted by the abundance of fuels. While Northern California still has snow and damp earth, Southern California has tall grass with warm weather and winds expected soon. *CAL FIRE* will be at peak staffing mid-June but camp hand crews are short due to the early release program through Proposition 57. Discussion was held on the Los Robles Camp property being used again but no volunteers were found to form a sub-committee to seek further information.

## **GRANTS REPORT**

### **2015 SRA Grant Awards**

#### **High Mountain - Upper Lopez (Roadside Clearance)**

Grant allocation \$89,170. After discussing the effectiveness of mastication versus hand crews for this project, it was determined that hand crews will be more efficient. ***It was moved, seconded and approved for Dan Turner, FSC Business Manager, to enter into an agreement with Great Tree Tenders to perform the required work for this project.***

#### **Countywide Hazardous Fuel Reduction**

Grant allocation \$98,758. This grant is in the CEQA processing phase. Once that is done it will go to bid. Any money not used in the Knollwood project (eucalyptus trees in Nipomo) will be made available for other projects. Oak Shores has expressed an interest in doing some additional roadside and easement clearance.

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### SRA Fee - Parkhill

This work on this grant is complete. The grant expenditures were greater than the grant allocation of \$323,986 by \$19. We are awaiting reimbursement of \$242,986

### Cambria Grants

#### Greenhouse Gas Forest Health Grant

Grant allocation is \$498,736. The goals of this grant are removing hazard trees and timber harvesting. The scope of work for this project is exempt from the Governor's Plan so we must have a Timber Harvest Plan in place prior to start of work. Ventana Forestry has moved their operation on to the Hearst Ranch and will be available for our projects in Cambria once that is done.

Grant performance period currently ends December 30, 2019.

#### Cambria WUI Grant

Grant allocation is \$260,788. Grant performance period currently ends May 31, 2018. ***It was moved, seconded and approved for Dan Turner, FSC Business Manager, to enter into an agreement with Ventana Forestry Great Tree Tenders to perform the required work for this project based on time and materials.***

#### Cambria East Village Tree Mortality

Grant allocation is \$199,976. Scope of the work is 45 acres to harvest and create fuel break. No contract is signed to date. Grant performance period currently ends March 10, 2019. Start date for work is dependent on moisture level in area, still too wet in work areas.

***It was moved, seconded and approved for Dan Turner, FSC Business Manager, to enter into an agreement with Ventana Forestry to perform the required work for this project based on time and materials.***

### 2016 SRA Grant Awards

#### Countywide Hazard Fuel Reduction / Tree Removal

Grant allocation is \$152,152. Work is in the planning stages these funds are primarily being reserved for calendar year 2018. Grant performance period currently ends March 30, 2019.

#### Countywide WUI & CWPP

Grant allocation is \$116,424. The new and updated Pre-Attack maps have been progressing nicely. Grant performance period currently ends March 30, 2019.

**2017 PG&E Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant Awards**

**Davis-Cherry Canyon Fuel Break**

Grant allocation is \$75,000. The scope of work includes a fuel break from Davis Peak to Cherry Canyon. This would offer greater firefighter access and an evacuation route if needed. Grant performance period currently ends October 30, 2017. **It was moved, seconded and approved for Dan Turner, FSC Business Manager, to enter into an agreement with Great Tree Tenders to perform the required work for this project.**

**Parkhill Roadside Clearance**

Grant allocation is \$75,000. The scope of work includes roadside clearance for the Ranchita Estates area. The Board decided to utilize hand crews on the project to obtain a more thorough clearance of the area. Grant performance period currently ends October 30, 2017. **It was moved, seconded and approved for Dan Turner, FSC Business Manager, to enter into an agreement with Great Tree Tenders to perform the required work for this project.**

**It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the grant status reports for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.**

**NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

**2017 CAL FIRE Greenhouse Gas Grant – Forest Health**

Grant proposal submitted and in review process. This grant supports fuel reduction and biomass opportunities with no disadvantaged community requirements. The Board has recommended we submit two applications. One for the co-generation plant to create bio-char in Cambria and another for CAL FIRE to purchase a biomass machine that could be transported throughout California to assist local fire agencies.

**2017/2018 California Fire Safe Clearinghouse**

Grant proposal submitted for three projects:

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Fund City's portion of Pre-Attack Maps         | \$61,600 |
| 2. Prevention materials for Mid-State Fair/Events | \$ 5,500 |
| 3. Chipping in non-SRA areas                      | \$68,200 |

**COMMENT AND GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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Jesse Acosta presented research on fire retardant being mixed with a cellulose based gel making it stronger and more durable. The gel has more versatility with application methods and can be mixed to different viscosities. Stanford University and Cal Poly are researching the substance and have plans of working with *CAL FIRE* to perform tests of the product in the Fall.

Tentative plans were made to schedule a meeting with CAL TRANS to discuss *CAL FIRE* doing corridor burning along the highway.

Our next Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the Mid-State Fair to dedicate the Fire Safe House to Es Berliner.

**NEXT MEETINGS**

Executive Committee Meeting – TBA

Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, July 19, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

*Loree McRoberts*

Recording Secretary