



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Turko Semmes – Builders Community	Jim Harrison – Citizen at Large
Dan Dulitz – District 5 Representative	Chris Slate – District 3 Representative
Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large	Jim Patterson – Eco-SLO
Bruce Fosdike – Cambria Focus Group	Steve Reeder – CAL FIRE/County Fire
Steve Negro – District 1 Representative	Mark Elliott - APCD
John McKenzie - Co. Planning & Building	Skip Dyke – Range Improvement
Tom Wright – Citizen at Large	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Frank Mecham – Co. Board of Supervisors	Chris Dicus – Cal Poly
Scott Hallett – Atascadero Focus Group	Johnathan Hurst – Fire Prevention Assn.
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Robin Foreman – SLO Assoc. of Realtors
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Jim McCallum – Los Osos Focus Group
Justin Kephart – Pacific Gas & Electric	Ed Waage – Citizen at Large
Bob Neumann – District 2 Representative	Bill White – County Fire Chiefs’ Assn.
Martin Scott – Ranchita Focus Group	Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension
Michael Wright – Insurance Industry	

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jim Harrison 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 item with corrections:

- Draft March 2016 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

YTD FINANCIAL STATUS

Business Manager Dan Turner presented and reviewed the FireSafe Council 2016 Operations Budget as of May 16, 2016. **It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2016 Operations Budget through May 16, 2016 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.**

GRANTS REPORT

Greenhouse Gas Reduction (GHGR) Grant Program

Grant Total \$498,736 – no money received to date, expended \$15,138 thus far

A. Greenspace: Scope of Work and \$21,366 Budget

- 1) Remove dead and dying in Strawberry Canyon – received three bids and recommend awarding contract to Big Tree in the amount of \$15,300
- 2) Landscapers Workshop – remaining funds to be used for a workshop focusing on landscape communities

It was moved, seconded and approved to award Big Tree with a contract not to exceed \$15,300 for hazardous fuel removal in Strawberry Canyon; remaining budgeted funds to be used by Greenspace to conduct a landscapers workshop.

B. Friends of Fiscalini Ranch: Scope of Work and \$6,235 Budget

- 1) Minor Use Permit follow-up and test plot treatments – the project aims to reduce the risk of wildfire by removing dead trees, excessive woody debris, ladder fuels and combustible invasive plants. Tasks to be performed – remove invasive plants, reduce fuel loads, conduct pre / post project monitoring, perform reforestation. Reforestation was discussed and will be discouraged until symptoms for tree mortality are stabilized. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Friends of Fiscalini Ranch Cambria Forest Health Project as presented with a budget not to exceed \$6,235. (Dulitz NO; Negro NO)

C. Portable Biomass Project – Dan Turner visited with All Power Labs regarding their BETA test portable generator; Cambria is still on the list for test site. Test generators should be available by late summer or early fall. The goal of the FireSafe Council is to facilitate All Power Labs and Cambria Community Services District coming together to work on carbon sequestering under the grant.

2014-15 State FireSafe Council Grant (14-SFA-014)

Countywide grant of \$199,985 – grant performance extended to June 30, 2016 – grant is in good shape – exceeded match. The Fire Safe Demonstration House is in need of repair; Turko Semmes will coordinate door frame repair and replace deteriorating signage. The demonstration garden needs work as well before the fair in mid-July.

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2014 WFLC - Lake Nacimiento (14-WUI-004)

Grant total \$260,820 – grant performance extended to December 30, 2016 – exceeded match – work mainly done in Oak Shores and moving to south side of the lake – mastication will begin in the fall.

2015 WFLC – Atascadero-Tassajera (15-WUI-093)

Grant total \$243,516 – grant performance extended to December 30, 2016 – grant is moving along fine - work so far has been inside Atascadero city limits – mastication will begin in the fall.

Parkhill SRA Fee

Grant total \$323,986 – grant performance ends March 30, 2017 – CCC’s finishing work along Highway 228 and CAL FIRE is working on fuel breaks and roadside work.

Western WUI-Cambria WUI Fuel Break

Contract with CA FireSafe Council approved - \$260,788 – grant performance period ends June 30, 2018 - extend and improve Bridge Street fuel break in Cambria.

2015-16 SRA Fee Grant Requests

GRANT APPROVED – Contracts were signed and executed May 5, 2016

- 1) **Countywide Hazardous Fuel and Tree Mortality** – Grant budget \$99,758 – grant performance ends March 1, 2018 – hazardous tree removal and chipping countywide in State Responsibility Areas (SRA).
- 2) **Hi Mountain and Upper Lopez Canyon Road Right of Way** – Grant budget \$89,170 – grant performance ends March 1, 2018 – hazardous tree removal, road clearance and brushing with goal to tie into Federal project.

GRANT NOT APPROVED

- 3) **Countywide CWPP Update & 2 WUI Pre Plans/Evacuation Guides** - \$44,694

It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the budget reports through May 16, 2016 for the San Luis Obispo County Community FireSafe Council as presented.

OTHER GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

PENDING DECISION

- 1) **2016 CA-FireSafe Council-Grants Clearinghouse**
\$144,265 Application submitted – should hear in September with a January start date
- 2) **2016 PG&E Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant**
\$100,000 Funding submitted for four projects - objective is fuel reduction near PG&E resources/equipment – work will have to be done right away - we should hear anytime

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Dan Turner reviewed the 2016 Grant Application Concepts table listing approved grant, project, estimated cost and funding for project.

REPORT ON EARTH DAY 2016

Jim Patterson gave a brief review of the Earth Day event celebrated on April 24, 2016, El Chorro Regional Park. He thanked volunteers who hosted the FireSafe Council exhibit – Dan Dulitz, Jim Harrison, Chris Slate and Bob Neumann and CAL FIRE for providing the literature. It was a successful event again this year. Jim suggested developing materials highlighting the FireSafe Council – possibly a storyboard and/or trifold brochure describing county-wide projects, council representation and financial distribution. Possibly a Cal Poly intern or CAL FIRE intern could help with the development and graphic artist work. Dan Turner stated money is available in the general operations budget. **It was moved, seconded and approved to create a FireSafe Council storyboard and brochure in the amount not to exceed \$2,000.**

REPORT ON WILDFIRE AWARENESS WEEK

- 1) Cambria WUI Fire Exercise – May 5, 2016 – was successful from fire department view point – Chief Alan Peters shared a map showing 100 years of fire in San Luis Obispo County (he will make the map available to the group electronically).
- 2) Cambria Focus Group – Fire Safety Fair – May 5, 2016 – Bruce Fosdike shared that there was a good turnout for a Thursday (next year plan it for a weekend); the FireSafe Council approved \$1,000 for public education outreach at the event and the Cambria Focus Group only used \$642.
- 3) FireSafe Garden Ribbon Cutting – El Chorro Park – May 6, 2016 – Jim Patterson reviewed the ribbon cutting and reception held at the garden – the event received good media coverage.

NEXT MEETINGS

Executive Committee – Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Board of Directors – Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Adjourned at 10:50 A.M. - followed by a tour of the eucalyptus grove mortality in Nipomo area.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn W. Moore

Recording Secretary