



# San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council

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**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 19, 2021  
0900-1100 hours**

**Meeting held via Zoom  
due to no large gatherings order in place  
by San Luis Obispo County**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Debbie Arnold – Co. Board of Supervisors	Russ Johnson – Lake Naci Focus Group
Ed Waage – Citizen at Large	Tom Wright – Citizen at Large
Eddy Moore – San Luis Obispo County Fire	Stacy Korsgaden – Insurance Industry
Chris Dicus – Cal Poly State University	David Pierson – Cambria Focus Group
Dan Dulitz – Fifth Supervisorial District	Steve Negro – First Supervisorial District
Turko Semmes – Building Industry	Carissa Reynolds – Air Pollution Control Dist
Royce Larsen – UC Cooperative Extension	Dave Van Son – Atascadero FD Focus Group
Jeanie Hanson – ECO SLO	David Perry – PG&E
Martin Scott – Ranchita Estates Focus Group	William Hollingsworth – County Fire Chiefs
Randy Harris – Fire Prevention Officers Assoc	Bill Cochrane – Cattlemen’s Association
Emily Miggins – Los Osos Focus Group	Rodger Maggio – City of San Luis Obispo
Skip Dyke – Range Improvement Assoc	Brent Burchett – Farm Bureau

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

Scott Hallett – Paso Robles Focus Group	Chris Slate – Third Supervisorial District
Jeff Jones – Citizen at Large	Keith Aggson – City of San Luis Obispo
Richard Gonzales – Farm Bureau	Bob Neumann – Second Supervisorial District
Casey Bryson – Atascadero FD Focus Group	Chad Pankey – Citizen at Large
Scott Johnson – Citizen at Large	

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Dan Turner, Business Manager	Loree McRoberts – CAL FIRE
Jon Gee – CAL FIRE	Ted Mathieson – SLO FSC Project Manager
Dane Mumford – SLO FSC Project Manager	Jason Potts – CAL FIRE
Greg Alex – Web Designer	Brandon Sanderson – CAL FIRE

## **GUESTS:**

Steve Auten – Auten Resource Consulting	Devin Best – Resource Conservation District
Hallie Richard – Coastal RCD	Andrew Johnson – Resource Conservation
Anais Tournier – Air Pollution Control Dist	

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Debbie Arnold at 9:00 a.m. followed by introduction of directors, staff, focus groups and guests.

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2021

Page 2

### MINUTES

March 2021 Board of Directors meeting minutes were presented.

April 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes were presented.

**It was moved, seconded and approved to approve the March 2021 Board of Directors meeting minutes and accept for review the April 2021 Executive Committee minutes as presented.**

### PRESENTATIONS

The Cambria Forest Treatment Plan was presented by Steve Auten, owner of Auten Resource Consulting. The goal of the vegetation treatment plan (VTP) is to increase the health and vigor of the Monterey Pine forest by conducting ecologically restorative forest health treatments that increase climate resiliency. The Covell Ranch is the largest stand of Monterey Pines in the world under single ownership. The timeline for approval from all agencies is expected in August or September. Operations are planned to follow immediately after permit approval this Fall. Diseased wood is required to stay onsite. Harvested trees will also stay onsite. The grant for this project expires in 2022.

There is a meeting this afternoon to discuss the Ranch ID System with CAL FIRE / San Luis Obispo County Fire. We are hoping to gain their approval and cooperation with the program moving forward.

Legislation Summary:

- SB 11 sponsored by Rubio: Agricultural commercial fire insurance through the CA Fair Access
- SB 55 sponsored by Stern: Building in SRA or V High FHSZ building prohibition - **TABLED**
- SB 322 sponsored by Laird: Grazing Land: CA Conservation Ranching Incentive Program
- SB 332 sponsored by Dodd: Civil liability: prescribed burning operations
- SB 456 sponsored by Laird: Fire prevention: long-term forest management 5-10 year plan
- AB 981 sponsored by Frazier: California Fire Safe Council: State agency vs. Non-profit
- AB 1141 sponsored by Frazier: WUI Fire Research Center

### FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BUSINESS

- SLO FSC Executive Committee recommends approval of a Board of Director's seat to the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District. Andrew Johnson would represent the group with Devin Best as his alternate.

**It was moved, seconded and approved to designate a permanent seat on the San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council Board of Directors to Resource Conservation District and approve Andrew Johnson, Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District as a Board Member and Devin Best as an alternate.**

- Abbreviated bank statement ending April 30, 2021 was reviewed.
- Contractual expenditure report ending April 30, 2021 was discussed.
- SLO FSC Operations account report was presented.

**It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the April 2021 Abbreviated Bank Statement and purchases along with the Operating Budget and contractual expenditures report for the same time period.**

### **NEW BUSINESS / ROUNDTABLE**

- Informational fliers have been created to post on our website. Wildfire protection and fire preventative product information has been completed. We are looking to add more resources to our website.

### **LOCAL GRANT/SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Our scholarship information was distributed to six school districts, 2 private schools, 2 junior colleges and one university. We received very positive feedback from career and guidance counselors.

### **MID STATE FAIR**

Turko Semmes has plans in place to make the Fire Safe Demo house area more inviting with shade and hydration. The question of renaming the area to include the word education was discussed but no decision was made. Turko will send an email out to organize a June workday at the site.

### **ACTIVE GRANT FISCAL SUMMARY**

The active grant summary was reviewed.

**It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Active Grant Summary report for April 2021.**

### **NEW GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Grants submitted, awaiting determination by grantors:

- Western Forestry Leadership Coalition
  - Cal Poly-Miossi WUI Project – official denial received
- 2021 PG&E HFR
  - \$100,000 grant limit
  - Four projects submitted and two granted:
    1. Toro Creek – El Monte Road access/egress \$ 90,000
    2. Price Canyon/Pismo Heights \$ 90,000
  - Work to be completed by November 21, 2021

### **FUTURE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Governor's 2020-21 and 2021-22 Budget Proposal Update
  - \$50 million in fire prevention grant funds immediately
  - Potential for additional \$80 million in fire prevention grant funds after July 2021
  - Application period open now through May 19, 2021
- Grant application strategy
  - Planning grants
  - Education grants
  - Fuel treatment grants
- CAL FIRE Unit Projects – High Priority
  - Possible SLO FSC involvement
  - Lake Nacimiento project funded with \$450,000
- CA Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse
  - Executive Committee recommended that no applications be submitted.

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**May 19, 2021**

**Page 4**

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Chipping Events:
  - The Los Osos chipping event was a huge success; 35 yards of chips were made
  - Jardine - 42 clients
  - Parkhill – 10 clients
  - Las Pilitas – 10 clients
  - Cambria will be held late June or early July
  - Ranchita Estates held two events with the CCC crews
- Cal Poly has changed the name of Forestry Resource to Forest and Fire Science. They have also added two new minors:
  - Fire Protection
  - Fire Ecology

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

- Wednesday, June 16, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Possible in person meeting w/Zoom for those more comfortable

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

- Wednesday, July 21, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Possible in person meeting w/Zoom for those more comfortable

### **ADJOURNMENT**

President Debbie Arnold adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Loree McRoberts*

Recording Secretary