

SHASTA COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
9444 Deschutes Road (at the Shasta Co. Farm Bureau), Palo Cedro, CA 96073
(and via Zoom)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2023

OPEN (Public) SESSION

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:39 am by Dan Adam, Vice President.

Mission of the Shasta County Fire Safe Council:

The primary Mission of this Corporation shall be focused within Shasta County to help protect the citizens, property, and natural resources from the effects of catastrophic wild land fires.

Present: Board Members and Guests were welcomed.

Introduction of Officers: Vice President - Dan Adam
Secretary/Treasurer (Acting) - Frances Belden
Executive Director - Pamela Bates

Introduction of Directors: Barbara Holder - Director
Steve Johnson, Director
Jim Chapin - Director
Steve Fitch - Director
Richard Karem - Director
Lora Dominick - Director/Treasurer (via Zoom)

Absent: President/CEO - Francis Berg
Dennis Possehn - Director
Pamela A. Mainini, CPA – CFO

Administrative Announcements & Agenda Additions and/or Deletions – None

Introduction of Guests & Visitors:

1. Ronald Rusten – SCFSC: County Coordinator
2. Mary Rickert – Shasta County Board of Supervisors
3. John Livingston – Grant Writer/Consultant
- 4.. Jesse Penland – U.S. Forest Service, Redding, CA
5. Katie Komnenich - SCFSC: Project Assistant & Community Outreach Coordinator
6. Maureen Talbuert – WSRCD (via Zoom)
7. Mishon Hopkins – N.R.C.S.
8. Ayla Tucker – PG&E
9. Kathleen (Kat) Camplin – SCFSC: Social Media Consultant
10. Aaron Hathaway – CalFire
11. Sarah Seiler - WSRFCD
12. Desiree LaMaggiore - Salt Creek
13. Marci Fernandes - Guest (via Zoom)

Agency Updates

Jesse Penland – U.S. Forest Service, Redding, CA – Jesse reported that the Shasta District, in the Big Bend area, there are several roads that have been chipped about 5' on each side of the roads. A Timber Sale is going on out in Big Bend and now the large equipment can access that area. In Packer's Bay, there have been long standing burns and most will be Type 2 Burn plans. Silverthorn Road was discussed as was the Salt Creek area which has about a 250 acre pile area. They have also been working on O'Brien Mountain, but it's a little more complicated because of all the residences. Jesse reported that there was a meeting between the U.S. Forest Service and WSRCDC and that it was very productive. There was some more discussion about this and Jesse answered questions.

Wildfire Information & Preparation Guide – Ron Harrington

Ron Harrington gave a presentation on the magazine that he publishes, and he described how he could publish something similar for Shasta County Fire Safe Council, which could then be distributed throughout Shasta County. There was discussion about this presentation and Ron answered questions.

County Coordinator Report – Ron Rusten

Ron Rusten reported on ... the Field Bus Trip to Happy Valley with Jeremy. He reported that he is working with Barbara Holder and Pam Bates to develop templates for activities/field trips, etc. to be sent out to Firewise Leaders help make these events very successful time spent. There was continued discussion.

Education & Outreach Committee Report: Barbara Holder

Barbara Holder asked to have these Minutes show, "That the SCFSC Board is available to support other Firewise communities and the whole idea is – they have all done risk assessments – and now this is translating that into specific projects that can be funded and supported by a wide variety of interested people and try to get the projects "on the shelf" so when we get grant opportunities, we're ready to go." Barbara shared that at the last Education & Outreach Committee meeting, we did allocate \$500.00 to each Firewise Community to help support their education, Community Days, as well as other needs. She didn't know when they would get the funds, but it's set up as reimbursements when they are asked for. Jim, Ron and Barbara are going out to Round Mountain tomorrow, Thursday, to talk to residents about a potential Backbone Ridge Project and while they're there, becoming a Firewise Community will be presented to them. Discussion continued and questions were answered. Barbara reported that she is meeting with Kat Camplin to create a video for our social media platforms about Shasta County Fire Safe Council – Why we think we can make a difference - Who we are - How we're organized - Our accomplishments, projects and activities - How to contact us. This would be for Lions Clubs, and other community organizations, to get the word about SCFSC out. When meeting with Kat, she will also try to put together the concept and the cost, and then bring it back to the Board to see if we want to fund it.

Public Comments - None

Public Dismissed

Section II: Administrative (Closed) Session

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Jim Chapin moved, and Barbara Holder seconded, to approve the Minutes of the August 16, 2023, Shasta County Fire Safe Council Board of Directors Meeting, as amended. Motion carried.

Votes in Favor: 9
Votes in Opposition: 0
Abstain from Vote: 0
Directors Absent: 0

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Frances J. Belden, Secretary/Treasurer, prepared the Treasurer's Report. It was reviewed by the Board members present, and approved for filing as submitted.

Motion: It was moved by Dennis Possehn, and seconded by Dan Adam, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried.

Votes in Favor: 9
Votes in Opposition: 0
Abstain from Vote: 0
Directors Absent: 0

Chief Financial Officer's Report: The Financial Reports were distributed to the Board and were reviewed by the members present. Pamela Mainini, CPA, also prepared an "Answer Page" for the Board.

Break/Lunch

Consideration of a County Wildfire Information & Preparation Guide:

The Board members started discussion on the presentation given earlier in the meeting given by Ron Harrington. The consensus was that the Education & Outreach Committee should meet and decide on the content specific for our needs. Then meet with Ron Harrington and come up with a cost and present all the information at the next Board meeting.

Grants & Projects Committee Report:

Dennis Possehn reported that the Grants & Projects Committee will not be doing the Fender Ferry/Backbone Ridge Project Grant at this time because time is running out and some of the landowners on Ferry Fenders Road still need to provide signed letters. So we are not doing an Implementation Grant, but we are going to do a Planning Grant at this time. There was on-going discussion about the different possibilities for these communities, including having amendments for our CWPP. Dennis reported on a meeting he with Ben Rowe from CalFire regarding CalFire Grants and he said that the next round for funding will be opened soon.

Executive Director's Report - Pam Bates

Pam Bates reported that she sent out 'softly' worded form-letters with self-addressed, stamped, envelopes, to all the residents on Ferry Fender Road, for needed responses on how to handle the project. Ron shared that announcements for programs will come out shortly. Pam reported on her meeting with Maureen, Ron and Jeremy to discuss their objectives, what they are interested in, RCD's role in starting to build this Working Group. She shared that she and Maureen are talking more frequently to stay connected on identifying projects. She shared that Ron has spent the last few months meeting people in Fire Safe Councils, CalFire, U.S. Forest Service and Firewise groups to make connections to help identify priority projects that grants can fund. There are various events coming up - Honey Bee Festival - and John Livingston will be bringing the trailer and be there both days. Evan Watson was hired because there were funds available for Project Development and he is helping John. He is very knowledgeable about what's going on in our County and can develop needed projects. He is also a RPF. Pam reminded the Board that pictures are needed from our Chipping Days, etc., for the grants and for posting on our social media. Dennis shared that he saw a television story on Paradise and their plans to organize a Firewise Community. There was some discussion on these topics.

Meetings to be Set

- A. Standing Committee Meetings
 - Grants & Projects: Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10:30 am
In-Person Meeting in the Palo Cedro Office
 - Education & Outreach: Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 11:30 am
In-Person Meeting in the Palo Cedro Office
- B. Other Meetings to be Set
 - **Board of Directors Meeting: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 9:30 am at 9444 Deschutes Road (Shasta Farm Bureau), Palo Cedro, CA 96073**

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Submitted by:

Frances J. Belden

Frances J. Belden
Secretary-Treasurer