



MINUTES

Aukum Fairplay FireSafe Council

May 19, 2021

7- 9 pm

ZOOM Meeting

1. Meeting was **called to order** by Chair John Hess at 7:04 pm. Attendees:, John, Mary Elliott-Klemm, Ed Matwich, Janet Barenston, Ken Pimlott, Mike Davidson, Sandy Hodnett, Jane Taylor, Mike Cook, Mike Pinette, Chief Matthews
2. The **Agenda** for the May 19, 2021 meeting was approved.
3. **Minutes** of the April 21, 2021 Council Meeting approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. approved
 - b. 2021-2022 Budget approved.
5. **Chair's Report:**
 - a. Logan Lockhart is resurrecting Sand Ridge FSC
 - b. Fishing Derby: good turnout.
 - c.. Omo Ranch FSC ideas for working together
 - i. newsletter could be expanded to be a South County publication
 - ii. community calendar
 - d. John has resigned as our representative from EDCFSC, leaving an opening for another Fire Safe Council. He is still on the grants committee as a volunteer.
6. **Vice Chair report:** Ed reported on the progress made locally by the Cosumnes River Radio Watch, which he recommends. He will see if their meeting, held simultaneously with ours, will be recorded.
7. **Agency Report:**
 - a.EDCFSC: reported by Ken
 - i. Ken will be running for EDCFSC Chair this month
 - ii. Map of FSCs 29-30% of area is covered.
 - iii.Jeff Marsolais, National Forest Service
 - a. provided an overview of their projects.
 - b. good partner for FSC
 - c. Biomass
 - i. very challenging because of cost and is a long steep uphill climb to obtain a facility.
 - ii. Forest Service is engaging partners to work on it
 - iii. EDC, as well as SMUD, are pursuing grants,
 - d. Provided funding for chipping grants
 - iv. Fire Chiefs
 - a. early fire season

- b. The Board of Forestry is responsible for FireSafe regulations, and are updating Title 14. They are putting it out for Public Review, and responses are coming in from fire departments. It impacts the urban interface environment.
 - v. Fire Risk Reduction Community
 - a. are defining credit for communities for reducing risk.
 - b. Not clear where it will all go.
 - vi. Assembly Bill 38
 - a. will require evidence of home hardening and retrofitting before the sale of property.
 - b. Will follow up with details later.
 - vii. Legislation passed
 - a. no plantings within five foot zone.
 - b. Still working on details.
 - viii. grants being submitted thru EDCFSC
 - a. 4 million dollars worth
 - b. 200 grant proposals to CalFire.
 - c. Good solid proposals.
 - ix. County will continue to provide the GIS if we use it only when necessary for projects.
 - x. potential funding opportunity from CalFire to accomplish work on CWPP
- b. PFPD:
 - i. Fishing Derby, hosted by D'Agostinis, was well attended and provided fire department demonstrations and food, as well as fishing.
 - ii. Drought State of Emergency
 - iii. They are training with volunteers from SoCAL, which may make it possible to staff another station during fire season.
 - iv. There is also the possibility of a 20 member hand crew to work on the fuel reductions. They will do Fuel reduction on small home projects for locals. John will discuss hand crews further with Chief Matthews.
 - v. The new Water Tender arrived.

8. Activities Lead Reports

- a. Outreach Committee
 - i. Gary posted the newsletter
 - ii. Newsletter:
 - a. Jane needs articles for next one, perhaps on the CWPP,
 - b. She may include a community calendar
 - iii. Raffle
 - a. The Go Bag was delivered to Julie Patterson of Swansboro yesterday.
 - b. Reading the materials helped educate her and prompted her to discuss Evacuation with her family.
 - c. Mary will send out publicity and will prepare an article for the next newsletter.
- b. Fundraising: John
 - i. ten new requests for signs = \$410
 - ii. 50% in our area and 50% out of area

- c. Ad Hoc Grant Committee: reported by Mike Pinette
 - i. A strong million dollar joint proposal with Oak Hill was submitted before 3:00 pm today.
 - ii. Thank you to the Team.
 - iii. a few more opportunities out there will be explored.
- d. Defensible Space Committee
 - i. Mike Cook has all info in the Cloud including spreadsheets.
 - ii. Wendy is working on two new requests, but needs new clients.
 - iii. Shirley Woods is planning to go out to share information and needs a sign board with tripod. John will work with the committee on outreach.
 - iv. John will put information at P.O.s Mt. Aukum and Somerset, and Mt. Aukum Store plastic holders.
 - v. Home Hardening:
 - a. advised by EDC to be included on checklist and discussed with property owner.
 - b. John will check in with the members of the committee as to their comfort level of this task.
- e. Risk Assessment
 - i.. Focus should be on an Outreach plan for permission to go on property for the Vegetation Management Plan.

9. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. The State Fire Assistance Grant
 - i. requires full match (in-kind work).
 - ii. Suggested that Michael talk some more with Lester.
 - iii. Ed suggested that our Time Sheets might be applied to grants' in kind requirement.
- b. Time Sheets:
 - i. Sandra asked if portions of property are in Amador County as well as EDC, who gets the Time Sheet? Time should be split between the counties, according to Chair John Hess.
- c. Election Committee: John will send out an official ballot. Chair Janet, Vice Chair Ed , Secretary Mary, Treasurer Sandy, At Large Ken
- c. VMO Update: nothing additional.
- d. Wildfire Preparedness Day
 - i. May 1: Go! Prepare to Evacuate flyers were sent home with school students and posted on local bulletin boards.
- e. Community Clean up Project
 - i. John has not received feedback on priorities.
 - ii. John will organize a mini project for summer.
- f. RCD Vegetation Management Plan- no further information
- g. Collaborative Calendar no update at this time

10. **New Business:**

- a. Future meetings: John would like to continue the availability of joining the Council meetings by ZOOM even when we meet in person. Discussion will be continued.
- b. Guests for short talks at meetings?

- i. John will send out an email to Council about the possibility of guest speakers to get opinions and feedback.
 - ii. Council decided to ask Mark Egbert to speak about Outreach/ Communication Plan on the Vegetation Management Plan.
 - iii. possible future topic: Bark Beetle infestation
 - c. Introduction of Mike Cook as future Council member
11. **Public Comment:**
12. **Council Comment:**
13. **Good of the Order:**
- The Executive Board will meet on June 9, 2021 by ZOOM.
The next AFFSC Council meeting will be June 16, 2021 by ZOOM
John will send out a link.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by Chair Hess.

2021 Calendar:

October: Fire Prevention Month

AFFSC Monthly Schedule:

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| 1st Wednesday 7:00 pm | Executive Board Meeting |
| 2nd Wednesday | Secretary sends out: Meeting call with Agenda and Minutes to Council members and Stakeholders |
| 3rd Wednesday 7:00 pm | Monthly Council Meeting |
| 4th Wednesday | Secretary sends out: Draft Minutes and Draft Agenda for next Council meeting to Executive Board |
| Monday before Executive Board meeting | |
| | Executive Board Agenda sent out (John) |
| GFFSC meeting (Ed) | 9:30 am 1st Saturday at Grizzly Flats Community Church |
| ORFSC meeting | 4th Saturday 9:00 am at TBA |

ACTION ITEMS

1. Ed will see if the Radio Watch meeting, held simultaneously with ours, will be recorded.
2. John will discuss hand crews for fuel reduction further with Chief Matthews.
3. All: articles are needed for the next newsletter by June
4. Mary will send out publicity about the raffle and will prepare an article for the next newsletter.
5. John will work with the Defensible Space committee on outreach.
6. John will put information about Defensible Space evaluations at P.O.s Mt. Aukum and Somerset, and Mt. Aukum Store plastic holders.

7. John will check in with the members of the Def.Space committee as to their comfort level advising property owners about Home Hardening.
8. Michael will talk with Lester about State Fire Assistance grant.
9. John will send Council an official election ballot.
10. John will organize a mini-project at the school for the summer months.
11. John will send out an email to Council about the possibility of guest speakers to get opinions and feedback.

submitted by Secretary, Mary Elliott-Klemm