

**LASSEN COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
January 06, 2020**

The Lassen County Fire Safe Council (LCFSC) convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on January 06, 2020 at the Susan River Fire Protection Office located at 705-145 Hwy 395 in Johnstonville. Officers present were Vice Chair Bob Andrews, Managing Director Tom Esgate and Secretary/Treasurer Nicki Moroney.

- I. **Opening and Welcome:** Bob Andrews welcomed everyone and asked everyone to sign-in. He also asked that everyone introduce themselves. N. Moroney gave the Treasurer's Report.
- II. **Public Comment** – Sue Miller of Clear Creek says she realizes the project is complete but wanted to know if there are any other funds available, there are still lots of trees left. Also, her neighbor has a vacant lot next door with lots of brush and wants to know if there is anything they can do about this. Per T. Esgate all the grant funds have been expended, they even got an additional contribution from PG&E for another \$100,000 and put that money into it. The grant funds we have on other projects are not transferable. T. Esgate wrote the grant for Clear Creek and all the previous grants for Clear Creek the last 10-15 years. It is on our radar to make another application but are at least a year away from that. The problem with Clear Creek is that all the work there so expensive, very challenging. This is our 2nd round into the community, the 1st was about eight years ago. Per Adam with Calfire if there is no structure on the vacant lot there is nothing in the legislation now that requires anyone to take action.
- III. **Managing Director's Report** – Tom reported on the following:

Active Projects

SNC Diamond Mountain Treatment (Beaty) – All the work is done, in the close out state.

SNC Diamond Mountain USFS – Mostly pile burning, working on paperwork so the contractor can start.

CCI/FH Diamond Mountain – This is the bulk of the work on Diamond Mountain, which is 4500 acres of land and involves two timber sales as well. We are shut down for the year, accomplished about 40-45% of the handwork this year. We have two more operating seasons.

CCI/FP –

South Eagle Lake – The only ones working there are the Antelope Crew. There is still lots of biomass thinning and mastication to do. Per S. DeBonis hoping to move onto the Fruit Growers parcels, waiting on the completion report to be signed on their THP. Holt ready to get back to work.

Big Valley Mountain – Evans masticating there. Just started the USFS land along Day Road. Peterson starting back up on Beaty ground on Big Valley Mountain with a biomass operation. In the process of getting another CEQA clearance for more mastication and emergent brush treatment, primarily on the east side of Big Valley Mountain along the Foothill Road area.

Clear Creek – Gave the report above.

Piute WWUI – This is substantially done, should have another \$20,000 or \$30,000 for treatments. We still have Firewise in the schools to do.

Milford Title III – Maybe we can use their funds for the TPI project development.

Title III Report

CWPP – Out of funds. CWPP annual meeting on hold until possibly April.

Firewise Communities – Out of funds.

Cal Fire GHG

South Eagle Lake – Treatments completed, in the closeout stage.

Black Mountain/PRCD – Closing out.

DLB Shasta Title III – Doing a CWPP update that consists of a Firewise community assessment and action plan.

Thompson Peak Initiative – Per T. Esgate filed a new grant application for 3.5 million.

IV. Applications/New Potential Projects

- a. **NFWF SNC Diamond Mountain USFS** – Per T. Esgate this was awarded for \$75,000 for pile burning paper.
- b. **SNC Capacity (TPI and Others)** – This is a planning grant that was awarded for \$60,000 to work on the TPI.
- c. **Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc. AIM (TPI)** – This is one grant we did not get.
- d. **RAC** – We will have some projects to submit for funding.

V. BLM – No report.

Cal Fire –A. Mattos reported they are at minimum staffing, with two engines in the unit. Staff is at nine crews right now used to be fourteen. Due to the lack of inmates they can use they are down to nine. Antelope's main projects right now are burning piles on A1. They've completed the Governors project which was the Martin Ranch 75-acre fuel break. Their next priority will be the Hamilton Branch, SPI ground along A13. In the hiring mode this time of year.

SNC – No report.

NE CA Fire Prevention – No report.

USFS – No report.

NRCS - No report.

Susan River FPD – No report.

Janesville FPD – No report.

OES – Silas Rojas is the new OES Chief for Lassen County. He was born and raised here in Lassen County. Has worked for CalFire since 2004, was the Fire Capitan Specialist with the Prevention Bureau. The Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) has not affected us yet.

Lassen County just received an allocation of about \$157,000 to use on preparation and planning for PSPS effects on green energy gensets, County working on a plan for the money.

SPI – Per S. DeBonis, Page Fullerton who introduced herself earlier is the new Vegetation Management Specialist for the Lassen & Almanor SPI District. She will be the new point person for fuel reduction projects. Her 1st priority will be South Eagle Lake.

Honey Lake Power – Steve Kozlowski introduced himself and reported he is the new Fuel Manager at Honey Lake Power. The plant is running well, sitting on a good pile on inventory.

Beaty – No report.

Lassen County – No report.

Honey Lake Valley RCD – Per W. Johnson he is developing a project file for the HLVRCD with twenty-three projects in it right now. They are going to be designed in a simple format with three pages, a map, project. So, when funding comes available, they have projects. He is looking for a wish list, if you come up with something you can express it to him, he will work it in to a planning proposal and put it in the binder. The HLVRCD looking at changing a lot in the next 2-5 years at how the RCD operates, becoming more involved in community for education, outreach, land stewardship and conservation.

SIR – No report.

VI. Other – S. DeBonis wanted to know when the next annual CWPP meeting is, per T. Esgate it is being postponed until possibly March or April due to the lack of Title III funds.

VII. Next Meeting - The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 03, 2020 at Susan River Fire Protection District office.

VIII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.