

LASSEN FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC.
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2026 5:30PM

The Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LFSC) convened in regular session at 5:40 PM on January 21, 2026, at the Susan River Fire Hall, Johnstonville. California. LFSC members present were Board Chair, Ruth Morentz, Vice Chair, Laurence Crabtree; Board Members; Chevi Amrein, Deb Bumpus and Danny Cluck; Managing Director Cade Mohler; Project Manager Kyle Herron and Wildfire Resiliency Coordinator Tonya Smith.

Opening and Welcome – Ruth Morentz called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. Introductions of the board members and staff were announced.

Sign in – A sign in sheet was available for voluntary sign in.

I. Managing Director Report given by Cade Mohler

Active Projects

Cade Mohler provided the LFSC Projects Overview and current mapping to the attendees. The spreadsheet documents the active projects, and the planned and proposed projects status updated January 21, 2026. Cade highlighted the Lassen Countywide Defensible Space Program. This grant was funded by California Climate Investments. Sign-ups will begin immediately and can be completed online at Lassenfiresafecouncil.org and by calling or visiting the local Susanville office. The program is designed for Lassen counties senior/disabled population and specifically towards residence who cannot complete defensible space work on their properties without assistance. All Lassen County properties are eligible for the assessment.

II. New Planned/Awarded Projects/Closed Projects – Spreadsheet Attached. The LFSC LNF Dixie Fire Hazard Tree Project RFP closed on January 14, 2026. The LFSC staff are currently in the process of reviewing the 8 bids received. Cade stated there will be several upcoming bid opportunities for additional projects and the information will be posted on the LFSC Facebook and social media accounts.

III. Agency Updates

NRCS- Not Present.

SIR –Not Present.

BLM –Kory Bowser, Kyle Heller, James Hamilton, and Victor Preciado were present. Kory announced his retirement date of February 20, 2026. Kory introduced his successor, Victor Preciado. Kory gave operational updates including expressing gratitude for the collaboration with CalFire and other agencies. Kory stated the BLM is currently collaborating on the current mission of combining all available federal fire services agency personnel into a combined agency. Kory explained it will be a Federal Wildland Fire Services Agency, and they are currently seeking a collaborative logo. Kyle gave updates on the current projects including pile burning at Horse Lake and stated fuels reduction work will continue through winter as weather permits.

CalFire – Glen Schall, Nick Park and Maddie Cluck were present. Glen introduced Nick Park, the newly promoted Lassen/Modoc Engineer. Maddie Cluck was also introduced as the new administrative support personnel for the unit. Glen gave agency updates including Proposition 4 funding updates.

SNC – Not Present

USFS – LNF Bobette Jones, Eagle Lake District Ranger gave the active forest management projects in Lassen County including Dixie Post Fire Recovery projects in collaboration with LFSC, timber sales, pile burning, highway 44 maintenance of dead/dying and hazard trees, fuels work and biomass removal near Poison Lake, boat dock maintenance at Eagle Lake and Fredonyer Pass trail work. **PNF Beckwourth Ranger District Mike Rahe** gave updates on projects on the Plumas, including the collaboration with the LFSC on the Eastside Communities Project. Mike gave thanks to the CalFire teams and LFSC for collaboration with the Blue Forest project. Mike also updated the attendees on the Lake Davis reforestation progress and post fire recovery work North of Taylorsville to Lake Davis. The National Forest Foundation had successful Winter prescribed burning on over 3000 acres.

OES Lassen County – Not Present

SPI – Not Present

Honey Lake Power – Not Present.

Lassen County – Not Present

Honey Lake Valley RCD – Catherine Wooster, Post Fire Recovery Coordinator gave project updates. Current projects included treatments on the tree farm near Doyle, on Hwy 395 and continued work around Janesville with private landowners. HLVRCD is gearing up for Spring 2026 projects in collaboration with BLM.

American Red Cross – No updates

Firewise Communities –Tonya Smith, LFSC stated all 12 Firewise communities in Lassen County received recertification. The team is trying to recruit Firewise leaders for Susanville, Lake Forest and Janesville. Any interested volunteers can contact her at the local Lassen Fire Safe Council office.

Golden State Natural Resources – Laurence Crabtree, GSNR Consultant gave project updates. Laurence stated that the CEQA process for the Nubeiber Chipping Facility is ongoing. The planning stages is nearing completion for a 30,000 acre project in Modoc County and GSNR is actively seeking projects around California to move biomass based on a 3.5 million dollar grant.

V. Other – Guest Speaker Laura Schweitzer, Forest Supervisor Plumas National Forest gave an introduction and presentation for the attendees. Welcome Laura.

VI. Public Comment/Questions – None noted.

VII. Next meeting – February 18, 2026.

VII. Adjournment of Meeting – The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

C.R. Amrein

I, Chevi Amrein, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Directors, Lassen Fire Safe Council, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a fully true, and correct copy of the minutes.