

LASSEN FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC.
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2026, 5:30PM

The Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LFSC) convened in regular session at 5:32 PM on April 15, 2026, at the Susan River Fire Hall, Johnstonville, California. LFSC members present were Board Chair, Ruth Morentz; Vice Chair, Laurence Crabtree; Board Members; 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 5:32 PM. Introductions of the board members and staff were announced. Attendees also made verbal introductions.

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 following Cal Fire Grant Updates: North Susanville WUI Fuels treatment including thinning, mastication and the prescribed burn follow-up on areas by Cal Fire. South Lassen Wildfire Recovery in which we recently planted 32,000 trees and have approximately 150,000 trees ordered for 2027. We currently have mastication work ongoing along 395 and up Baxter Creek Road. We have approximately 1,000 acres of mastication work planned for South Lassen in 2026. Updates were also given regarding: LFSC LNF Dixie Fire Hazard Tree Project; Dyer WUI Fuels Phase II ;Lassen County Defensible Space Program (Lassen County Defensible Space Assistance Grant is taking property owner sign-ups on line and an RFP for a defensible space contractor to implement the work has been published).; Lyonsville Fuelbreak; Shingletown Phase 2 (sign-ups are underway in the Shasta Forest Village neighborhood). Kyle is attending May 2, 2026, SFV Pancake Breakfast to answer questions and conduct landowner sign-ups. Attendance is welcome to all local homeowners.

Other Director Updates Included:

Honey Lake Valley RCD – SPA- Honey Lake Valley Post Fire Recovery Project. Completed work in Doyle and along 395 near Milford. There are approximately 50,000 trees ordered for planting in 2027.

CFSC – County Coordinator- **Tonya Smith** reported that the County Coordinator grant has been extended, effective July 1, 2026, through October 15, 2027 (an additional 15 months). We completed the application for the extension on April 15th. The extension will include several new initiatives, including creating a more robust pipeline for county high school students to enter wildfire-related work locally, and standing up a training & reciprocity program for the county's volunteer fire departments to help address capacity needs.

II. New Planned/Awarded Projects/Closed Projects – Spreadsheet Attached. An updated spreadsheet of closed and current projects is located online at Lassenfiresafecouncil.org.

III. Agency Updates

NRCS- Not Present.

SIR –Not Present.

US Wildland Fire Service (Formerly BLM)-Jason Bunker gave staffing and agency updates.

CalFire – Adam Mattos, Robbie Whitchurch & Nick Park were present and gave project and agency updates including Cal Fire has a full complement of agency staffing and are prepared for the 2026 fire season.

SNC – Not Present

USFS – Dan Varney was present and gave agency and project updates.

OES Lassen County – Not Present

SPI – Steve DeBonis, Almanor District, reported thinning and widening efforts on Eagle Lake Road that tie into the North Susanville WUI Fuels Treatment Project.

Honey Lake Power – Ted Facey reported they have capacity and are taking loads.

Lassen County – Not Present

Honey Lake Valley RCD – gave project and agency updates.

American Red Cross – Deb Bumpus reported Red Cross will be doing training in schools for hands only CPR. They are also doing in-home smoke detector demonstrations. Deb gave information on the “pillowcase” evacuation program. Red Cross is available to participate in local community events.

Firewise Communities –Tonya Smith, LFSC, Lassen County Firewise Regional Coordinator gave updates on renewal status. Tonya also indicated there are several other Firewise Communities with plans underway for organized community green waste clean-up events. **Laura Finlay**, Big Valley Firewise Leader stated they were planning a mid-May green waste clean up event with the help of Cal Fire. **Ruth Morentz**, Day Lassen Bench Firewise Leader, stated Oak Woods Estates would be holding the green waste event May 2 for Wildfire Community Preparedness Day and a community wide educational event was being planned for June 2026.

Golden State Natural Resources – Laurence Crabtree, GSNR Consultant was present and had no new updates.

V. Other – Cade Mohler, Managing Director LFSC gave a PowerPoint presentation on the North Susanville WUI Fuels Treatment Grant and answered questions. Cade also noted the LFSC Board and staff toured the project today.

VI. Public Comment/Questions – None noted.

VII. Next meeting – May 20, 2026

VII. Adjournment of Meeting – The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 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.