



**Meeting minutes**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County**  
**Thursday, February 17, 2022**  
**10 am - noon**

*DRAFT – For Board Approval*

**Attendees:** Lisa Lurie, Matt Abernathy, Marco Mack, Abby Young, Betsy Stiefelmaier, Lynn Sestak, Andy Hubbs, Joe Christy, Max Carter, Sophia Sholtz, LizAnne Jensen, Ed Hayes, Susan Tatsui-D’arcy, Rosemary Anderson, Pam Peck, Phil Dundas, Mia Fahad, Robert Loveland, Felix Sorrentino, Liz Croft, Chris Duymich, Thomas Suffin, Chris Berry

1. **Call to Order** – Marco Mack @ 1004

**2. Introductions**

2.1 Attendees introduce themselves.

2.2 Thank you to Andy Hubbs for service; he will be promoting and moving to the Redding area next month.

3. **Public Comment** – Max Carter reports completing a portion of a fuel break with CAL FIRE in the Loch Lomond watershed.

**4. Constant Agenda**

4.1 Additions to Agenda: Full Board approval of Strategic Plan as written; passed unanimously

4.2 Approval of previous Board Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the December 16, 2021 Board Meeting passed unanimously.

**5. Reports**

5.1 President’s Report - Marco Mack: Appreciation of relationship with RCD.

5.2 Vice President’s Report – Bob Gray: not present

5.3 Treasurer’s report – LizAnne Jensen: Acknowledgement of generous donation from Ed Hayes. Recent expenses related to payment of vendors.

5.3.1 Updated Financial Reports – refer to attached reports.

5.4 Secretary’s Report – Andy Hubbs: Sophia will take minutes for the interim until a Secretary can be found after Andy leaves. Andy will pass all previous minutes to Sophia for FSC records.

**6. Discussion Items**

6.1 LizAnne reports Bonny Doon community has been generating new FireWise communities; March 27<sup>th</sup> a community preparedness meeting will occur. CA announces “Safer from Wildfire” to inform residents what they need to do to protect their homes from wildfire.

6.2 Grant update – Sophia briefs the board on the submission of the CAL FIRE Prevention Grant.

Grant includes provisions for fuel reduction efforts in FireWise communities:

•Hazardous Fuel Reduction

o San Lorenzo Valley Water District - Defensible space project around their water tanks

o Firewise neighborhood cost-sharing project (chipping, d-space)

o Evacuation route clearing within Firewise Communities

o Special Needs Assistance Projects (Low-income chipping and d-space)

•Outreach and Education

o Evacuation workshops

o Demonstration show and tell events in Bonny Doon

- o Outreach booths
  - o Signage for escape routes
  - Other non-specified
  - o Structure retrofit rebate pilot program (50% match)
- 6.3 Better Place Forest – Marco, LizAnne and Angie Stillman made a site visit and saw recent/planned fuel reduction efforts
- 6.4 Fire Education – Marco reports on education meeting in Sacramento which included a youth fire safe program in Butte County. Would like to see similar outreach efforts here.

**7. Action Items**

- 7.1 Marco to Reach out to Rich Sampson in one month regarding update to filling Andy’s position.
- 7.2 Marco to share with the FSC details of the Butte youth education program
- 7.3 Sophia to set up a Zoom meeting to discuss the “Safer from Wildfire” program

**8. Board Member Reports**

- 8.1 Firewise Report and HIZ Report– Lynn Sestak: Refer to attached reports
- 8.2 Felix Sorrentino reports efforts to reduce ignitions from PG&E infrastructure; will report on any grant opportunities.
- 8.3 Joe Christy reports on the BDFSC post fire grant rescoping, including the planned operation of an air curtain burner to process large dead trees.
- 8.4 Marco Mack reports on a training for the public to inform them of basic fire behavior as it relates to evacuations.
- 8.5 Chris Duymich reports on an increase of concern with open burning and an increased desire to switch out wood burning stoves with gas stoves.
- 8.6 RCD Report – Lisa Lurie: Second forest health specialist hired, Summit Rd project going to bid in late March, Seedling distribution project completed within the CZU burn area, Public Works Plan permitted project about to begin, new AmeriCorps program forming that may have an interaction with the FSC.
- 8.7 Chris Berry – reports on reforestation and fuel break efforts. More proactive forest management will occur in the Loch Lomond area in the near future.
- 8.8 Ed Hayes – At the last SSFSC meeting, Frank Rodgers reported that an update to the CWPP will occur, looking for input in April or May.

9. **Continuation of Public Comments** – Susan: April 23 N. Rodeo Gulch will be doing a community outreach event regarding fire preparedness and invites anyone from the FSC who would like to speak.

10. Adjourned at 12:04