



**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County (FSCSCC)**

April 21st, 2022

10:00AM - 12:00PM

Location:

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85263182381?pwd=aFlaRnhDaGIUd2Fha1NTdkZMUzM0UT09>

Meeting ID: 852 6318 2381

Passcode: 450558

- 1. Call to Order - 10:07am**
- 2. Introductions and Welcome - 10:07am**
- 3. Consent Agenda**
  - 3.1. Additions to Agenda - 10:11am
  - 3.2. Approval of previous minutes - 10:14am
- 4. Directors Reports - 10:15am**
  - 4.1. President's Report - Marco Mack - Central fire moving forward with fire districts supporting firewise neighborhoods and fire safe councils. Budgeting \$5-15k to support the districts. Had communication with director of Public Works to set aside money to support the Fire Safe Council. Possible mechanism of funding the FSC until there is a funding arrangement through communities. Instead of hiring a person for grant writing, this would allow funding for specific end results.
  - 4.2. Vice President's Report - Bob Gray
  - 4.3. Treasurer's Report - LizAnne Jensen - 990 Tax documents, payments not due until September.
  - 4.4. Secretary's Report -
  - 4.5. RCD Report - Lisa Lurie - Moving into the final quarter of funding for Sophia's position (Administrative Coordinator). There was expected surplus due to hiring delays, that money is now being moved into the Spring chipping program with the RCD. Goal with that funding was to build capacity in a way that they can manage staff and line up funding to continue. Other RCD projects: Signups open for the county wide chipping program. Santa Cruz Mountain Alliance worked to team up with the Summit road shaded fuel break. RCD will be doing followup with PG&E. First two veg. Management projects in Coastal Zone have been approved for permitting with the Coastal Commission, 120 acres total.
- 5. Action Items Requiring Board Approval**
  - 5.1.
- 6. Discussion Items**
  - 6.1. HIZ and FireWise Update - LizAnne Jensen (on behalf of Lynn Sestak) - 10:39am - Santa Cruz County has 26 recognized FireWise communities. Bonny Doon particularly active, 16+3 currently

engaged in getting active. Lynn has done several presentation on FireWise communities to new areas. There will be some new volunteers coming on board to provide assistance to her. Of the 26 FireWise recognized communities (~3200 homes) have spent over \$2.7M in their neighborhoods making their neighborhoods more fire safe. Have donated over 48,000 hours of volunteer labor. Regarding HIZ Program, a number of people went through a training program last summer to become certified to be assessors. Each assessor has committed to between 1-4 assessments per month, focused on FireWise communities. 17 assessments have been completed, with 34 additional requests for assessments. Current volunteers are requesting some support in the form of gas reimbursements. Currently looking for someone to run the HIZ program to remove the project from Lynn and Matt. Budgeting for HIZ assessors gas use =  $(8*3*4*30*0.58)=\$1300$ . **Motion to allocate \$1500 of discretionary funds to reimburse gas use for HIZ assessors was passed.**

- 6.2. CWPP Update Discussion - Patty and Lisa - **10:53am** - Lisa: passing info from CALFIRE, received a message from CALFIRE asking for help updating the CWPP for santa cruz. Last updated in 2018. CALFIRE looking for members of FSC to review 2018 plan and provide any updates, particularly around the priority areas, etc. RCD and FSC are asked to compile information for CALFIRE. Input should be in by end of April. Send email edits to Sophia, who has agreed to compile all information. Goal to develop pipeline of shovel-ready projects. Working with Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network for developing this Regional Plan. **Patty - 11:05am** - Law coming into place that the 0-5ft around a property must be free from hazardous/flammable materials. Patty researching Community Risk Assessments and Community Risk Plans to create more shovel-ready projects in the community. South Skyline FSC involved in updating CWPP for that area. Bonny Doon FSC also involved in updating CWPP. Patty to organize a meeting within the week with the idea of coming out with specific action items to update the CWPP.
- 6.3. Supervisor Manu Koenig Meeting Update - Abby Young - 11:24am - Discussed FireWise, HIZ program. Reviewed role that funding from Koenig's office to build capacity with Administrative Coordinator position. Emphasized that the Admin Coord. Position needs to be continued for the three pending grants that Patty has completed, and to continue daily work for the council. Discussed the evacuation routes for residents in the WUI. Chief Gray also in attendance. Citizen concern for vegetation management, fire crews, managing unsheltered population, and maintenance issues with fire-resistant landscaping. Patty to forward information to Dave Reid for meeting with Supervisor Koenig's office.
- 6.4. Emergency Notification Siren in Paradise Park - Marco Mack - 11:34am - Marco involved in communication requesting input for how a notification siren should be recognized and implemented. Those discussions have not concluded yet.
- 6.5. County Coordinator Discussion - Pam Peck - 11:40am - Monterey County is in line to get approved for a County Coordinator. Monterey is stepping up outreach to find someone to fill that position. Pam to send application information to LizAnne, Marco, to increase search radius.

## 7. Board Member Reports

7.1.

## 8. Public Comments

8.1.

## 9. Topics for Next Board Meeting - General Discussion

- 9.1. Need recruitment for both the Secretary and Treasurer positions, as LizAnne is not standing for reelection at the June board meeting. Email Sophia with suggestions for new board members.

Patty suggests an open recruitment for new board members with current mailing list. LizAnne to work with Sophia and Marco to find new people.

9.2. Abby: Appreciation for LizAnne

9.3. Brackin Andrews: Ignition sources questions, will follow up with Marco and Patty

**10. Adjourn - 12:03pm**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on June 16th, 2022, 10AM, Location TBD