Board Meeting Minutes
Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County (FSCSCC)

Thursday, April 16th, 2026

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Remote/Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER
    a. Establish Quorum
    b. Board Roll Call
        i. Michael Horn
        ii. Sally Mack
        iii. Kathleen McLaughlin
        iv. Mike Phinn
        v. Marty Picco
        vi. Lynn Sestak
        vii. Lindsay Speth
        viii. Cindy Weigelt
        ix. Tonje Wold-Switzer

2. CONSENT AGENDA
    a. Agenda consent
    b. Approve March 12, 2026 Minutes
        i. M/S Horn/Sestak
        ii. AYES: All

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - Marty Picco
    a. Treasurer's Report
        i. $111, 559.21 Bank Balance
        ii. $45k Loan balance
        iii. $65, 559.21 Current Assets
    b. Grants Closeout
        i. SFA grant closed out
            1. Need to complete two audits with clean audit before applying again
        ii. 22 CALFire Grant
            1. $343,000 spent, $712k total awarded.
            2. Issues with insufficient documentation for staff hours and underspending

iii. Taxes filed

c. Loan Repayment
    i. Recommend we pay off the loan as soon as we can.
        1. M/S Phinn/Sestak
        2. AYES All
d. Budget Discussion
    i. Budget will be reviewed and approved next board meeting.

4. SSJ PROJECT - Sally Mack
    a. Contract with a forester
        i. Getting guidance on CEQA
    b. Contract with Project Manager
        i. Seeking assistance in grant management
        ii. Work will be and owner property, will need to conduct some outreach to the residents on that road.

5. HIZ - Marty
    a. 34 Requests, completed half, 5 requests for Firewise community visits. 15 active assessors currently.
        i. Robert Morrish has taken over as lead scheduler
        ii. Pasha Golovko has taken over managing the tech stack
    b. Regular mingles and steering meetings are continuing
    c. Will be doing assessor trainings with United Policyholders, and Fire Chiefs in May or June. Will need to do a recruitment drive to get more volunteers.

6. FIREWISE - Lynn
    a. 128 Firewise Recognized Communities, still #2 in the nation.
    b. CA Firewise Coordinator group, sharing best practices and are meeting monthly.
    c. Regional groups have been doing smaller in-person or virtual meetings to connect.
    d. April 30th Gail Pellerin in Scotts Valley Hardening Faire, May 30th Supervisor Cummings Bonny Doon Event, June 7 Loma Prieta Volunteer Fire BBQ, April 16 Santa Cruz County Association of REALTORS.
    e. Looking for funding for small projects like dumpster reimbursement, microgrants for small projects, etc.

7. OUTREACH - Michael Horn
    a. New CALFire Employee! Community Engagement and Public Information Officer
        i. Looking to create profiles for efforts, partnering with FSCs
        ii. Work with the FSC to create vignettes
            1. Vegetation management
            2. Home hardening
    b. Will be creating a calendar to list events on the FSC website
        i. Cindy has volunteers to take care of the overall calendar
    c. Planning for wildfire home hardening events, social media engagement work.
    d. High Priority - We will need to look for a new Outreach programming main point of contact for the FSC

8. NEW BUSINESS
    a. Home Hardening and Emergency Preparedness- Assemblywoman Gail Pellerin sponsored - Lynn Sestak

i. Identified speakers, Michael Horn (CALFire), Marty Picco (HIZ), Matt Abernathy (RCD), Erin Collins (SVFD), United Policyholders, Scotts Valley Police Department, Tony Akin (Central Fire)
ii. Thursday from 6-8:30pm. Organizations will table. CERT, SLVEN, RCD, CALFire, and others.
iii. Lindsay and Lynn will represent the FSC at the outreach table.

b. Bylaws - Lindsay Speth
i. Resolution 04162026

c. Policy Ratification - Lindsay Speth
i. Procurement Policy
ii. Financial Controls Policy
1. M/S Sestak, Picco
2. AYES ALL

9. Disaster Preparedness event on June 6 from 1-5pm. ARES, CERT, LTRG
a. Looking for speakers for HIZ and Firewise
i. Lindsay and Sherry do the Firewise and HIZ presentation
1. Lindsay will check with Sherry to see if she can do this event

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

11. ROUNDTABLE/ANNOUNCEMENTS
a. June Meeting will nominate new Board members.
i. Start thinking about your own role, looking for potential new Board members to be considered

12. ADJOURN at 7:46pm

Next Board Meeting: May 14th, 2026 at 6:30PM, ON ZOOM

Meeting Minutes prepared by Lindsay Speth, Secretary

Meetings Approved on May 14, 2026

Lindsay Speth, Secretary Lindsay Speth Date:5/14/26

List of Current Board Members:
1. Stephanie Fontana
2. Michael Horn
3. Sanjay Khandelwal
4. Chris Klier
5. Sally Mack
6. Kathleen McLaughlin
7. Mike Phinn
8. Marty Picco
9. Lynn Sestak
10. Lindsay Speth
11. Cindy Weigelt
12. Tonje Wold-Switzer