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

Thursday, May 14th, 2026

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Remote/Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER
    a. Establish Quorum
    b. Board Roll Call
        i. Stephanie Fontana
        ii. Michael Horn
        iii. Chris Klier
        iv. Sally Mack
        v. Kathleen McLaughlin
        vi. Mike Phinn
        vii. Marty Picco
        viii. Lynn Sestak
        ix. Lindsay Speth

2. CONSENT AGENDA
    a. Agenda consent
    b. Approve April 16, 2026 Minutes
        i. M/S Sestak/Picco
        ii. AYES: ALL

3. TREASURER'S REPORT
    a. Treasurer's Report
        i. $121,000 in the bank as of today. Paid off loan of $45,000, will be paying SLVWD next week $55,000.
        ii. Our balance will be $72,000 after our payouts are completed.
        iii. No new grant payouts in the near future.
    b. Budget Presentations
        i. Budget report in process, a draft will be reviewed in June meeting.
        ii. Expenses for $1,000 or more should go to Marty for approval.

4. SSJ Project
    a. Held first planning meeting with Scott Bullock, Jahaira Zaragoza, Matt Mosher (CALFIRE), Nadia Hamey, Kristy Swor (Registered Professional Foresters), Jim Young (Project Manager Advisor), Mike Phinn and Sally Mack (Fire Safe Council

of Santa Cruz County)
   b. Submitted application for extension of governor's CEQA suspension, completed quartery activity report, completed information amendment to release limited funds for contractual program management, project management and grant management activities.
   c. Will require an advance to complete this process. Working on options for this.
   d. Will be finalizing Project Manager job description and start recruiting process

5. HIZ
   a. 55 requests so far and half are still open. Most assessors have 2 or 3 assessments in the queue. Reason for delay mostly on scheduling complications.
   b. Currently doing assessments in pairs - more senior assessors will be moving into solo assessments in future
   c. Will be exploring training for new assessors, likely doing this in the Fall. Coordinating with CALFire on schedule and curriculum. Trying to time this along the new Zone Zero legislation.
   d. HIZ is more self sufficient and can run on volunteer participation.

6. FIREWISE
   a. 128 Firewise Communities, 2 or 3 in submitted but pending, 20 application in progress
   b. New NFPA mapping process - no parcel lines in the application. FW communities should not be required to provide the map to the insurance agent.
   c. May 21 - 95033 presentation, May 30 - Bonny Doon Fire Fair, June 6: Aptos Emergency Preparedness, June 6: Felton Wildfire Fair
   d. Brochures - Wildfire Brochure website, available as a PDF that you can DIY print.
   e. Will build new marketing kits for tabling, improving tabling materials. Potential for storage trailer.

7. OUTREACH
   a. New Co-Chair - Stephanie Fontana
   b. Seeking a volunteer who is social media savvy and they can produce our social media content, newsletter and other support.
   c. Exploring more educational materials and conversation starters.

8. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Expenditure Approval, Forester Contract, SSJ Project: $30,000 potential contractual expense for Registered Professional Forester (Nadia Hamey) working on CEQA exemption, on the ground evaluation for the project. Work is estimated to start this summer. Grant already has the money budgeted for this work.
      i. M/S Fontana/Picco
      ii. AYES:

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

10. ROUNDTABLE/ANNOUNCEMENTS
   a. Elections are coming up in the June 2026 meeting. Seeking new Board Members
      i. Lindsay Speth (Secretary) and Marty Picco (Treasurer) looking to take on less of a role. Potential to split responsibilities across multiple board members by utilizing Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer roles.

ii. Option to move into an advisor role as well for existing Board Members.

b. New materials or support materials for vegetation management regarding sensitive habitats.

11. ADJOURN at 7:40pm

Next Board Meeting: June 11th, 2026 at 6:30PM, ON ZOOM

Meeting Minutes prepared by Lindsay Speth, Secretary

Meetings Approved on June 11, 2026

Lindsay Speth, Secretary Lindsay Speth Date:6/11/26

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