

**Minutes - Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fire Safe Santa Cruz County (FSSCC)**

Thursday, February 1, 2018

10:30 AM - Noon

Location: CAL FIRE CZU Training Center

Conference Room

6040 Gushee Street

Felton, CA 95018

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** At 1030 by Joe Christy

2. **INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME**

Directors Present: Joe Christy, President
Chris Coburn, Treasurer
Chris Berry, Vice President
Felix Sorrentino
Ed Hayes
Andy Hubbs, Secretary
Jennifer Michelsen
Ian Rowbotham

Directors Absent: Tim Reilly
Trevor Dirksen

Attendees: Frank Rodgers, CAL FIRE
Patty Ciesla, Santa Clara County FSC
Whitney Haraguchi, NRCS
Chris Duymich, MBARD
John Romandia, Black Cat Construction
Lynn Overtree, Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Barbara Schulties, Cliffwood Estates
Chuck Harmon, Cliffwood Estates
Richard Bartel, n/a
Ellen Stok, n/a
Jim Frawley, Santa Cruz Fire
Walton & Barbara Maines, Corralitos Land Owners
Lizzy Eichorn, RCD
Becky Steinbruner, Redwood/Cathedral Drive Resident
Paul Horvat, Santa Cruz Fire
Ron DeBenedetti, Corralitos Landowner

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (10 min.): Limit public comment to 2 mins for efficiency. If time allows at the end conversation can continue or be placed on next meeting's agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA (5 min.)

4.1. Review and Approve of December 7 meeting minutes: After punctuation error corrections, Chris Berry moves to motion accepting minutes and Chris Coburn seconds. All in favor and the motion carries.

5. REPORTS

5.1. Treasurer's report (5 min.): Chris Coburn reports the council is still without funding. \$40 in donations have received. 2018-19 County budget could lead to allocation for FSSCC. A bank account will need to be established for future funds. The RCD is ready for tracking funds outside of the county finance system, which the RCD normally relies upon.

5.2. Planning Committee (5 min.): Ed reports one meeting so far that resulted in several questions.

1. How should the Board go about setting goals, create action on these goals and monitor the success?

2. Will the County continue to support the FFSCC? Through the RCD or directly to the council?

3. How should the FFSCC be managed? through an Executive Director, Volunteer, or service by the RCD

4. How much involvement can we get with the Fire Chiefs Association, Cal Fire, and County

Additionally, the committee has set goals for the year; to accomplish at least one project this year, and to get our message out and make awareness of our organization known. Ed suggested that it might be a good idea to have a Board only meeting/ retreat to answer these questions, discuss these issues and to get Board buy in.

5.3. Technical Advisory Committee (5 min.): TAC will look at proposed projects as they come in; Joe reports two formal applications from SSFSC. Andy adds additional projects have been either submitted or are known to have an interest. Joe reviews three CAL FIRE upcoming grant opportunities, with the Fire Prevention Grant most applicable to Fire Safe projects. More information to follow from CAL FIRE regarding specifics of this grant.

- Currently, project submissions are being collected.

- The application form for project submission will be posted on the website soon.

5.4. Bear Fire Panel Planning Panel (5 min.): Jen reports "Lessons Learned from the Bear Fire" will occur Feb 28 6-8pm at the Bear Creek Country Club. A flyer has been distributed and Jen asks everyone to forward it to interested parties. Five subject matter experts are scheduled in a Q/A format.

5.5. Website (5 min.): Chris Coburn reports a draft website has been developed, largely, using existing formats/resources. Pictures are needed – please send to Lizzy at the RCD. Internal external postings will be part of the website. Hopefully in operation in the next couple of weeks.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1. Board Elections (10 Min.): Joe reports bylaws specify elections of half the board each year. 12 Board members were elected last year, but two members have had to step down. At least 5 re-nominations are needed and new members are welcome to contact the nominating committee to join the board. Chris Berry and Joe currently make up the nominating committee; two additional volunteers are needed. Jen moves and Chris Berry seconds for Andy and Chris Coburn to join committee.
- 6.2. D & O insurance (5 min.): Chris reports a firm will provide liability and director and officers insurance.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 7.1. County Funding & Administration (15 min.): Joe reports how the council should proceed with asking the County for funding. County budget process beginning now. Chris suggests formally asking the County to give any allocated money to the council rather than the RCD. A fiscal sponsor, such as the RCD, will be needed for future funding of grants unless a qualified volunteer on the council could do it. Patty suggests asking the County for more than \$20k. Ed motions and Chris Berry seconds having Joe speak to the County to determine outlook on money and what their preference would be – money to FSSCC or RCD directly. Patty reports Board of Directors for FSSCC voted to donate \$500 of unrestricted funds to FSSCC. Felix reports up to \$5k of unrestricted funds may be available to individual FSCs this year.
 - 7.2. CWPP revisions (10 min.): Frank reports original CWPP was cooperative between SM and SC counties and CAL FIRE / RCDs. CWPP update will entail local FSCs and RCDs in each County. A meeting will occur with these entities next month (date TBD) to determine parameters. Stakeholders such as FD FPDs and FCAs will comment/approve. Joe and Ed have volunteered to represent FSSCC, SSFSC and BDFSC.
- 8. NEW BUSINESS** (as time allows): Chief Frawley suggests adding an agenda item to next month's meeting to formally hear proposals.

9. ADJOURN: 1159

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Thursday, April 5, Location TBD