

# Alpine Fire Safe Council

**Approved Minutes**  
February 25, 2008  
**6:00 pm, Markleeville Fire Station**

The meeting of the Alpine Fire Safe Council was called to order by Al Moss, Vice-Chair, at 6:02 pm at the Markleeville Fire Station, Markleeville, CA 96120.

**Present:**

Al Moss	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jerry Andrews	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Kim Chatfield	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Shirley Taylor	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Steve Yonker	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jeff Brees	Coordinator	Markleeville Resident
Kerry Radelfinger	Administrator	Woodfords Resident
Gunter Kaiser	County Supervisor	Woodfords Resident

**Absent:**

David Griffith	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Don Jardine	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident

**I. Call to order**

**II. Introductions**

**III. Approve minutes of January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Steve Yonker Second: Shirley Taylor*

**IV. Volunteer Time Sheets**

**V. Old Business**

- a. Update on Defensible Space Inspector position.  
Jeff Brees reported that at the last Board meeting, Supervisor Don Jardine tasked Brian Peters, Planning Department, with working on the details of the Defensible Space Inspector position. Brees said they would like to make it a contract position, possibly hiring CalFire or Lake Valley Fire.

Protection to do the work. Brees said that Peters is to have an agenda item at the next Board meeting requesting that the Chairman have authority to sign a personal services contract with an agency to do the inspections. Brees said CalFire and Lake Valley have seen the job description. Al Moss said the Peters made a presentation to the Board on the Defensible Space Inspector position and Nancy Thornburg read a letter asking the Board to act before the next fire season. Moss questioned how many months the inspector would be working. Brees said there has been talk of the inspector working a couple months in the spring and a couple months in the fall. Brees said the Inspector position is needed to enforce existing state codes that the County adopted in 1992 and has yet to enforce. Supervisor Gunter Kaiser said he would like to see public debates on the issue, as the Inspector will be inspecting resident's houses. Moss said that the Fire Safe Council would like to see the Defensible Space Inspector in place before the next fire season for defensible space inspections and the County could consider adding building inspector on to the position at a later date. Yonker asked Kaiser if he needed more information than he had in order to act on the position. Kaiser said he needs a lot more detail on the position regarding what department the position will be under and who he/she will be reporting to. Moss stated that is not detail that the Fire Safe Council should provide. Moss said the Fire Safe Council can only continue to urge the Board of Supervisors to fund the position. The decision making process is up to the Board of Supervisors. Moss said that Peters is putting all the detail together to bring back to the Board at the next meeting.

- b. Update on the proposed plan of action for the fire fighting water supply in the Mesa Vista/River Ranch area.  
Moss said that the letter of recommendation for the 10 year plan for water supply on the Mesa Vista was given to the Board of Supervisors from Alpine Fire Safe Council and the Woodfords Fire Department Water Supply Subcommittee. Kaiser said that they had \$90,000 of Moline money as well as RAC funding of \$45,000 to go toward the water supply on the Mesa. The RAC money cannot be used for the water tender. At the last Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board decided to reallocate the \$45,000 in RAC funding from the Mesa Vista/River Ranch water tank to completing the water tank at the Woodfords Fire Station. Kaiser said they are requesting that the \$90,000 of Moline money be used for a water tender, which would supply mobile water to the Mesa. Kaiser said he disagrees with putting the old water tender at the Woodfords Hung-a-lel-ti Community. Moss said there have been some concerns voiced over the issue and there are other places where it can be stored. Brees said he wrote a letter to mail out to the residents of Mesa Vista/River Ranch to update them on the water issue. Brees said he was waiting to determine how to close the letter out, pending possible action at the Board level. Moss said the letter has already been presented to the Board and there is

no action needed from residents at this time. After reviewing the draft letter and making minor changes, the Board agreed to have Brees send out the letter to the residents. Kaiser said the property at Emigrant Trail and Foothill Road is still a strong possibility, and the property owner has expressed some interest in donating it to the County. Kaiser said Dennis Cardoza, Public Works Director, will continue to pursue negotiations with the property owner. Moss said that things are moving forward with the water supply in Woodfords and the Board of Supervisors is currently working on the purchase of a water tender and securing land for a water tank.

- c. Update on Title II and III funds – proposed budget.  
Brees said that at a previous Board meeting a Forest Service representative announced there was about \$32,000 of unallocated RAC funding available and the Board of Supervisors had the authority to send a letter stating how they would like those funds distributed. Brees has been working on getting the unallocated grant funds to replenish the full grant amount requested with the Fire Safe Council's original RAC grant application of \$40,000. \$20,000 of those funds was granted through RAC, Title II dollars, and the remaining was to come from Title III funds. Brees said Title II funds are preferred, as there is more flexibility allowing fuels projects, where as the Title III funds are more education oriented. Kaiser said that at the last Board of Supervisors meeting the Board made a decision on those funds, so Brees should talk to Judy Molnar about what was decided. Brees said the Board of Supervisors did agree to allocate \$20,000 from Title III funds for the Fire Safe Council and Brees has received a contract. Brees will meet with Molnar to discuss the Title II funding.
- d. Update on VFD pre-planning and assessment effort.  
Brees said he wrote a letter to send to residents regarding the assessment of access roads and fuels along those roads for some neighborhoods on the East Slope. Brees said he needs to speak with a couple of people before sending out the letter. Brees said the letter outlines the criteria being used to assess properties included access road and fuels adjacent to the road. Brees said the letter invites the individual or neighborhoods to contact the fire departments to meet and assess the access roads in their area and determine what can be done to remedy the situation. The letter outlines contact information for each neighborhood. Brees will email a copy of the letter out to the Directors.
- e. Update on the Burn Pile program for 2008.  
Brees said he is meeting Cardoza tomorrow to discuss the Burn Pile. Brees said that they will be collecting the pile at Turtle Rock Park and the schedule will remain the same. Kaiser questioned what the cost of the program would be. Brees said to haul the pile he is estimating \$20,000 per year, which includes manning the site. Brees said South Tahoe Refuse



Brees said BLM is doing a prescribed burn at the Indian Creek Campground and above Markleeville at Poor Boy the first week of May. They will have a community meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Brees submitted two applications to the state clearinghouse for the Coordinator and Chipping grants.

Brees said the Sheridan Firehouse will be hosting a UNR Cooperative Extension speaker on fire safe landscaping on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

Brees said the National Forest Counties and School Coalition will be holding their annual conference in Reno on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at [www.forestcoe.net](http://www.forestcoe.net).

Brees said that 20 CALFIRE Fire Stations, 11 Conservation Camps, and one airbase will be closed due to the budget shortfall. The legislature will be considering a surcharge on home insurance premiums to make up the shortfall for the fire services.

Chatfield thanked the Board and reiterated his support for the Fire Safe Council. The Board expressed their appreciation for Chatfield's service in the Fire Safe Council.

**VII. Adjournment**

- a. Set next meeting at Woodfords Fire Station at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Steve Yonker*

*Second: Shirley Taylor*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*