

# Alpine Fire Safe Council

**Approved Minutes**  
October 27, 2008  
**6:00 pm, Woodfords Fire Station**

The meeting of the Alpine Fire Safe Council was called to order by Steve Yonker, Vice-Chair, at 6:05 pm at the Woodfords Fire Station, Markleeville, CA 96120.

**Present:**

Steve Yonker	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Joyce DeVore	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
John Super (6:15 pm)	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Shirley Taylor	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jeff Brees	Coordinator	Markleeville Resident
Kerry Radelfinger	Administrator	Woodfords Resident
Jan Bray (6:20 pm)	CALFIRE Forester	

**Absent:**

Jerry Andrews	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
David Griffith	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Al Moss	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident

**I. Call to order**

**II. Introductions**

**III. Approve minutes of September 29, 2008 meeting.**

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Joyce DeVore                      Second: John Super*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

**IV. Volunteer Time Sheets**

**V. Old Business**

a. Update on Chipping 2008 Fall Program.

Brees said that the chipping crew started on Tuesday and finished in four days. Brees said the four-person crew chipped 500 cubic yards of material. Brees said there was about \$6000 remaining in the 2008 Chipping grant, with an estimated \$4000 to be used for the contractor plus some administrative expenses. Brees said the crew is coming back to do

some fuels work for individuals, so they will be in the area if there are any additional chipping requests.

- b. Judging of Diamond Valley School student posters.  
DeVore distributed the posters that were completed by the students at Diamond Valley School. DeVore said they will give first and second place prizes in each grade level. The posters were judged by those present. DeVore questioned how to get the funds for the prize money. Radelfinger will prepare a check for Diamond Valley School in the amount of \$150 to cover a first and second prize for each of the 6 classes. DeVore will present the awards with a local volunteer fireman and take a picture for the newspaper.
- c. Update on Defensible Space Inspections.  
Brees spoke with Martin Goldberg with the Lake Valley Fire Department who said they are still taking appointments for inspections, though they are almost finished. Brees said Goldberg plans on having the report to the County by the middle of November. Brees said the Lake Valley Fire Department inspectors have instructed residents to thin green trees. Brees contacted Peters regarding the issue which may need to be addressed during the follow-up inspections.

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Review of third quarter financial statements.  
Radelfinger distributed the third quarter financial statements for review. Brees questioned if the Volunteered Materials/Services amount was from this fiscal year only. Radelfinger said that it was cumulative. Radelfinger said she thought there was about \$3000 contributed this year, but she would check the figures and get back to Brees. Brees said some of the Volunteered Services dollars could possibly be used for a grant match for the Chipping grant as in-kind contribution.
- b. Discussion of Proposition 40 Community Assistance Grant status and general discussion of potential cooperative fuels projects with Jan Bray, CALFIRE Forester.  
Brees said the Fire Safe Council has been supporting the County's efforts for the Proposition 40 grant. Brees has been working as facilitator. Jan Bray, CALFIRE Forester said the goal of this grant is to increase the fire safety along the county right-of-ways, including work around Diamond Valley School and Turtle Rock Park. Bray said in the event of a large fire the Diamond Valley School and Turtle Rock Park could be used as a fire camp as they provide the infrastructure needed and they are natural evacuation centers. Bray toured the areas with the contractor, Sean's Tree Service, and showed him the biological and archaeological areas to avoid. Bray said he would be starting work on the project next week. Bray said one of the landowners that border the school is cooperating with them on

the project. Brees said he spoke with another landowner close to the school who is also supportive of the project and would work with them. DeVore questioned if they ask the landowners for a contribution. Bray said they do not require a contribution under the Community Assistance Grant program. Bray said they have another program, California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) which is a cost share program, where CALFIRE pays 75% and the landowner pays 25%. Bray said the contribution does not have to be cash match; the landowner can do an in-kind contribution, such as labor, to cover their portion. Bray said under the Community Assistance Grant, the grant is funded for the overall good of the community and they need the landowners' participation in these critical areas, such as around the school. Bray said there is a possibility that there may be money remaining to do some additional projects on the priority list. Brees questioned what other programs were available for private landowners looking to do work on their property. Bray said there is the CFIP program she had talked about. She said CFIP is a cost share program with a 20 acre minimum, but landowners can group up to come up with 20 acres for a project. Bray said that Rich Adams at Grover Hot Springs Park wants to collaborate with CALFIRE to do a project around the Hot Springs, possibly a vegetation management burn. Bray asked Brees for his help in coordinating the project. Bray asked that Brees talk to the Forest Service about including them in the burn, possibly applying for RAC funding for the project. Bray applauded the Fire Safe Council for their efforts.

c. Chipping 2009 grant.

Brees received the 2009 Chipping grant contract, which was to start in July, though the 2008 Chipping grant is still being used at this point. Brees said the 2009 Chipping grant was for \$22,000, with a \$7,330 grant match. The Chipping program will start in the spring. Brees asked for authorization to sign the 2009 Chipping grant contract.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: John Super*

*Second: Shirley Taylor*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

d. Staff Reports

Brees said the Secure Rural School Act was reauthorized for four years. Brees said Rob Levy will be reforming the local RAC and extending the terms of the RAC committee. Brees said there have been some updates to the legislation. Title III funds can no longer be used for grant matches for Federal grants and the funds can only be used for Firewise Community Programs. Brees said Alpine County is not a Firewise Community, but it was unclear whether they would need to become one or if they would need to use Firewise Community Programs. Brees said there are some details to be worked out. Brees said Alpine County is expected to receive \$900,509, with a 10% decrease per year until the 5<sup>th</sup> year when there a

steeper decrease in funding. DeVore questioned if the funds could be used for a Fire Chief. Brees said the funds could not be used for that purpose and they had tightened up on the uses for the funds.

Brees attended the October 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and announced the Chipping Program and the Reflective Sign Program.

Brees said the Fire Safe Council received their Certificate of Insurance and they include the County of Alpine and the California Fire Safe Council as additional insured per grant funding requirements.

**VII. Adjournment**

Set next meeting at Markleeville Fire Station at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 1, 2008.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Joyce DeVore Second: John Super*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*