

# Alpine Fire Safe Council

**Approved Minutes**  
February 22, 2010  
**6:00 pm, Woodfords Fire Station**

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

**Present:**

Al Moss	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jerry Andrews	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Kris Hartnett	FSC Board	Markleeville Resident
Dave Mills	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Shirley Taylor	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Jeff Brees	Coordinator	Markleeville Resident
Kerry Radelfinger	Administration	Woodfords Resident
Will Richmond	Alpine District Attorney	Woodfords Resident

**Absent:**

David Griffith	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Steve Yonker	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident

**I. Call to order**

**II. Introductions**

**III. Approve corrected minutes of January 25, 2010 meeting.**

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Kris Hartnett Second: Jerry Andrews*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

**IV. Volunteer Time Sheets**

**V. Old Business**

- a. Further discussion and planning for Wildfire Preparedness meeting for spring 2010.

Hartnett reported that he had spoken with Supervisor Philip Bennett about hosting a Wildfire Preparedness meeting in his district. Hartnett went on to say that he was directed by Bennett to contact Deann Roberts at the Washoe Tribal Council to be added to the agenda of their next meeting.

Hartnett added that Moss and he attended the meeting and that the Council was supportive of holding a Wildfire Preparedness meeting in their community. Hartnett said that he gave Roberts the phone number to contact Brees to confirm a location for the event. Andrews questioned the population at the Hung-a-lel-ti Community. Hartnett said that he thought there were 40-70 households. Moss suggested that Radelfinger draft a letter to Roberts and the Washoe Tribal Council thanking them for the time given to Moss and Hartnett and ask that they follow-up to confirm the timeline for the meeting. Taylor distributed a copy of the draft letter to be sent to the invitees to the meetings. Brees suggested that the Forest Service be added to the mailing list. After some discussion, Taylor said that she would send the invitee letter out the first week of March. Moss reported that the Woodfords Volunteer Fire Department has agreed to BBQ for all three community meetings. Hartnett said that he met with Sheriff John Crawford who has agreed to speak at the meetings. Hartnett added that if Crawford is not available to attend he will send a representative. Andrews questioned if there will be someone available to service and sell fire extinguishers. Brees said that he would look into the possibility of providing that service to meeting attendees. Hartnett said that Sheriff Crawford had mentioned that there was an updated evacuation map that may differ from the old map, specifically in regards to access via Mud Lake Road. Brees said that he will review the new evacuation map. Taylor requested that she be given time during Supervisor Tom Sweeney's meeting to discuss equine evacuation. Brees mentioned that he had provided an animal evacuation handout at the Markleeville meeting that Taylor could review. Hartnett suggested that community members at the Hung-a-lel-ti Community be asked to assist in distributing flyers for their neighborhood.

Richmond asked if the FSC had a chance to review the biomass material that he had provided. Brees said it was discussed at the last meeting, but no course of action was decided at this time.

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Update on grant applications for spring 2010.  
Brees reported that Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for the grant applications for the California Fire Safe Council. Brees explained that he has prepared two grants for submission; one for another chipping program and one for the Markleeville Forest Fuels project. Brees added that a grant match is needed for both of the grants and the FSC's ability to provide a match will be contingent upon being awarded RAC funding. Brees went on to say that he applied for \$30,000 for the Chipping grant with a \$5,000 match and \$55,000 for the Markleeville Forest Fuels grant with a \$5,000 match. Moss said that he is supportive of submitting the grant applications and assigning part of the RAC funding as a grant match for the two projects. Brees said that he has not yet heard back from Lynn

Nolan who is currently doing grant research for the FSC. Brees also added that he has been working on getting Sara Green from the Alpine Watershed Group to attend a FSC meeting to discuss possible grant project collaboration, but due to conflicting schedules she has not been available for the monthly meeting. A motion was made to submit applications to the California Fire Safe Council for a Chipping grant and for the Markleeville Forest Fuels grant.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Kris Hartnett*

*Second: Shirley Taylor*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

- b. Review and approval of financial statements for calendar year 2009. Radelfinger distributed the 2009 financial statements for review and approval. Andrews questioned the chipping costs for the past year. Brees said that it may be lower this year as people are getting caught up on their fuels reduction projects. Hartnett questioned the status of the spring burn pile. Brees explained that the county spent more funds on the burn pile in the fall than they had estimated so they will need to get approval from the Board of Supervisors for contingency funds for the spring. Brees added that the FSC has an application in with the RAC for a grant for the burn pile and if awarded they can help contribute to the costs. Hartnett questioned if Brees had been able to meet with the Alpine County Auditor, Randi Makley, to ensure that there is a smooth transition with her successor in the funding process for the Title III grants the FSC has with the county. Brees said that he will need to meet with Knorr first to discuss the funding agreement, but he has had difficulty scheduling a meeting with her. A motion was made to approve the 2009 financial statements.

*Motion: Kris Hartnett*

*Second: Jerry Andrews*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

Radelfinger said she will meet with Richard Peters to begin the tax preparation, which are due May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Moss questioned if Hartnett had any concluding conversations as to a date for the RAC meeting. Hartnett said that the Forest Service sent an email asking for feedback on holding a meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, or 17<sup>th</sup>, but he has not received a definite meeting date. Brees mentioned that the RAC will need to meet to elect a chairman before addressing the issue of proxies and then they can meet to look at the grant application. Hartnett explained that the intent is to do it all in one evening. After some discussion on the proxy voting, Moss said that the FSC needs to do everything they can to support Hartnett in making sure that the RAC meets on one of the specified dates and that the proxy system is in place to facilitate a meeting. Hartnett will forward on any correspondence he receives from the Forest Service to Moss and Brees.

Brees said that he has been trying to reach Knorr on several issues, including confirming the FSC's funding agreement with the county and changes to the Title III budget, but has been unable to reach her by phone or email. Brees explained that he directed Radelfinger to submit the claims and the process began moving forward only to encounter additional roadblocks. Brees added that the paychecks for Radelfinger and Brees have been held up as a result of this process and they have been unable to establish good communications with Knorr. Moss suggested that Brees and Radelfinger try to contact Knorr once again to resolve the situation and if unable to do so, then Moss or Hartnett would meet with Knorr to try to move things forward. Moss asked that Radelfinger notify the board as to the outcome of her efforts.

Moss questioned which FSC board member's terms were up for renewal. Radelfinger said that Moss, Yonkers and Mills terms were expiring this year. Moss asked Radelfinger to draft an email to the board members whose terms were expiring to ask for an email resignation if they do not wish to renew their term. Moss added that any resignations will be filled through a nominating committee. Mills stated that everyone on the FSC Board is very committed to Alpine County and has the best interests of the FSC in mind, but that he feels frustrated with the funding process. Mills added that he will continue to serve on the FSC board for another term, but if there is another individual that would be interested in serving he will step down from his position. Moss said the FSC does not want to lose Mills as a board member. Moss stated that he believes in the purpose of the FSC as an informational source and engine that drives the interest of Alpine County to be fire safe, but the administrative and funding side of the council can be an impediment. Moss stated that the FSC will need to elect officers at the March meeting and that he will be stepping down as chair. Moss went on to say that he felt there is a need for a change in that position and he will be busy with personal issues the next few months. Moss asked everyone to be thinking of who they would like to have as the next chair and vice-chair.

c. Staff reports.

Brees said that an item added to the last BOS meeting in regards to sending letters to the state legislatures about the inability of the RAC to meet was pulled from the agenda. Brees explained that news came forth before that meeting that the new members had been vetted so the item was no longer necessary.

Brees stated that the Forest Service was putting together a new NEPA and contacted Brees to ask what areas the FSC would like to see the Forest Service work in. Brees said that he met with the Forest Service and marked some areas on their map. Brees explained that the areas marked were guided by the CWPP projects and work they had done in the past that

needed to be maintained. Brees said that the Forest Service will be hosting a public meeting on March 9 or 10 for more public input. Brees distributed the map that showed the areas to be included in the NEPA. Brees said that in the past one NEPA document per project was required and now multiple projects can be packaged under one document.

Brees reported that the Proposition 40 project was completed, but funding ran out before they were able to finish at Turtle Rock Park. Brees added that the county will need to go after additional funds to complete the work. Brees said that the FSC has been supporting the county on the Proposition 40 projects.

Brees reported that the burn pile will be open on April 17<sup>th</sup> for four weekends pending approval by the BOS for contingency funds for the project. Hartnett questioned input to Brian Peters, Community Development, regarding loading of material into the dumpster by county employees to save time and cost with the contractor. Brees said that he can communicate with Peters regarding that issue. Brees said that he had asked that Memorial weekend be included in the burn pile dates, but due Alta Alpena bike race they did not want the burn pile open that weekend.

Brees questioned if the FSC would be interested in doing any fundraising activities during the Death Ride. It was agreed that Brees would ask the Chamber of Commerce if there was somewhere they could help.

d. Board member comments.

Taylor questioned when the spring newsletter would be sent out. Brees said that he would like it to be mailed out the end of March.

**VII. Adjournment**

Set next meeting at the Markleeville Fire Station at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 29, 2010.

*Motion to approve.*

*Motion: Jerry Andrews Second: Dave Mills*

*All ayes. Motion carried*