

# Alpine Fire Safe Council

**Approved Minutes**  
March 29, 2010  
**6:00 pm, Markleeville Fire Station**

The meeting of the Alpine Fire Safe Council was called to order by Al Moss, Chair, at 6:03 pm at the Markleeville Fire Station, Markleeville, CA 96120.

**Present:**

Al Moss	FSC Board	Woodfords Resident
Steve Yonker	FSC Board	Woodfords 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	Administrator	Woodfords Resident
Jan Bray	CAL FIRE	Tahoe Basin/Alpine County
Will Richmond	Alpine County Dist. Attorney	Woodfords Resident
Tom Sweeney	Alpine County Supervisor	Woodfords Resident

**Absent:**

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

**I. Call to order**

**II. Introductions**

**III. Approve minutes of February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.**

*Motion to approve: Steve Yonker      Second: Kris Hartnett*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

**IV. Annual Meeting**

- a. Resolution approving all actions taken by the officers and staff for the year ended 31-Dec-2009.

*Motion to approve: Steve Yonker      Second: Kris Hartnett*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

- b. Elections of directors to fill the expiring two-year terms of Moss, Yonker, and Mills.

Motion to re-elect Al Moss, Steve Yonker, and Dave Mills to two-year terms.

*Motion to approve: Kris Hartnett Second: Shirley Taylor*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

- c. Election of officers (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary-Treasurer) for one year terms.

A motion was made to elect Kris Hartnett as Chair, Jerry Andrews as Vice-Chair and Shirley Taylor as Secretary-Treasurer.

*Motion to approve: Steve Yonker Second: Dave Mills*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

## **V. Volunteer Times Sheets**

## **VI. Old Business**

- a. Discussion of upcoming RAC meeting and applications.  
Hartnett announced that the RAC meeting will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Early Learning Center in Woodfords. Brees added that if anyone would like copies of the applications the FSC submitted he can email them. Moss questioned how much RAC funding was available. Brees said that there was about \$135,000 in the pot. Hartnett mentioned that he thought the RAC would be awarding grants from two sources of money; remaining funds from 2008/2009 grant period and for the 2009/2010 grant period. Hartnett added that there is some misunderstanding with the RAC and the funds that are available to be awarded. Brees said that he will inquire with the Forest Service representative as to the status of the funding available. Moss questioned if the proxy issue had been settled. Hartnett said that the proxy issue will be decided at the first meeting along with a vote on the bylaws and the RAC chair position. Brees encouraged everyone to attend the RAC meeting and said that when he gets an agenda he will let everyone know what time to arrive for the meeting.
- b. Update on Title III funds and MOU with the County.  
Hartnett said that he felt the Title III money with Alpine County needs a written agreement outlining the funds available and how and when it can be spent. Brees reported that he met with Pamela Knorr, Alpine County CAO, and resolved the FSC's outstanding claims with the county. Brees added that Knorr had said that there is an understanding in place between the Randi Makley, Alpine County Auditor and the in-coming auditor outlining the details of the Title III funds. Brees stated that he will speak with Makley to draft the details of the Title III agreement for Knorr's signature. Brees added that he will also work with Makley and Radelfinger to reconcile the funds in the Title III account. Brees reported that the current balance in the Title III grants is about \$7,600. Bray stated

that she would like to attend the RAC meeting and asked Brees to notify her of the details.

- c. Continued discussion and planning for the spring community wildfire preparedness meetings.

Hartnett questioned if Brees had heard back from the Washoe community to confirm the date set for their wildfire preparedness meeting. Brees said that he had not heard anything from them at this time. Taylor said that the first meeting for Supervisor Skip Veatch's district will be April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Woodfords Fire Station. Hartnett mentioned that Supervisor Tom Sweeney requested that the meeting for his district on May 15<sup>th</sup> be held at the Early Learning Center. Taylor reported that she sent out 14 letters to invitees to the meetings and received a response from Woodfords Fire Chief Buck McClelland and Sheriff John Crawford, both of who will be in attendance. Taylor mentioned that Sheriff Crawford said that he would bring the emergency trailer for display. Taylor asked for direction for the meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup> in regards to follow-ups with those invitees she had not received a response from. Taylor added that she has not heard back from Supervisor Skip Veatch regarding the meeting in his district. Hartnett said that he would help Taylor make the calls to confirm attendees. Brees stated that he would pick up the barbecue supplies at Costco. Moss suggested that they can continue to plan for the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at the Hung-a-Lel-Tei community and if they do not hear from Deane Roberts at the Washoe Tribe to confirm the event, then the meeting date will need to be moved to accommodate them. Hartnett said that he offered to help distribute flyers in their community if they have a volunteer to assist. Hartnett offered to contact Supervisor Philip Bennett to confirm the meeting date. Brees suggested that the flyer for the meeting be included with the AFSC newsletter with the door-to-door distribution as a follow up. After some discussion, it was decided that flyers would be distributed door-to-door on April 10<sup>th</sup>, with everyone who can help to meet at the Woodfords Fire Department at 9am. Brees said that he spoke with the representative that serviced the fire extinguishers at the Markleeville Fire Station and he may be available to service and sell extinguishers for one of the meetings. It was decided that if he could come for one meeting that he attend the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Early Learning Center. Moss questioned the supply of handouts for the meeting. Brees said that he will work with Radelfinger to prepare for the meeting. Harnett asked that everyone arrive at 3pm at the Woodfords Fire Station on April 17<sup>th</sup> to set up for the meeting. Moss mentioned that the county purchased a portable PA system that may be available for the meeting.

- d. Update on the spring newsletter.

Radelfinger distributed a draft of the spring newsletter and asked that any changes be emailed to her by Wednesday. After some discussion and suggested changes, Radelfinger mentioned that the flyer would be sent out

the end of the week. Mills questioned the status of the burn pile this fall. Brees said that burn pile will not be open this spring due to lacking of funding, but the FSC has applied for a RAC grant to fund the burn pile in the fall. Brees added that an application has also been submitted to the State Clearinghouse for the California Fire Safe Council to fund a chipping program for the fall, but award determination will not be made until June. Bray mentioned that CAL FIRE will have 4-5 defensible space inspectors performing inspections this year. Bray added that the inspectors will be assigned solely to 4291 inspections so consistency will increase dramatically. Hartnett questioned if follow up inspections would be done on non-compliant properties from last year's inspections. Bray explained that the home owners that fail their inspection are given 2-3 weeks to comply before a second inspection is done. Bray went on to say that if the home owner is still not in compliance a third inspection is done by a peace officer and citations are given, resulting in a court appearance and fines. Bray said that the non-compliant properties are handled that year, so there is no carry forward to the next year. Mills questioned the cost of the fine for non-compliance. Bray said that the fine was about \$600-700 per violation. Bray added that the FSC can sponsor an inmate crew for a FSC sponsored projects such as assisting senior and disabled home owners with defensible space.

- e. Discussion and possible action regarding opportunities for fundraising at the Death Ride.

Brees reported that they had discussed fundraising opportunities during the Death Ride. Brees mentioned that there was an opportunity for the FSC to serve beer at Turtle Rock Park on Thursday and Friday, July 8-9, for the Death Ride. Brees added that only a couple of people would be needed to man the booth. Brees said that the beer is donated with the FSC receiving all income made off the beer sales. After some discussion of the details, Mills and Taylor offered to help run the booth.

## **VII. New Business**

- a. Discussion of biomass pile options in the absence of the county funding for this spring.

Brees suggested that there be a discussion on ways to keep the biomass pile open to the public. Brees added that that fee driven options could be explored. Hartnett suggested waiting until after the county has finalized their budget before going to them for any assistance. Brees said that there are many people who would pay for use of the service. Moss questioned the feasibility of breaking even on the project. Brees stated that he does not want to see the biomass pile go away and would like to explore other options to keep it running. Moss agreed that there is a need to be proactive in finding a means to manage the biomass pile and felt it should be discussed with a county employee on the subject. Brees said that Brian Peters, Community Development Director would be the one to speak with

on the issue. Moss offered to speak with Peters regarding the biomass pile. Bray mentioned that Alpine County would be a great location for a Conservation Camp and encouraged the supervisors to support the project and put in an application. Bray added that Alpine County would get so much benefit from having one close and the camp would be easily accessible to the Tahoe Basin. Mills questioned the number of inmates housed at the camps. Bray said that it is a low risk facility housing about 4-5 crews, with 17 inmates per crew. Brees said a few places have been discussed as a location for a Conservation Camp.

b. Staff reports.

Brees reported that he attended a meeting with the Forest Service on March 10<sup>th</sup> regarding the NEPA they are working on for fuels reduction around Markleevillage. Brees displayed a map outlining the area to be covered in the NEPA. Brees said that the areas covered have been worked in the past and the project will cover the margins around Markleevillage and Shay Creek.

Brees said that CAL FIRE is on the Board of Supervisors agenda for June 1<sup>st</sup> to give a presentation on the defensible space inspections.

Brees reported that Harnett is currently working on the installation of the siren for Markleeville sponsored by the Markleeville Water Company and the Markleeville Fire Department.

Brees stated that the BLM did some burning at Turtle Rock Park. Brees went on to say that the piles along Hwy. 89 will not be burned for another year as they are too green. Hartnett questioned if fire departments are comfortable with the piles remaining there for another year. Brees said that he is comfortable with that and added that they are far enough away from the road so as not be a threat to access.

c. Board member comments.

Hartnett thanked the board for their confidence in voting him in as chair and said that he looked forward to the coming year.

Taylor questioned the need to change the signature card at the bank with the new officers in place. Radelfinger said that she will be in contact with Hartnett as to what he will need to take into Wells Fargo to be added as a signor on the account.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Set next meeting at the Woodfords Fire Station at 6:00 pm on Monday, April 26, 2010.

*Motion to approve: Steve Yonker                      Second: Kris Hartnett*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*