

**MONTEREY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

December 17, 2008

Please note:

- Meeting Date: All meetings will be held the LAST Thursday of each month (9:00 AM - 10:30 AM) unless specified otherwise.
- Meeting location: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 2221 Garden Road, Monterey; Expanded Dispatch Center behind CDF building. (Please park in front and walk down to dispatch Center)
- Board of Directors meeting will be held at 10:45 AM following the regular Monterey Fire Safe Council (MFSC) meeting.
- **BOLD TYPE: Current issues, action plans and people responsible for these actions appear in bold so that projects move beyond discussion mode. Names in boldface type have agreed to take some action on or before the next meeting.**
- Website: [www/FireSafeMonterey.org](http://www.FireSafeMonterey.org)

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rob Thompson at 9:05 AM
2. INTRODUCTIONS: Those present were introduced as follows:

Jeanie Lewis RRV/HOA

LaVerne McLeod Clear Ridge Water System

Penny Vieregge Big Sur

Lonni Trykowski RTG/HOA

Mike Caplin CPOA/Palo Colorado

Bob Sayre BSFB

Sarah Godfrey BSLT

C. Axelson BSLT/Garrapata

Rob Thompson TW

Edward Muñiz MoCo Public Works

Joe Rawitzer Cachagua Task Force

Pam Peck Mid Coast Fire/Palo Colorado

Steve Dean USSFS

Peter Harris USFS

Bob Taylor Cal Fire

Danny Marquis NRCS

3. **REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the November 30, 2006 meeting were distributed to the Steering Committee and reviewed.

Correction:

a. Rice Straw Bale information (6b steering minutes) change to: per Edward Muñiz: *Sand for sandbags is available free to the public for flood prevention measures for citizens in the unincorporated areas of Monterey County. For site information, go the following web site*
http://www.co.monterey/publicworks/pdfs/SAND_STOCKPILES-10-20-08.PDF

*MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED MADE BY SARAH GODFREY
SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.*

3. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. Scott Eckardt for Dudek (see 5 a).

4. **ACTION ITEMS:** (all completed except CWPP from September list). Request for MFSC action from Mike Caplin & Pam Peck (CPOA). A citation issued by MoCo Planning Dept Enforcers to shareholder for bulldozing a fire break during the Basin Fire. Agenda altered to include CPOA under New Business

5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a. CWPP: E-mail from Scott Eckardt of Dudek dated 12.17.08 stating he is unable to attend the December 18 2008 MFSC on CWPP progress to date with attached spreadsheet for tracking purposes. He anticipates a draft being ready by mid January to personally present at the January 29, 2009 meeting. He states that they do not need an extension and can give us the deliverables in the assigned time.

ACTION: CHIEF TAYLOR TO CONTINUE TRACKING DOWN FRAP DISCS.

b. Public Education:

a. Website: Lisa Goettel_ LG unable to attend. She writes that she has received the host information and is starting to update the site. She will include the Pine Cone article.

b. Amber Gardiner Grant Workshop in Big Sur: Bob Sayre reports that 41 people attended 26 from Big Sur. Santa Clara FSC had 5 Fire Planning reps present There was enthusiasm, networking and an offered trip to the Partington Ridge Project. All were interested in writing grants. Points of interest:

- Among all Agencies, USFS with twenty-three million available generated much interest. They are offering 90% for 10% In-Kind work.
- Urged to put several neighborhood request under one log-in name
- If using MFSC as your fiscal sponsor it be sure to include the MFSC 10% fee above what you are asking for. This is expected by the Clearing House... Label it as such. Also include Public Education and needed equipment. Also, please, inform MFSC of your log in name and separate passwords. Only the President and secretary will have them in order to audit reporting schedules.
- Alan Thompson's handout. **ACTION ITEM: BOB SAYRE WILL CALL ALAN T. AND FORWARD HIS HANDOUT TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE WORKSHOP.**
- If MSFC is not used as a fiscal sponsor we are still available as an advisor and supporter. All grant writers are encouraged to attend MFSC Steering Committee meetings for advice, networking and informational updates. Per Bob Sayre, "We are here to facilitate the process and answer questions".

Bob Sayre reminds us that the Workshop advised that there be one Grant name under each major geographic designation with smaller neighborhoods Since 5 attendees at the meeting intend to write Grants, Bob S. sends around a sign up sheet for names, primary Grant cover with smaller enclaves sub headed.

6. **PROJECT SUMMARIES:**

- a. Partington Ridge: Bob Sayre – Agencies giving favorable/enthusiastic reports. The extension was granted and remaining funds shall be used in the Spring of 2009. Bob plans to resign as MFSC Board member then as his BSLT work is overwhelming him. He shall remain as a Grant Advisor.
- b. Rancho Tierra Grande: Lonni Trykowski reports that since RTG is surrounded by MoCo property the group is working to encourage the County to release county funds that have been designated and set aside for the upkeep of these roads. The HOA have a plan showing all the phases of their plan. Shareholders are already laying down fire protection strips around their portions subdivision. Chief Taylor has the Gavilan crews ready to start Phase 1 this spring. Much appreciation and thanks go to Chief Robert Taylor and the work he is doing to interface with the County for the release of the designated funds. **ACTION:**

7. **OLD BUSINESS:** (no reports)

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Palo Colorado:

1. Mike Caplin **ACTION: MIKE C. TO OBTAIN SHAREHOLDER DETAILS OF BASIN FIRE TICKETING INCIDENT AND EMAIL TO SECRETARY WHO WILL DISTRIBUTE.** The group discussed the conflict between the State law requiring 100 foot fire clearance at all times and the County tagging a shareholder for using a bulldozer without a permit for this clearance while there is a fire incident going on. There are questions regarding environmental positive or negative benefit and how can these actions be applied to public health and safety and was this action of community benefit or private benefit. All agree that there is a need for clarity. Bob Sayre pointed out that the County was flexible with the Big Sur/Partington Ridge project. **ACTION: CHIEF TAYLOR TO FOLLOW UP ON THIS AND REPORT AT THE JANUARY MEETING. MOTION THAT ROB THOMPSON ALSO FOLLOW UP AND POSSIBLY DRAFT A LETTER TO THE COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CALLING ATTENTION TO THE APPARENT CONFLICT WITH STATE CODES AND COUNTY ENFORCERS MADE BY MIGUEL ERREA SECOND BOB SAYRE. APPROVED. ACTION: ROB THOMPSON TO INVESTIGATE, AND POSSIBLY DRAFT A LETTER AND E-MAIL TO BOARD FOR INPUT AND APPROVAL.**
2. Mike Caplin reports that there have already been meetings of PC residents to discuss the grant process and organize prioritize. Those who met feel that the top priority is road access /clearance followed by clearing defensible space. Overall fuel reduction is the third focus. Mike is reminded that public education/PR should be included in the Grant request as well as some equipment. Pam Speck informs us of close to 300 shareholders on community roads not all of whom are willing to commit to a group effort... The first step for the organizing group is to get information out to these shareholders for feedback. The second question is insurance coverage. **ACTION: PAM AND MIKE TO CALL AMBER GARDINER FOR A LONG CONVERSATION TO ESTABLISH ALL PRIORITIES AND ASK WHAT IS NEEDED FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE. ACTION: PALO GROUP TO SCHEDULE REGULAR OPEN MEETINGS.** The question arose as to whether the main PC road is a County Road. **ACTION: EDWARD MUÑIZ TO GET THIS INFORMATION AND EMAIL mcaplin@mbay.net . sgodfrey@bigsurlantrust.org and Thompsonwrm@gmail.com** Attention was called to the Hazard Reduction lawsuit in Santa Cruz over County upkeep before the Travine Fire. **ACTION: STEVE DEAN TO FOLLOW UP AND REPORT.**
9. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Steve Dean distributes Fire Calendars.
10. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT MADE BY SARAH GODFREY, SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 29, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Vieregge,
MFSC Secretary