

MONTEREY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting 2/24/20:

Please take note:

- Meeting Date: All meeting will be held the LAST Thursday of each month unless specified otherwise
 - Meeting location: Cal Fire Headquarters at 2221 Garden Road, Monterey Expanded Dispatch Center behind the main building. (Please park in front and walk down to the Dispatch Center).
 - **NEXT MEETING: MARCH 31, 2011**
 - Currently the Board of Directors is meeting at 9:00 AM for Board specific business. This will be followed at 9:30 by a General Meeting (Steering Committee 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)
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9:00 am – Board Meeting

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:03 by President Kelly O'Brien. There was an immediate surprise retirement celebration to honor Chief Robert Taylor, Cal Fire Advisor to the Board. He was presented with two plaques and the sincere hope that this retirement will be similar to the last two which saw him continuing to advise the Board

Board Members Present: Kelly O'Brien (President), Dick Ravich (Vice President) Jeanie Lewis (Treasurer), Penny Vieregge (Secretary), Mike Caplin (CPOA/CERT), Miguel Errea (MoCoCattlemen), Peter Harris (Advisor USFS), Hal Latta (Big Sur CERT), Lynne Semeria (HCFC), Bob Taylor (Advisor Cal Fire), Lonni Trykowski (RTG/HOA).

Board Members Absent: Rob Thompson (TWM)

Non-Board Members Present: Mike Emmett (HCFC), Steve Daus (ProMgr Big Sur Grant), Pam Peck (CPOA/CERT/PI Colorado), Dennis Carreiro (Cal Fire), Becky Reisdorf (CERT), Eddie Bennett (CHFS),

A, Distribution of:

- a. Sign-in Sheet will be handed out at each meeting.
- b. In-Kind Hours Record Sheet: President Kelly announced that In-Kind times will be entered with the Secretary before each meeting. The forms were handed out.
ACTION: STEVE DAUS TO PUT HIS HOURS INTO BIG SUR. ACTION: KELLY TO SEND STEVE THE LINK TO GOOGLE.

2. Review of the Minutes: (Agenda changed on point-of-order by Dick Ravich) The minutes of January 27, 2011 were reviewed.

Corrections:

Section 3: change to "Proposition 172 applies to Fire and Police. The MFSC is not eligible for funds.

Spelling: Rancho Cielo

Section 9a: Linda Pollack – change to Cal Fire

Section 9B: Delete the last sentence

Section 10B: Mike Caplin speaks of the need to focus on the Vegetation Section and its definitions. Delete the last sentence

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMMENDED MADE BY DICK RAVICH SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED

3. Financial Reports Jeanie Lewis Summary.

A. Treasurer's Report – Jeanie Lewis distributed the summary report. It is on file. *MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT MADE BE DICK RAVICH SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.*

B. Big Sur Grant Bookkeeper's Report: Pam Peck reports no activity on this account balance.

C. Invoices Received:

Sonja Koehler - \$361.25

Penny Vieregge - \$412.50

Daus Environmental - \$2,971.22

D. Authorization to Pay Invoices

MOTION TO PAY THE THREE INVOICES MADE BY DICK RAVICH SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED. Monies to come from Administration.

4. New Business – Kelly O'Brien

A. Moving MFSC Bookkeeping format from Excel to QuickBooks: President O'Brien reports on the previous on-line discussion. *MOTION THAT MFSC MOVE TO QUIKBOOKS FORMAT FOR OUR BOOKKEEPING MADE BY DICK RAVICH SECOND LYNNE SEMERIA.*

Discussion: There was a lively discussion of the pros and cons of switching formats which ceased when President O'Brien asked for any strong objection to moving. The vote was then called for and the motion *APPROVED*. Citing personal time constraints when it comes to transferring all the data Jeanie Lewis resigned her volunteer position as Treasurer. She also resigned from the Board. After some discussion her resignation was reluctantly accepted. A *MOTION TO ACCEPT JEANIE LEWIS'S RESIGNATION FROM THE BOARD TO BE EFFECTIVE BEFORE MARCH 31, 2011 WAS MADE BY LONNI TRYKOWSKI SECOND LYNNE SEMERIA. APPROVED.*

B. Hiring a bookkeeper: Pam Peck (paid bookkeeper for the Big Sur Grant) has expressed an interest in the job of MFSC bookkeeper. She is familiar with Quikbooks and prefers that format. **ACTION: PAM P. IS TO SEND A LETTER OF APPLICATION AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATING WHAT COMPENSATION SHE WOULD EXPECT.** *MOTION TO OFFER PAM THE POSITION As BOOKEEPER AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR PENDING FINAL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION SHE REQUESTS WAS MADE BY DICK RAVICH SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.*

Non Agenda Item: *MOTION FROM THE FLOOR BY DICK RAVICH TO NOMINATE PAM PECK AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE MFSC, SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED. ACTION: SECRETARY TO GIVE A DIRECTOR WELCOME MANUAL TO PAM PECK.* It was pointed out that the MFSC needed a Treasurer and this position was separate from the hiring of a bookkeeper. Chair O'Brien then asked the Board if any other member would like to volunteer to take up this position. *MOTION TO NOMINATE BOARD MEMBER PAM PECK AS TREASURER OF THE MFSC WAS MADE BY DICK RAVICH SECOND MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.*

Non-Agenda Item: It was noted that the changes of format and structure taking place now and being discussed for the future, should best be coming through the newly empowered Strategic Planning Committee. This committee is composed of Frank Pinney, Jonathan Pangburn, Kelly O'Brien, and Edward Muñiz. *MOTION THAT THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE BE TASKED TO BRING TO THE BOARD CLEAR RECOMMENDATIONS OF POSSIBLE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN FORMAT, MISSION STATEMENT AND NECESSARY REVISION OF BYLAWS MADE BY PENNY VIEREGGE SECOND DICK RAVICH. ACTION: CHAIRMAN PINNEY TO SCHEDULE A MEETING SOONEST. PENNY V. OFFERS TO DOCUMENT THE MEETING.*

C. Application received for a paid position of Grant Writer.

The letter of application and the presence of Becky Reisdorf opened another discussion of the current growth and development of the MFSC. Dick Ravich of the Grant Committee appraised Becky of the need to combine grant writing with Outreach to the public. This job involves making a plan for development as well as grant writing. The position will involve close work with the SPC (Strategic Planning Committee). Becky states that she is prepared to go after corporate donations while writing her compensation into the application, Some grantors encourage this. Becky has been working closely with our Grant Committee since its formation. **ACTION: BECKY TO WRITE AN OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS AND GOALS SHE HAS IN MIND AND GIVE TO THE COUNCIL.** Frank Pinney states that the Strategic Planning Committee is addressing strategies and goals to develop grant writing and planning and will apply the PG&E Grant to these goals. Robin Hamil states that Becky has sources and will bring them to the strategic planning committee.

Dick R. also requests clarity regarding our name. Are we Monterey FSC or Monterey County FSC. The Strategic Planning Committee will follow up this inquiry..
He also suggests that we change our name to Monterey County Fire Safe Council.

5. ADJOURNMENT: *MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY PENNY VIEREGGE SECOND DICK RAVICH. APPROVED.* The Board meeting was adjourned at 10:15

MFSC GENERAL MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The General meeting was called to order by President O'Brien at 10:40. Present were all of the above and Frank Pinney (BSVFB) and Pam Silkwood (El Sur Ranch)
2. **YEARLY FINANCIAL REPORT:** Chuck Winge, CPA and overseer of the MFSC finances presented a Summary of Financial Activity of the Calendar Year 2010.
3. **Correspondence**
 - A. Notification that the MCCWPP Signature Pages are Complete and have been signed off by Salinas and filed with the County. Kelly has a copy in her files. The document is also on our website.
 - B. From Jack Galanti, of Galanti Vineyards, giving dates of their private fire protection planning meeting. **DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Since this does not involve the MFSC No response is required.
4. Project Summaries:
 - A. Big Sur Grant
 - a. Status Update – Steve Daus reports a major field effort and great results with one hundred and sixty acres cleared. The job breaks down to 33 acres of handwork, 48 acres work along the road and 78 acres of upslope. Linda Pollak of Cal Fire has signed them off for project completion and environmental compliance. **ACTION: HAL LATTA (CERT) CAN NOW REQUEST THE \$264,000 OF OUR NEXT CHECK PAYMENT + A THREE MONTH EXTENSION..** The Gavilan inmate crews brought us in enormously under budget. We can now use that saved money to fund additional acres. Steve D. formally recommends that the Board not put the additional work out to bid. Rancho Cielo and the Gavilan Crews are local entities whom we want to support. **ACTION: STEVE TO CONTACT NORTH STAR'S CHRIS ORBIN.** The Cielo Crew (Youth at Risk) will require direct oversight by Steve. He is already developing teaching plans.
 - b. Cert Report – Hal Latta (no report)
 - B. Carmel Highlands FSC – Lynne Semeria and Mike Emmett The Fair is scheduled for May 14, 2011.
 - C. Rancho Tierra Grande – Lonni Trykowski reports that the clearing of Buckeye Canyon is continuing. Lonni deeply thanks Edward Muñoz and Chief Taylor for their outstanding support.
5. Committee Reports
 - A. Strategic Planning:
 - a. Multi-Community Large Grant Committee – Lynne Semeria reports that she and Jonathan P. are exploring ways to fulfill the MFSC mission for public outreach and education. This includes distribution of pamphlets, presentations at County Fairs and schools, Mike Emmett is looking into the Fire Trailer for school exercises. **ACTION: PENNY V. TO SEARCH HER FILES FOR SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS DEVELOPED IN THE PAST THROUGH THE BRIGADE AND RED CROSS AND BRING TO NEXT PLANNING MEETING.** The group is continuing to work on grant applications for outreach work. Through planning for Multi-Community Grants they plan to network with other Fire Safe Councils and exchange hosted joint meetings. Santa Clara Open Space District has hosted meetings of Fire Safe Councils.
 - b. Grant Applications Status Report – Sonja C. Koehler (No Report)
 - c. Fund Raising – Sonja C. Koehler (No Report)

B. MC2WG

- a. CWPP Science Section' Plan for Completion – Mike Emmett reports that Jonathan Pangburn continues to work with Dr. Stevens. There is particular concern on clarity of language defining vegetation conditions. **MOTION THAT MFSC NEGOTIATION OF SECTION 3.1.2 OF THE CWPP BE LIMITED TO DISCUSSION OF VEGATATION AND FUEL MADE BY MIKE CAPLIN SECOND MIKE EMMETT. APPROVED. ACTION: MIKE E. AND MIKE C. TO EMAIL JONATHAN P. WITH THIS INFORMATION.**

C. Public Information and Education:

- a. Website – donation button still not operating. **ACTION: KELLY O.**
b. Website updating – Kelly O'Brien reports that due to time constraints of her life, we need a volunteer "Webmaster" to keep abreast of in house updating. No volunteer comes forward. Search will continue via email..
c. "Original" Documents File – Dick Ravich- Jonathan P. offers dedicated space at Cal Fire headquarters. As time permits he will supply someone to scan the hard copy into it
d. Workshops per Dick Ravich a Grant Workshop is being planned for June which might be helpful for projects of 2012.

6. Old Business (tabled to March 24th Meeting):

- A. Community Chipping Program
B. Review of Action Items (attached)

7. New Business: Peter Harris reports that Sherry Tune requests that the MFSC become a host on a **FIRESCAPES MONTEREY** website for a \$50 fee. The Council is startled by such a very low fee. **ACTION: PETER H. TO ASK SHERRY FOR MORE CLARITY ON HER REQUEST AND HER BUDGET NEEDS AND BRING TO THE MARCH MEETING.**

8. Good of the Order –Council members and like minded friends are urged to come to Big Sur on March 19th to an 'open mike' with Sam Farr. This meeting is sponsored by Congressman Farr and the Coast Property Owners' Association. It will be held at Pfeiffer State Park Conference Center from 10:00AM to 12:00 PM . Congressman Farr is preparing a Bill which concerns the Los Padres Forest district developing its own management unit. A major focus of the Bill concerns changing boundries, maintenance of fuel breaks and the ability to access these fuel breaks during fires. Section I of this bill runs counter to the Fire Save Council input on the local CWPP and appears to negate much of the work already done and signed off by the MoCo Board of Supervisors. Pam Silkwood also suggests a recommendation/discussion on negotiations to allow the unit manager to be able to allow equipment during a wildfire without the day long delays of applying for government permission. **ACTION: MICHAEL EMMET WILL DRAFT A ONE PAGE LETTER EXPRESSING THE COUNCIL'S VIEWS AND SEND IT TO THE CONGRESSMAN.**

9. **ADJOURNMENT: MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY PENNY VIEREGGE SECOND BY MIGUEL ERREA. APPROVED.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Vieregge, MFSC Secretary

NEXT MEETING MARCH 31, 2011

9:00 AM