



MONTEREY FIRESAFE COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2011

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Monterey FireSafe Council (MFSC) was held at the CAL FIRE Headquarters located at 2221 Garden Road, Monterey on May 26, 2011. Board President Kelly O'Brien called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

Present: Miguel Errea, Peter Harris, Hal Latta, Kelly O' Brien, Dick Ravich, Becky Reisdorf, Lynne Semeria, Bob Taylor.

Absent: Mike Caplin, Mike Chiodini, Pam Peck, Rob Thompson, Lonni Trykowski.

Others Present: Eddie Bennett, Steve Daus, Michael Emmett, Seth Parker, Felix Sorrentino.

The meeting sign-in sheet was distributed and the recording of In-kind hours took place.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report

Currently the MFSC Administrative Acct balance is \$45,085.10, Big Sur Grant Checking Acct balance is \$2865.90 and Big Sur Grant Savings Acct is \$194.21. See attached report.

Bookkeeper's Report

Rancho Tierra Grande Grant has received \$35,500.00 to date with \$5,325.00 going to MFSC as fiscal sponsor and \$1800.79 paid towards expenses making the net amount remaining \$12,174.41. See attached report

Highlands Chipper Grant has received \$43,576.00 with \$897.00 going to MFSC as fiscal sponsor.

Highlands CWPP Grant of \$28,875.00. Of that \$18,405.00 has been received, \$2,760.75 going to MFSC as fiscal sponsor, \$1,508.75 paid towards expenses making the net amount remaining \$14,135.50

PG&E Grant of \$2500.00 has been received

Big Sur Grant of \$436,964.00. Of that \$59,237.00 has been received, \$20,679.24 is currently in the Big Sur Grant Account with \$38,557.76 going to MFSC as fiscal sponsor. Additional monies should be arriving any day from Sacramento.

Motion 11-5-01

Moved by Dick Ravich, seconded by Hal Latta, and unanimously carried, to approve the Treasurer's and Bookkeepers Reports as submitted

Invoices Received

Secretarial Services - Penny Vieregge - \$143.75
Miscellaneous - Highlands CWPP Grant - \$2695.73

Pending

Rancho Tierra Grande - Canyon Tree Service - \$6,230.00 (There was a correction to the previous treasurer's report correcting this amount from \$6,323 to \$6,230 to match the amount on the invoice.)

Motion 11-5-02

Moved by Dick Ravich, seconded by Hal Latta, and unanimously carried, to approve payment of invoices received by Penny Vieregge, Highlands CWPP and Grande Canyon Tree after confirmation that work has been completed as directed).

ACTION: Kelly O'Brien to discuss the addition of 2 signature lines on the check request form with Pam Peck. One for Approval of Board, Second for Acknowledgement that work has been completed

OLD BUSINESS:

Adopting formal Accounting Policies and Procedures – Pam Peck. An update from Pam Peck is not available at this time and will be carried to next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

Motion 11-5-03

Moved by Hal Latta, seconded by Miguel Errea, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the Board of Director's Meeting at 9:30 AM and immediately continue with the General Board Meeting.

MONTEREY FIRESAFE COUNCIL
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2011

CORRESPONDENCE:

Randy Richter of the FireSafe Council notified Kelly O'Brien that the Big Sur Grant Monies are expected in approximately 2 weeks.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 28, 2011:

Corrections:

- Board Members Present should read: Mike Caplin, Peter Harris, Hal Latta, Kelly O'Brien, Dick Ravich, Lynne Semeria, Bob Taylor, Rob Thompson, Penny Vieregge.
- Board Members Absent should read: Mike Chiodini, Miguel Errea, Lonni Trykowski.
- Non Board Members Present should read: Robin Hamelin, Jonathan Pangburn, Joe Rawitzer, Kerri Frangioso, Frank Pinney, David Schiffman, Seth Parker.
- Financial Reports discussion - A bill for ledger books. This is not an MFSC order, Wells Fargo to be informed by Pam Peck to be continued to next meeting.
- Old Business should read Pam Silkwood is in the process of suggesting revisions to the MFSC bylaws.
- New Business should read Kelly O'Brien to inform Becky Reisdorf of acceptance as MFSC Secretary.
- Reports should read Hal Latta reports that he is encouraging Chief Hutchinson to appoint another paid person to attend MFSC meetings as well.
- New Business should read Kerri to email flyer to Kelly for posting on MFSC website.

Motion 11-5-04

Moved by Dick Ravich, seconded by Hal Latta, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes, with corrections indicated, of the regular board meeting held on April 28, 2011.

Action Items Review

- Pam Peck to email a copy of the Treasurers Report to Kelly O'Brien - Completed
- Pam Peck requested Lonnie Trykowski to clarify Tierra Grande Grant information - Ongoing
- Pam Peck to email Kelly O'Brien invoices/check requests - Completed
- Kelly O'Brien to give Pam Peck access number for online banking - Ongoing
- Kerri Frangiosa to email Kelly O'Brien flyer for posting on MFSC website - Completed
- Hal Latta and Steve Daus to prepare a letter to Congressman Farr – On Hold
- Kelly O'Brien to check with Pam Silkwood about the name change of Monterey FireSafe Council to Monterey County FireSafe Council - Ongoing
- Strategic Planning Committee to briefly meet directly following the 4/28/11 meeting – Completed
- Jonathan Pangburn to check on changes written in Science section of MCCWPP - Ongoing
- Kelly O'Brien to collect proposals for website upkeep - Ongoing
- Kelly O'Brien to follow up on Fire Warden - Ongoing

PROJECT SUMMARIES:

Big Sur Grant - Status Update – Steve Daus updated members about his short presentation to the California FireSafe Council Meeting. He submitted a written analysis of the MFSC situation in the areas of their support though environmental compliance and funding areas which was well received. Many thanks to Steve for doing this. Steve Daus also met with the Rancho Cielo Crew and completed training with them. They are ready to go as soon as grant money is in hand and work can be authorized. Operational maps continue to be prepared and updated.

Hal Latta spoke with Randy Richter of the California Fire Safe Council and found out that there is now a mandatory meeting for grant awardees.

Cert Report - None at this time.

Carmel Highlands FSC – Lynne Semeria and Michael Emmett report that the Public Safety Fair took place Saturday, May 21st at the Carmel Highlands Fire Station. It was a success attended by over 75 residents, 22 vendors, and 27 volunteers. Positive feedback was received. There were 12 new sign ups for CERT and 2 new sign ups for MFSC. California FireSafe Council was unable to provide a logo to be used for a MFSC banner – however it will be addressed in the future. Michael Emmett informed members that his son is available to assist with a banner if necessary.

ACTION: Lynne Semeria or Michael Emmett to provide a paragraph or two about the Open House with photos to Kelly O'Brien for posting on the MFSC website.

Rancho Tierra Grande – An update from Lonni Trykowski is not available at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Strategic Planning - Frank Pinney not available at this time, however reports through Dick Ravich, that the committee is working in two areas, fiscal and, operational. Contract submissions from Ann Simmons and Sonja Koehler are available for review. This item tabled to next meeting.

Multi-Community Large Grant Committee – An update from Jonathan Pangburn is not available at this time.

MC2WG - 'Science Section' Plan for Completion – Michael Emmett updated members that this is still on FireScope plans. At this time Jonathan Pangburn is on lead. This item tabled to next meeting.

Public Information and Education - MFSC Website updating: Kelly O. reports that at this time Kelly is waiting for quote from Birdwing.

Becky Reisdorf's public outreach proposal is tabled to next meeting in an effort to coordinate efforts with the MFSC's new Strategic Plan.

ACTION: The Entire Committee Reports section is tabled to the next meeting for review and continuance.

REPORTS:

Bylaws Revision - Pam Silkwood has submitted revisions to Kelly O'Brien. Kelly will distribute notes from Pam on suggested revisions. Dick Ravich suggested that the MFSC remain as much of a citizen group as possible, rather than have it morph into an agency. Advisors are an excellent resource; however the Board should be made mostly of citizens. All present agreed with this.

ACTION: Dick Ravich to forward a copy of the By Laws suggested revision to Miguel Errea.

2011 National Fire Themes - Pete Harris, USFS-LPNF: Offers the themes that encourage communication between the agencies and the home/land owners. 2011 themes are 1) Safety of the public and firefighters is the top consideration in fire and aviation management; 2) Fires are managed in different ways; 3) Firefighters count on you to do your part; 4) Fire Seasons are expected to become longer and more difficult; 5) Teamwork is essential in wild land fire. This information and more can be found at www.scribd.com or www.ramblingchief.com. A link from the MFSC website should be added.

Pete Harris also noted that the Brazil Ranch prescribed burn is still planned for possibly late June 2011.

ACTION: Kelly O'Brien to update the MFSC website with a link.

CAL FIRE Fire Plan - Catey Trenner reported that the Fire Plan is due out in a few weeks and those interested will find it has a whole new feel since the Battalion Chiefs and those on the ground have input on project prioritization. Assets at risk, fire history and project priority are all reviewed by Battalion Chiefs, MFSC and public requests. It is believed that the Fire Plan is a "working document" that will be updated and revised every year. Catey Trenner will be reviewing current CWPPs, working with Jonathan Pangburn and the VMPs to create a "wish list". Public education, LE100 program, and other projects will be put into the pre-plan. CAL FIRE is looking for input from the MFSC, community and stakeholders. When completed this will be CWPP compliant. Hal Latta asked if the Fire Plan this will be focused on fuel modification or just fire suppression activities and Catey Trenner informed that there is a section on Fire Fighting resources and capabilities but the emphasis will be on Projects, Public Education and Fire Prevention. Catey Trenner informed Dick Ravich that this will be a public document. Dick Ravich reminded Catey to review appendix D in the current CWPP for a list of potential area projects. Dick Ravich commented and thanked CALFIRE for really stepping up. Their efforts are much appreciated and recognized by the public and the MFSC. Hal Latta asked if this will be coordinated with grants to provide for a more contiguous application. Catey reminded everyone that Grant providers do look at continuity and that this would be a great opportunity to make show that. She also offered that if anyone has anything specific that they'd like to see in the Fire Plan, to please contact her directly.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Chipping Program Ongoing
In-Kind Hours Documentation - Ongoing
Review of Action Items - Completed

NEW BUSINESS:

Volunteers for committees – If you know of anyone who is interested in MFSC please ask them to attend and participate in meetings, especially those already interested in fire safe activity. This will expand our client/participation base and offer additional support for committees.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Dick Ravich noted that he recently spoke with Jean Yamamoto from Santa Barbara County who is currently working on a local CWPP and is running into the same issues with the environmental groups as well as the local county government. Dick reminded her that they need to stick to their guns and ensure that what they feel most passionate about should be in the document. We should all know that our CWPP is being recognized by other counties pursuing a local CWPP.

An Anonymous website has been created regarding Sam Farr and his proposed Wild Fire Safety Plan. The open to the public meeting will take place on June 18, from 10am-12noon specifically regarding his Big Sur plan. All are encouraged to attend the meeting at the Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Conference Room. Sam Farr is scheduled to attend and accept public input for his Big Sur Management Unit. Sam Farr is also considering language regarding fuel/fire breaks, Brazil Ranch, mechanized equipment decisions (to be made on a local level rather than by Washington DC), etc.. Since this affects all the communities surrounding the forest in Monterey County and not just Big Sur, all are encouraged to attend.

ACTION: Kelly O'Brien will request KUSP cover the Sam Farr meeting and other similar events on a continuous basis.

Michael Emmett commented on FireScope Monterey. They are always looking for additional members and the collaboration is going well. The east side, Santa Lucia area, is in need of representation. The next workshop is June 7th & 8th at the Carmel Valley Arts Center. All are welcomed to attend and lunch is provided for all attendees. Thank you to Michael Emmet, Pete Harris and others for participating in this.

ACTION: Lynn Semeria will forward FireScope Monterey signup information to Hal Latta.

Felix Sorentino, from PG & E announced that they are working on targeted projects above and beyond what needs to be done to decrease power outages. PG&E is increasing the amounts of targeted area this year in an effort to ultimately prevent fire starts. Felix is familiar with the current PG&E grants and may be of assistance to us in applying.

ACTION: Becky Reisdorf will work with Felix Sorentino to learn more about the current PG&E Grant opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion 11-5-05

Moved by Miguel Errea, seconded by Hal Latta, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the General Board Meeting at 11:08 AM at the CAL FIRE Headquarters located at 2221 Garden Road, Monterey.

Next Meeting scheduled for June 30, 2011

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Reisdorf
Secretary



Action Items **From 5-26-2011 MFSC Meeting**

Kelly O'Brien:

1. Contact Pam Peck to explain Approval Form update: Addition of language certification of work completed and Board approval signature line.
2. Committee Reports Section regarding Strategic Planning tabled to next meeting.
3. Add 2011 National Fire Themes link from Pete Harris to MFSC website.
4. Request KUSP to cover Sam Farr meeting on 6/18/11.

Dick Ravich:

1. Email Miguel Errea the additions and suggestions to the MFSC bylaws made by Pam Silkwood.

Becky Reisdorf:

1. Pull Action Items out of Minutes for separate distribution and ease of completion.
2. Work with Felix Sorentino from PG&E regarding current grant opportunities.

Lynn Semeria

1. Send Kelly O'Brien a photo and brief paragraph about the Highlands Open house for addition to the MFSC website.
2. Email sign up to FireScape Monterey meeting to Hal Latta.

General

1. The Entire Committee Reports section is tabled to the next meeting for review and continuance.

Action Items **From 4-28-2011 MFSC Meeting**

- Pam Peck to email a copy of the Treasurers Report to Kelly O'Brien - Completed
- Pam Peck requested Lonnie Trykowski to clarify Tierra Grande Grant information - Ongoing
- Pam Peck to email Kelly O'Brien invoices/check requests - Completed
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