



Amador Fire Safe Council

PO Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665

209-304-2187 www.AmadorFireSafe.org



February 20, 2019
Amador County Ag. Building, Large Conference Room
12200 Airport Rd # B, Jackson, CA 95642
1500-1700 hours

Minutes

In Attendance:

Directors: Pat Minyard, John Heissenbuttel, Jan Bray, Jay Francis, Frank Leschinsky, Connie Gonsalves.

Coordinator: Absent due to illness: Amanda Watson.

Agency: Debbie Mackey/City of Jackson, Eric Brown/SMUD Vegetation Program Manager (ECFSC Director), AFPD Chief Walt White.

Public: See sign-up sheet. Best attempt from audible introduction: Robert Deacon/SR Road, Larry Fausen, Mike Chanowski/Happy Trails Road Fund, Dick & Therese Stamm/SC & Pioneer, Tom Ellison, Lynne Nightingale/Committee on Aging, Steve Bonner/Upcountry.

Meeting called to order by Chair Pat Minyard at 1501 hours. **Action items are noted in yellow.**

- I. Approve/Modify Agenda – agenda approved unanimously.
- II. Approved January 2019 Minutes – unanimous approval.
- III. Introductions (many public members).
- IV. Treasurers Report - John states there is \$34,698.01 in the grants account. Amanda has requested an advance (circa \$66,000) on the Mitchell Mine project. We received \$208 more from the Foundation for Good. Taxes were filed.
- V. Coordinator Report – Pat for Amanda
 - a. Reviewed Coordinator Report from January 15 to February 19. CAL FIRE meeting at Red Corral on January 27. Upcoming meeting at Pine Grove on February 27. SIRS luncheon March 7 (**Amanda needs Directors to attend**). Earth Day April 27 – possibly at Detert Park (Emily Beals organizer).
 - b. Grant Updates:
 - 2019 PG&E: Charity grant funds unknown due to bankruptcy filing.
 - c. Mitchell Mine FB: A few more Rights of Entry came in – bringing total to 57%. More door-to-door help by CAL FIRE will happen. We **need more outreach** via neighbors. RFP for remaining CEQA will be advertised soon.

- d. Title III County funds. Website Development - about \$6300 available to spend on website, and/or outreach materials.
 - e. Recent Grant Submittals:
 - i. SNC - Antelope (not funded) and Tiger Creek (funded) projects submitted to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for planning (CEQA and NEPA, respectively). Antelope project will move forward via CalAmTeam and/or SPI.
 - ii. CCI – Antelope (Jan) and Tiger Creek (John) projects were submitted to CAL FIRE’s Fire Prevention grant program for implementation. Waiting to hear from CAL FIRE on decisions.
 - iii. CCI – Education/Outreach (Amanda) grant submitted to CCI CAL FIRE under the Fire Prevention grant program (again, waiting to hear from CAL FIRE on funding decisions).
- VI. Board Member Recruitment – letter needs to be sent for recruitment (John). Sample organizations: Board of Realtor, Amador Water Agency, AmCo Public Works, AmCo Board of Supervisors, John Silva/AmCo OES, AmCo Fire Chiefs Association, AT&T, Service Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, Native Sons/Daughters), EBMUD, Comcast, FEMA. Larry Fossen/Happy Trails Road Fund volunteered to be on exploring grant opportunities committee: POB 1416, Sutter Creek, CA 95685, larryfossen@yahoo.com, 209-296-2609 home, 209-304-5308 cell.
- VII. AFSC Policies & Procedures Manual (Amanda) – postponed to the March meeting. Directors are requested to read and provide input based on the online version previously emailed to all in preparation of the March meeting discussion.
- VIII. Grant Committee Update – Project Prioritization (John) – Draft dispersed. Project submissions will be rated per Prioritization Criteria.
- Grant Committee needs to meet again to rank projects and develop a CCI grant to lump all evacuation projects together into one grant application.
- Need to develop an ask letter to AT&T for evacuation grant program. Include the Strategic Plan (John).
- IX. Fuels Reduction Collaborative 2019 meeting – is being planned by Amanda, Jan and John. Date is March 26, 2019. Location TBD. For March AFSC meeting, present interactive pdf maps.
- X. Fire Cameras (Frank) – working with UNR with PG&E funding on various sites. Installation to begin in March 2019. First wave of backhaul installation is occurring: Red Corral, West Point, Ione/Gold Country Pet Resort, Garibaldi/Omo Ranch Road. Other identified sites: Armstrong LO tower, Mt. Zion LO tower, Kennedy Mine head shaft, Preston castle. CAL FIRE will pay for 100 more cameras statewide.

Cameras will be operational 24/7/365. High definition, military grade. The program is entirely financed by PG&E and UNR. Frank will find out if the software has an audible alert for sensing smoke. Frank is checking into a site near Westover Field. Website for public access is: AlertWildfire.org.

- XI. Fire Insurance – BOS is willing to discuss County ordinances for fuels reduction. Connie handed out fire insurance information; the FAIR plan is about the only company still packaging new insurance policies. Per Eric Brown, inspections are made on PRC 4291 requirements and are fined if not in compliance via tax bill. ED County is also working on compliance requirements for undeveloped lots.
- XII. Public Comment: Members spoke on a variety of issues throughout meeting on all topics. Very provocative and enjoyed by all; AFSC truly appreciates the increasing input and involvement of Amador County residents. Pat wants the Right-Of-Entry to be mandatory for evacuation projects. Eric Brown has the software for drilling down in the CPUC maps (street level), but Jay said the mapping is by watershed (so the whole watershed is either in or out of a designation).
- XIII. March Meeting: March 20, 2019 at 1500 hours.
- XIV. Meeting adjourned at 1644 hours.