



Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council Online Board Meeting Thursday, April 19, 2012

Attendance: Terry Bolt, Don Davis, Tom Gelder, Christine Hancock, Gordon Hancock, Sharon Rooney, Lloyd Smith, Penny Lampkins, Hayward Mendenhall with reports from Patrick Pontes and Ken Delfino

The meeting was held on-line.

Committee Reports:

President's Report – Lloyd Smith

- On 29 March Lloyd presided over an emergency meeting of the elected board of directors (75 miles, 3 hours). The primary purpose of the meeting was to elect officers so that the KRVFSC could continue to operate. Lloyd also gave an analysis of the Council's current circumstances. After considerable discussion, all board members agreed that a winding down was an appropriate course of action. Other board members agreed to offices: Vice President-Terry Bolt, Secretary-Tom Gelder, and Treasurer-Sharon Rooney. Two new board members were elected: Penny Lampkins, and Hayward Mendenhall.
- It was agreed that we would complete the 2011 CFSC grants (May 2012), the 2012 CFSC grants (Sep 2013), and the USFS Alta Sierra and Wofford Heights grant (Sep 2013). There was considerable debate about the USFS Defensible Space grant. A final decision was postponed in anticipation of finding someone requiring assistance during this hazard reduction cycle. Chipper days are part of the grants and will continue under both the 2011 and 2012 CFSC grants.
- Terry Bolt will consider a classroom program for the middle schools since KCFD, USFS and BLM have already done 3-4 grades at schools. It was agreed that we would wait and see on the SNC proposal, and that we would not submit a 2013 proposal to CFSC.
- Conflict of Interest forms were completed. Lloyd sent other information to Penny and Hayward after the meeting.
- Lloyd handed off to Terry Bolt (via her daughter) about 1000 copies of *Living With Fire*
- Lloyd talked with a Marcela Freerks (twokivas@yahoo.com) a property owner in a gated community of 20 acre parcels above Wofford Heights about a grant project to clear along their one way in and out road and explained to her how the grant process worked and invited her to participate in the council meetings. Her name was added to the distribution list for the meeting agenda.
- Lloyd drove to the West America Bank in Lake Isabella to complete a signature card so that he can sign checks again.
- Lloyd fielded another call from an individual that has cleared brush and junipers to build a new road on private property about a mile up Old State Road. He was looking for the council

to provide a chipper. Lloyd recommended that he go to the website and request a chipper day, and that he participate in the council meetings. He does not do email.

- Lloyd suggested to Hayward Mendenhall that he complete a request for a specific chipper day. If there is no commitment to fulfill a chipper day in Valley View this will be a topic that needs to be discussed with the chief.
- Attended the Kern Fire Safe Council meeting on April 3, 2012 in Bakersfield (160 mi and 2 hours). Ken Delfino also attended. Attendance at this meeting was sparse. There was no agenda and no previous minutes. Only Mt Pinos and KRV were represented at the meeting. Derrick Davis chaired. Derrick gave us his assessment of progress on the projects. He requested full payment for burning about 85% of piles on USFS project. We responded that we would not accept any invoice until ALL of the piles are burned. Work has been completed on the Lake Isabella and the Mt. Shadows projects. Work on the 2012 maintenance projects has not started. Ken and Derrick will tour the 2012 projects and establish common expectations next week. I asked about the ten chipper days in Alta Sierra starting in May. Derrick said that KCFD got a grant directly from USFS for those chipper days, and that they are not related to our Sierra Nevada Conservancy proposal that is pending. Then I asked how he would be supporting chipper days in Alta Sierra at the same time he is doing chipper days sponsored by the KRVFSC. He replied that he has two crews that will be doing chipper days. I asked about collaboration on the KCFD Hazard Reduction meetings scheduled in April. This is an initiative of KCFD which has scheduled the meetings and is prepared to do this alone. I asked how they would advertise the meetings; in the newspaper. However, the first meeting in the KRV is in Kernville on 16 April and there has been nothing in the paper yet. I wonder who will attend. The meeting in Lake Isabella is on 23 April. I did provide Terry's name and number if they would like us to participate, but I suggested to Terry that she only do what she can.

When I inquired about "Ready Set Go" Derrick said that they are working on it and that it will be ready for Wildfire Awareness week. He did not request any review by the councils, nor did he ask for any funds to distribute. He implied that KCFD would distribute via mail, maybe along with the hazard reduction/defensible space notices. They will be distributing the hazard reduction/defensible space notices to everyone this year. However, there is still no agreement between BLM and USFS about inspections and citing folks in the BLM and USFS areas of responsibility.

I did state that the KRVFSC will not be submitting a 2013 proposal to the CFSC. Derrick immediately suggested that we combine all three fire councils into one at the county level. I provided some insights on an earlier attempt to do this.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Rooney

- Paid Kern County Fire Dept \$13,283.91 for Mt Shadow grant.
- Working on a Budget for 2012 & 2013.
- **Time spent on council business: 2 hours. Mileage for council business: 0**

Grants – Patrick Pontes and Ken Delfino

2011 Grant Projects-

Lake Isabella Community Defense Zone-

The project is complete with some pile burning remaining. KCFD submitted an Invoice for final cleanup which will go to the Match. This completes the KCFD portion of the funding and they exceeded their Match commitment. Since there were no Chipper Days needed for the “project” community, we will count the completed Chipper Days at Wofford Heights (6/11/11 & 6/15/11) and Bodfish (11/8/11) communities in the final report. I discussed the situation with Katie (CFSC) on 3/19/12, and her response is pending.

The final 6th Quarter Accomplishment Reporting Period ends May 31st. It will consist of the Photo Monitor Report, Accomplishment Report and new Match/Cost Sharing Report Form.

Mountain Shadows Interagency Defense Zone-

The project is basically complete and according to Derrick, the crew is working on final cleanup of the project. KCFD submitted an Invoice last month and will have a final Invoice to submit (\$6,067) to complete their funding portion of the project. An additional Match of \$5,463 remains for KCFD to complete their Match commitment.

We were short one Chipper Day Event for Mtn Shadows, and will include the Alta Sierra Chipper Day (6/4/11) as the second Chipper Day.

The 6th Quarter Accomplishment Reporting period also ends May 31st.

CFSC Update:

The CFSC is requiring a new Match/Cost Sharing Report Form to be filled out for the 6th Quarter 2011 Project Accomplishment Reports. This requirement developed from last May’s requirement that CFSC would be requesting receipts quarterly for expenses and Match costs. For now, the Report Form will be easier to complete than providing a batch of receipts to CFSC quarterly. The Report Form will be required for subsequent 2012 Quarterly Reports.

Chipper Days – Don Davis

No new chipper days have come in. Right now we still have 4 starting May 5th in Walker Pass. These don't include Hayward's in Saddle Springs. Due to snow conditions, Jim Rocha hasn't gotten up there yet. They both have each other’s phone numbers so when the road is open, they'll meet and set a date.

- Submitted different articles to each of the Sun and Courier about the scheduled chipper days. Both encouraging more participation from those communities not already scheduled and specifically those neighborhoods adjacent to the newly completed fuel breaks in LI and Mountain Shadows. They should be out in the next additions so hopefully, we'll get some response. Things are starting to get busier for the Chipper Committee:

Fundraising – Tom Gelder

Nothing new to report

Education Committee – Terry Bolt

Nothing new to report

Outreach – Christine and Gordon Hancock

Nothing new to report

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2012, at Supervisor McQuiston's Conference Room in Lake Isabella, CA at 8:30 a.m.