



Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council On-Line Board Meeting Thursday, July 21, 2011

Attendance: Terry Bolt, Don Davis, Tom Gelder, Christine Hancock, Gordon Hancock, Sharon Rooney, Ed Royce, Lloyd Smith with reports by Patrick Pontes, Ken Delfino and Sharon Rooney

The meeting was held via e-mail reports submitted by Board members and necessary votes were taken by polling Board members for their opinions.

President's Report – Lloyd Smith

- President Smith referred a call from a new Bodfish property owner (who got his name from the Living With Fire brochure) to Don Davis about chipper support later this Fall.
- President Smith is working on the development of revised policies and procedures for the KRVFSC.
- President Smith reviewed the 2012 grant proposal and provided a new commitment letter to Ken Delfino.
- President Smith attended the Kern Fire Safe Council meeting in Bakersfield on 12 July (170 mi and 2 hour match). (Of note, KCFD sent out 30,000 notices to do hazardous fuel reduction. The notices cited 1000 residents for non-compliance after 15 June. The second round of citations will begin 15 July. This data indicates a much higher level of awareness than was expected. This only includes those areas of the Kern River Valley for which KCFD is responsible. It is not known whether the USFS and BLM have similar compliance programs in these areas or whether they have the authority to cite noncompliant residents. Smith will discuss this with USFS and BLM.
- President Smith asked Derrick Davis if he is back on fuels full time and whether he would be the principle speaker at our August meeting to bring everyone up on the just completed 2010 projects and before photos of the 2011 projects.
- President Smith, Patrick Pontes, Derrick Davis, and Don Brady had a conversation about chipper days conducted as part of the match under the grant funded projects. KCFD concurs that a chipper day within the Kern River Valley can be associated with any project within the Kern River Valley. The proposals were written to include \$3,200 per chipper day as a match. The remaining issue is whether we count some of the individual and roaming chipper events as a single event even though they do not require a full days effort. We will have to use our judgment, and KCFD seemed willing to do what is required to cover the chipper requirements when they can. Patrick Pontes will match up completed chipper days with the 2010 projects that will be closed out on 1 October 2011.
- President Smith asked Board members to provide input for the August 18, 2011 Stakeholder's meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Rooney

The financial reports for June cover part of July. The next financial reports will be available for the August Stakeholders meeting.

Grants – Ed Royce, Chair

Ongoing 2010 Projects:

- The last remaining work on the 2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project, on the Rogers Road maintenance section, is being completed. There being no additional request for Chipper Days in the area, we will utilize completed neighbor community Chipper Days toward the project.
- The 2010 Bodfish III project is reported as complete. There being no additional requested Chipper Days in Bodfish, we will utilize neighbor community Chipper Days completed toward the project.
- As reported last month, on the USFS three-year Alta Sierra-Wofford Heights Project, pile burning on the slash cleaned up last year has been completed. Work this year will be in the vicinity of Alta Sierra.

2011 Projects:

- All clearances have been received for the Lake Isabella and Mountain Shadows projects, and we are allowed to start work at any time. Crew commitments to fires have taken priority.

2012 Proposal:

- It's been a busy month, especially for Ken Delfino. Just over a month ago we learned that (1) the state FSC will have \$5 million for grants from the Forest Service, but that (2) the match requirement has gone up from 25% to 50% (match equal to the grant funding). KCFD offered to increase their match to the 50% requirement if KRVFSC would do the same. Ed Royce and Lloyd Smith figured out how to do the latter, so we are off and running with the original proposal for maintenance on old established fuel breaks. Maintenance will be done for 338 acres on 11 projects that have been completed around the Kern River Valley over the past 12 years. The total cost of the project is \$241,000 with \$120,500 coming from the grant and \$120,500 as a match. Thanks to Derrick Davis, Don Brady and the KCFD for making this possible, and to Ken Delfino for scrambling to get the proposal in on the due date of July 5th in the face of a recalcitrant web site.

Patrick Pontes' report is attached.

Chipper Days – Don Davis, Chair

- Crew 7, including Don Davis, was gone for part of the month on fire assignments, but there has been progress on the back log of scheduled chipper days.

- The last week of June the crew returned to Alta Sierra and completed the rest of the postponed work up there.
- 11010 Maverick Dr. Roving Chipper Day in June - Crew 7 arrived around 0930 to 1000 and completed the piles on 19.5 acres on 2 properties in around 4 hours. They were treated to a home-made enchilada lunch and the home owners were very pleased with the work done.
- July 16-17: Erdle Road, Havilah, was revisited: After the crew had chipped the initial piles of brush on Erdle Road back in May, the home owner decided that more would be better. So, he cut more brush and talked to the crew directly and asked them to come back. They agreed and completed the work. Davis will amend the original Havilah Post Chipper Day Report to include the added brush piles.
- July 16-17: 300 Breckenridge Ave, Havilah Roving Chipper Day. This was done on the same day as the Erdle Road project mentioned above. The crew chipped approximately 6 brush piles that 3 homeowners on Lazelle Rd. and Breckenridge Ave. had cut to start to protect their homes.
- July 16-17: 648 Columbus St, Bodfish. The homeowner had one large pile of Juniper branches below his house that were cut to create the start of a defensible space.
- The Valley View folk have done the roadside clearing that Bart Kicklighter and Ed Royce discussed last month. Chipper service is now needed to dispose of the slash. The USFS is currently doing their donut around Valley View, so hopefully their crew might do the chipping as well. Don Davis is working the problem and has a call into Bart Kicklighter.
- Davis talked to Bill Holcomb, 219 North Dr. Bodfish about a roving chipper day on his property in Oct/Nov. **(Total for all: 3 hrs, 0 mileage match)**
- Kennedy Meadows had two chipper days the week end of 9 - 10 July, courtesy BLM crews under Brandon Borjone and Burns Brimhall. Trees in Kennedy Meadows took a beating from snow load last winter, with many branches on the ground, requiring major cleanup on some properties. Ed Royce got five of ten slash piles chipped in an hour and a half. Thanks to Dave Brinsfield for making this chipping event possible. We are looking forward to another two days in the late summer or fall. A photo of the crews at work is attached.
- Liz Waldrop called Christine Hancock very excited about the firemen that came to her home to chip and help clean up her property. She was very appreciative.

Fundraising – Tom Gelder

- Gelder was out of the country for part of July and completed no fundraising projects.

Website – Ed Royce, Chair

- No activity in the last month.

Education/ Speaker's Bureau – Terry Bolt, Chair

- Terry Bolt set up the "Back to School" night at South Fork. Abby Bryski will help her on behalf of the Forest Service.
- Terry Bolt will meet with Cindy Thill and Abby Bryski to determine our programs for next year for the schools. The old backdrops need to be refreshed which Terry will do.
- Gordon and Christine Hancock have been replenishing the Living with Fire brochures when local businesses run out. They also have observed people reading them at the Cowgirl Cafe and Beyond Juice, etc.

Next KRVFSC Meeting: Thursday, August 18, 2011, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Supervisor McQuiston's conference room, 7050 Lake Isabella Blvd, Lake Isabella, CA 93240

KERN RIVER VALLEY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

GRANT STATUS UPDATE

July 14, 2011

2010 Bodfish III Fuel Reduction Project-

According to Derrick the project is complete. There were no additional requested Chipper Days in Bodfish, therefore we will utilize neighbor community Chipper Days completed toward the project. We have met our Match dollar commitment on this project. The Photo Monitor and Accomplishment Reports are in progress and will be completed in August.

The 7th Quarter Accomplishment Report ended June 30th and is due July 31st. KCFD should be invoicing the project soon. Please continue to keep track of your "Match" hours and mileage for the 2011 Quarterly Accomplishment Reports.

2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project-

Most of the project is complete and the crew is finishing the Rogers Road maintenance section. On July 12th it was determined there is no need to do additional work on the lower Burma Block. A linear boulder patch traverses the block, and due to the western secondary dozer lines from the Bull Fire and the westerly FS fuelbreak, there is no need for additional clearing. Residents along Burlando Road are no longer threatened by the fuels. There has been no additional request for Chipper Days in the area; therefore, we will utilize completed neighbor community Chipper Days toward the project. KCFD will invoice the project soon.

The 7th Quarter Accomplishment Report ended June 30th. Again, continue to keep track of your "Match" meeting hours and mileage for the Quarterly Reports.

2011 Lake Isabella Project- Same as last month; project is ready to go, but work has not started. Crews have been busy with wildfires.

2011 Mountain Shadows Project- Project is the same status as Lake Isabella's; we have approval, and are ready to begin project work when crew(s) are available.

The 3rd Quarter Accomplishment Reports for these projects ends July 31st and are due to CFSC by August 31st. KCFD will submit Worksheets soon.

CFSC News/Update— The CFSCI is requesting FSCs to complete a survey on how their website can provide better information to serve local councils. The survey form can be found on-line.

Patrick G. Pontes
Kern River Valley FSC, Grant Administrator