



Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council

Thursday, May 19, 2011

Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council Stakeholders Meeting

Attendance: Terry Bolt, Tom Gelder, Christine Hancock, Gordon Hancock, Bart Kicklighter, Mike Lanza, Hayward Mendenhall, Patrick Pontes, Corina Roberts, Robert Robinson, Sharon Rooney, Ed Royce, Chad Saeler, Penelope Shibley, Lloyd Smith

President's Activities:

- Prepared request for advance of funds (SF 270) for the USFS RAC grant for defensible space.
- Participated in CFSC visit in Kernville on 5/2/11 (100 mi and 5 hours match).
- Prepared and distributed agenda for 19 May Stakeholder's meeting.
- Completed survey from CFSC and Farmer's Insurance about organization of a conference this year.
- Organized and sent to Sharon Rooney previous grant proposal information to use in a request for a Farmers Insurance grant.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Rooney:

- Sharon Rooney shared the May monthly reports (See attached reports)

Presentations:

- Corina Roberts of the Redbirds Foundation gave a slideshow of the recovery of the Angeles National Forest after the Station Fire. She also discussed the importance of natural burn policies and how that might have impacted the effects of the fire in the Angeles National Forest.

Committee Activity Reports:

Grants – Ed Royce:

Ongoing 2010 Projects:

- No change from last month on the 2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project.
- Work remains on the Rogers Road maintenance section and the 2010 Bodfish III project, where a small amount of brush clearing remains. We are committed to five more chipper days between these two projects. (Patrick Pontes' report is attached.)

- No update on the USFS three-year Alta Sierra-Wofford Heights Project.

2011 Projects:

- All clearances have been received for the Lake Isabella and Mountain Shadows projects, and work may start at any time. We should shortly receive \$5000 for each project as start-up money.

2012 Proposal:

- In view of the federal budget uncertainties, the deadline for proposal submission has been extended -- again -- to 5 July 2011. Also, apparently the web-site where proposals are to be submitted is under revision. Ken Delfino has prepared a draft proposal in the old format. There will be time for revisions and submittal when Ken returns from his trip.

Cathy Brooke Visit:

- Cathy Brooke, our state FSC grant manager, paid us a site visit on Monday May 2nd. Members of the Board and our partners from the USFS, the BLM, and the KCFD all participated. She toured the Burma Extension and Bodfish III projects. At the Burma Project, BLM's Steve Watkins and KCFD's Derrick Davis showed her how the project had helped in controlling the Bull Fire.

Cathy was very impressed with how we collaborate with the agencies in doing our project planning and execution. She says she holds us up as a model for how to do projects. She did, however, raise some procedural issues. We need to discuss how to respond to them at our next Board meeting.

Fundraising – Tom Gelder:

- President Smith prepared a request for a \$250 contribution from Southern California Edison.
- President Smith held discussions with Debbie Hess of SCE about other community service grant opportunities.
- Receipts were sent to Lloyd and Bea Smith, Ed Royce, and Paramount Community Giving for donations received in May
- Tom Gelder attended grant funding workshop in Bakersfield held by the Kern Community Foundation (**Two hours and 110 mile match**)
- President Smith with assistance from Secretary Gelder worked on a proposal to the Southern California Edison Foundation for a substantial education focused grant and submitted it by the May 31st deadline. (See attached proposal)

Chipper Days –Don Davis:

- Gordon and Christine Hancock met Don Davis on Sunday, May 15th at 501 E. Evans Rd. in Wofford Heights to determine if Liz Waldrop's property qualified for the RAC grant.
- Following are the scheduled dates for the Fire Safe Council Chipper Days:

Full Days:

May 7 – None (Crew 7 training)

May 14 – None (Crew 7 training)

May 21 – Squirrel Valley – Contact: Mike Lanza (760) 379-2858

May 28 – Pala Ranches/Tillie Creek HOA

June 4 – Alta Sierra – Contact: Penny Lampkins (760) 376-4053

June 11 – Hungry Gulch / Achin Hills – Contact: Harry Halterman (909) 226-5807 or Linda Halterman (714) 381-0050

- “Roving” Dates (Only a few hours at each address)

May 16-27

11010 Maverick, Weldon – Contact: Katie Lambie (760) 417-0199

6501 Wofford Blvd – no contact needed

539 Frontier Trail- Contact: Bill Dierck (760) 376-2552

Completed April 18-22

Silver City Ghost Town – Bodfish – Contact: Jay Corlew (760) 379-5146

216 Erdle Rd – Havilah (no contact needed)

- Received a few more requests for chipper days / work after the article in the Courier ran, both on the phone and by e-mail. (2 hour match)
- Roving Chipper Work Completed

6501 Wofford Blvd, Wofford Heights (25 miles match, total for both of these)

539 Frontier Trail, Kernville

- Attached are the Post Chipper activity forms for the 2 roving days already completed - Silver City Ghost Town and Erdle Road in Havilah. Also attached are revised forms for these activities.
- Other Activities
Attended the CFSC meeting, 5/2/11, in Kernville. (20 mile, 2 hour match)

Website – Ed Royce:

- Updates to the "News" page supporting Wildfire Awareness Week were posted, and further news updates are in the pipeline.

Education/Speakers Bureau- Terry Bolt:

- Cindy Thill and Terry Bolt have been going into classrooms in Lake Isabella and Kernville to distribute Living With Fire brochures to the local school children. They have been very receptive and the hope is that they will take the brochures home to their parents.
- Cindy Thill, Abby Bryski and Terry Bolt will be working to get the Smarty and Marty show back on for next year. Terry will help CindyThill refurbish some of the beautiful backgrounds that have not been cared for and will start out with a show about making our homes “firesafe “
- Terry Bolt secured gift certificates to hand out in the schools to the classes that do best on the student quiz in the Living With Fire brochure - one per class – The Pizza Factory has been supportive of the Lake Isabella schools.– Terry is working to secure them from the Pizza Barn for Kernville and is still working on support for the South Fork school
- Terry Bolt has been distributing Living With Fire brochures as follows:

100 Havilah Centennial Group
100 Havilah Fire Center
100 Paiute Store (woman at the store is taking)
100 Caliente Post Office (Wed.)
200 County Fire in Walker Basin
100 Caliente School for students to take home
100 Twin Oaks General store and café
50 - Amerigas
100 - Senior Center
50 - Barnes Bargains
350 - Wallace Middle School
320 - Wallace Elementary
50 - Wallace preschool
50 - Bank of America
300 - South Fork Baptist Church and businesses - Kathryn Elconin distributed
100 - Shell - Dam Corner
100 - True Value
50 - Century 21
50 - State Farm
50 - Down Town Storage
100 - Democrat Fire Station

- Lloyd Smith distributed Living With Fire brochures as follows:

KCFD Station #72 Lake Isabella
KCFD Station #71 South Lake
USFS Lake Isabella Office

Sharon Rooney Insurance
Kern Valley Chamber of Commerce

- Tom Gelder distributed the Living with Fire brochure to:
KCFD Station #76 Kernville
USFS Kernville office
Kernville Chamber of Commerce
- President Smith proofed *Living With Fire* at KV Sun on 4/21/11 in preparation for printing (75 mi and 1 hour match).
- President Smith prepared a newspaper article for the KV Sun (ran 5/4/11 combined with information from KCFD on defensible space) and The Courier (did not run) for Wildfire Awareness week.
- President Smith retrieved roadside signs on 5/12/11 from Borel and Paul's Place that had fallen down because the upright posts had rotted. President Smith will get estimate to repair. (100 mi and 4 hours match)
- Secretary Gelder assisted President Smith with roadside signs. (30 miles and 4 hour match)
- President Smith picked up 400 *Living With Fire* for distribution and obtained a Adobe Acrobat version of file for use on website (same trip as above).
- President Smith distributed *Living With Fire* to KCFD Stations #71 and 72, USFS Lake Isabella, and Kern Valley Chamber of Commerce (same trip as above).
- Christine Hancock e-mailed Patrick Pontes the pictures and matching information from the Living Green event and the Health Faire.

Agency Reports:

Kern County Fire Department –Chad Saeler

- Chipper Days constraints – may be difficult to schedule considering their workload but will do all they can. Training of recently hired crews is almost completed.

USFS – Penelope Shibley

- Description of personnel changes and upcoming and ongoing projects

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

May 12, 2011

2010 Bodfish III Fuel Reduction Project-

Project status is the same as last month; one narrow strip of brush is left to be cut near the toe of the slope. We have 3 Chipper Day Events remaining on this project.

The 6th Quarter Accomplishment Report was completed and sent to CFSC. Please continue to keep track of your "Match" hours and mileage for the Quarterly Accomplishment Report.

Kern Fire seasonal crews are coming on now, and going through their training. Once trained and ready for fire they can begin work on fuels projects.

2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project-

Status is the same as last month; the crew will be finishing the 6 acre Rogers Road maintenance section. We have 2 Chipper Day Events to complete on this project.

The 6th Quarter Accomplishment Report was completed and sent to CFSC. Again, continue to keep track of your "Match" meeting hours and mileage for the final report.

2011 Lake Isabella Project- The project is ready to go, but no work has started as yet.

The Quarterly Accomplishment Report is in progress- KCFD will provide Worksheets soon.

2011 Mountain Shadows Project- Project is the same status as Lake Isabella's; we have approval to begin project work, and the Quarterly Accomplishment Report is in progress.

CFSC News/Update— Our Site-visit with Cathy (CFSC) went very well and we had an excellent turnout with KCFD, FS and BLM representatives. We reviewed the projects in the office and visited Burma and the three Bodfish projects in the field. Derrick and Steve did a great job explaining to Cathy how our fuelbreak helped stop the Bull Fire. Ed took photos and prepared a news release of the interaction in the field.

From our Site-visit, we have a number of procedural items to discuss at our next FSC Meeting. Cathy shared there will be no Interior funds available for 2012 Grants; only FS- USDA dollars will be available. Each year it gets a little tougher and Grant dollars are hard to come by. Cathy noted they have now received FS funding for the 2010 and 2011 projects; payments will be made soon.

Patrick G. Pontes
Kern River Valley FSC, Grant Administrator