



**Kern River Valley Fire Safe Council  
On-Line Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 22, 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**

- Developed an assessment of the KRVFSC's grant project progress (attached) in response to a request from Supervisor McQuiston's assistant Judy Hyatt. **Please do not share this outside the KRVFSC board.**
- Completed development of policies and procedures for the KRVFSC, incorporating comments from Ed Royce and insuring that items in the CFSC checklist were adequately covered. **The final draft is attached and Board approval is requested by reply email.**
- Received two checks from Southern California Edison (Debbie Hess). One was a \$250 contribution for our general fund. The other was a grant of \$2500 for educational activities. An article was prepared and submitted to both the Kern Valley Sun and the Courier.
- Noted the 2011 Almanac produced by the Kern Valley Sun and recalled the 2011 Kern River Valley Visitors Guide, both of which would be appropriate places for a KRVFSC advertisement/article in the future.
- Completed a letter of endorsement for the appointment of Ken Delfino to the California Board of Forestry.
- Provided a waiver certification notice to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board required for our USFS defensible space grant.
- Witnessed a lightning initiated fire just south of his home on USFS land on 26 & 27 August. There was some initial confusion about authority to use water from a neighbor's pond. This was reconciled quickly, and a follow up letter was addressed to KCFD, BLM and USFS from the pond's owner stating use of the water is authorized anytime there is a requirement in the local area.

**Treasurer's Report – Sharon Rooney**

- Two checks were received from Southern California Edison: \$250 for the General Fund and \$2,500 for Unrestricted Education.
- A check for \$452 was paid to Patrick Pontes out of the 2009 Carryover funds to pay him for work on the Burma Grant per Boards vote on 8/18/2011.

- Note regarding the Budget v Actual: You will notice that the 2009 Carryover amount is going down. In February 2011 \$356.25 was transferred to the F/S Grant to cover extra expense that was paid to Patrick Pontes. In May 2011 \$1,519.25 was used to pay the KV Sun for “Living with Fire” & in August 2011 \$452 was transferred to Burma Grant to cover extra expense that was paid to Patrick Pontes. The current 2009 Carryover balance is \$1,241.15.
- Taxes: a notice was received from the IRS that our council did not qualify in 2010 to file the 990EZ from due to the amount of grant monies we received. Sharon notified H & R Block and they completed the required 990 form and it was faxed to the IRS on August 23, 2011.
- See attached reports.

Time spent on council business: 3 hours / mileage for council business: 2

### Grants – Ed Royce, Chair

The rash of fires over the last few weeks has -- of necessity -- slowed progress on our projects.

- 2010 Projects: The 2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project and Bodfish III Projects are reported complete, except for final invoicing, payment, and reporting to the CFSC.
- No report on the Alta Sierra-Wofford Heights Project.
- 2011 Projects: Work has started on the Lake Isabella Project. No change on the Mountain Shadows Project. All clearances have been received and we are allowed to start work at any time.
- 2012 Proposal: Proposal for maintenance on established fuel breaks is in the hands of the state FSC. We expect to hear if we will be awarded funding in October.
- SNC update: The SNC will have \$5 million for fire-safe related grants in the 2011-2012 cycle. This will be the last year the CNC has funds to support fire-safe projects. "Pre-applications" may be submitted any time after the Request for Proposals is posted on September 26, 2011 until 5:00 PM on October 21, 2011. Pre-applications will be reviewed as received. Applicants will have the opportunity to work with SNC staff in developing the pre-application in order to increase the probability that the project is invited to submit a full application. The review of pre-applications will determine whether the project meets minimum eligibility criteria and, if so, will result in an invitation to submit a full application. The final date for full application submittal will be January 23, 2012.
- If our CFSC funding for our 2012 project does not come through, this should be an alternate source of funding. Since there is no match requirement with SNC funding, this could actually be an advantageous source of funding. We might also look for funding to support our chipper program. Suggest Ken explore this further with SNC staff as soon as they get their... stuff together -- probably after September 26th. Their web site has the evolving details -- <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/sncgrants>.
- Ed and Patrick are continuing work on an analysis to show the financial advantages of having our project work done by KCFD, vs. a commercial contractor. Patrick has assembled the numbers needed.
- Our interagency collaboration group meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 20th.
- Patrick Pontes' report is attached.

### **Chipper Days** – Don Davis, Chair

- No chipper days activity to report.
- Recontacted the community reps for Squirrel Valley, Alta Sierra, and Hungry Gulch to get the participants information and pile volumes but nothing back yet.
- Still trying to prepare a comprehensive summary of chipper activity including participants, volumes of chipped material, hours worked / converted to dollars matched, etc.

### **Fundraising** – Tom Gelder

- No activity to report. Out of town most of August and part of September.

### **Website** – Ed Royce, Chair

- No activity in the last month. We will do a significant upgrade in the next month. Please let Ed have any changes or additions you would like to see.

### **Education/ Speaker's Bureau** – Terry Bolt, Chair

- Sent the following info to the local radio station:

My name is Terry Bolt, retired teacher from the Kernville School District and now a member of the KRVFSC. I'm their new education person trying to get the word out about who we are, what we do and don't do, and things that home owners should be aware of in their homes and neighborhoods.

We distributed the small magazine "Living with Fire" this last spring. It has really good information for everyone. Next year we plan on sending it in the mail.

I didn't know about the council until my daughter - a battalion chief in the Forest Service - thought it would be good for me to volunteer. And since our place was in the path of the Canyon Fire last year and was saved by the Forest Service, BLM, and the Kern County Fire Department, it only seemed fair that I should give back something.

- Wants to do some short brief messages for public service announcements. A guy from another radio station that got a grant to do things for the Fire Safe Councils would like to do an interview.

### **Outreach Committee** – Christine and Gordon Hancock

- Attempted to contact Ernie Villa at the USFS regarding getting together to come up with a plan for the RAC grant since the water waver has been completed.

**Next KRVFSC Meeting:** Thursday, October 20, 2011, online.

**KERN RIVER VALLEY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL**

**PONTES GRANT STATUS UPDATE**

**September 8, 2011**

**2010 Bodfish III Fuel Reduction Project-**

Same as last month, the remaining tasks are the final Invoice and payment from KCFD and the project can be closed out. The Accomplishment and Close-out Report will be completed when we zero out the account. The Grant Period for this project ends September 2011.

Please continue to keep track of your "Match" hours and mileage for the 2011 project Accomplishment Reports.

**2010 Burma Interagency Extension Project-**

According to Derrick, the Rogers Road maintenance section of the project is now complete. The tasks to complete are the final KCFD Invoice and payment, and the Accomplishment Report and Close-out Report. The Grant Period for this project also ends 9/30/11.

Again, continue to keep track of your "Match" meeting hours and mileage for the 2011 Quarterly Reports.

**2011 Lake Isabella Project-** According to Derrick the fuelbreak project work has started. The Grant Period for this project ends May 31, 2012. Hopefully, the fires will slow down so we can finish the project.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Accomplishment Report was completed and submitted to CFSC.

**2011 Mountain Shadows Project-** Project is the same status as last month; we have the approvals, and are ready to begin work when crew(s) are available.

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**CFSC News/Update**— CFSC is redoing their website and has requested all FSC's to confirm their key contacts and website information. New features include "Find a Local FSC" with links, and the option for local FSCs to post meeting dates, contacts and announcements on the CFSC website. The website should be more user friendly to those using the internet and social media. Lloyd has responded and reauthorized our information for KRVFSC.

*Patrick*

**Patrick G. Pontes**

**Kern River Valley FSC, Grant Administrator**