

SIERRA COUNTY FIRE SAFE & WATERSHED COUNCIL

Board Chair	Board Member	Board Secretary	Board Member	Board Member	Board Treasurer
Paul Cueto	Jim Turner	Sharon Dobija	Patricia Hall	Jeff Dowling	Paul Cueto

Executive Director: Rodd Rummel

Minutes of Board Meeting of January 26, 2023 Sierraville School 10: AM

1. **Roll Call:** Members present were Jeff Dowling, Paul Cueto, Patty Hall, Jim Turner and Sharon Dobija. Also attending were Danielle Bradfield and Rodd Rummel. Guest list is attached.

II. Approval of Agenda & December Minutes: It was moved by Member Hall, seconded by Member Cueto to approve the December minutes & approve the agenda. Unanimous.

III. Public Comment: None (see Supervisor Dryden's comments below in item VI(a))

IV. Old Business: 1) Member Dobija asked to start the New Year with everyone on board by having a Treasurers' report since all bill paying and banking has changed hands and we have a new Treasurer. Rodd explained that he is coordinating all the grant income, still dealing with the accountant on previous tax issues, and will get together with the Treasurer and have a report by the February meeting as well as an Executive Director report. 2) Rodd is working on Google workspace account and to integrate it with the website. Facebook topics will be notice of meetings for the immediate future; grant approvals will be added when received. 3) Rodd reported that the Bylaw amendments have been sent to County Council for finalizing and will be presented at the February meeting for approval by the Board.

V. Announcements: 1) Rodd reported the SCFSC was awarded the State FSC grant of \$20,000 for capacity building which will fund Board expenses such as insurance, taxes and the set up expenses as well as forms and requirements to meet State and Federal grants. Rodd explained a 501c3 role for the Board. 2) Danielle reported that she met with the State Fire Council regarding the funding of the grant for the coordinator position which is once again due in March; the accomplishments of this Board since the re-construction by the coordinator was met with approval and all the requirements of the grant have been met with the exception of training of members which will take place in February. The Program of Work is crucial and gives her the

direction needed and accomplishments of those items allows continued grant applications. 3) Rodd reported that the County has applied for a grant to update the CWPP and outcome is pending. 4) Supervisor Roen commented that the Wildfire Prevention Program is a different grant and will be submitted for fuels reduction within the County. Rodd reported that the Wildfire Prevention Grant is due March 14 and application will be made for a project within that grant. 5) Joe Griffin of USFS reported that projects on Sierraville district will hopefully tie in to other work on Randolph and Sierra Brooks and Antelope Valley to make it one big area of work. 5) Matt Furtado of CalFire reported they have additional funding this year for personnel; they expect to get pretty busy after the snow and bringing on seasonal workers early April for fire season. As to item of fuels reduction grant, Matt noted to the Board that he writes the County Admission Plan for Sierra County and any project for grant application should be sent to him with an overview of area to be treated, time line and general description so that it will be included in the County plan. It is imperative for grant funding.

VI. Discussion/Action: a) Cal OES no longer supporting pre-positioning of contract resources:

Tom Rowson attended for Rick Maddalena to discuss the current situation and to request Board support via letter to send to OES. Rodd gave an overview of the pre-positioning resource contracts that had been given in the past. Joe Griffen noted the USFS role in fire fighting and the need for local resources as calling for resources outside of the area or State has time constraints. He reported that there are 5 engines on this side and 2 engines in Truckee for support but if they draw down to 2 they use local resources. It was noted that the lack of support for pre-positioning is for dozer equipment and not fire department equipment or personnel as has been used in the past. Supervisor Dryden reported that she has been in contact with Assemblywoman Dahle's office regarding the situation and has explained that in a small county we do not have the resource of numerous fire houses or equipment to draw from and it is imperative for fast action on fires with local resources. She will assist in getting letters of support to Dahle's office. Member Turner moved for SCFSC to do a letter of support as well as any other letters to local fire departments to facilitate a request to OES and the State regarding the change in pre-positioning program. Rodd will work with Rich Maddalena on the letters.

VII. Next meeting will be on February 23rd and will be held in Sierraville as the parking in Sierra City in winter is non-existent or difficult. 10am at Sierraville School.

1. Section 4.0: Do we want to specify who can sign? Chair and Executive Director?
 - a. Possibly we should name three offices that can sign, that way if one position is vacant or unavailable, business can continue.
2. Section 4.7: Officers and Members of the Board may be hired as independent contractors for specific projects of the Council, based on their knowledge and expertise.
 - a. Mr. Cameron believes this to be a conflict of interest.
3. Section 5.0: Setting the agenda and who can sign checks and legal documents.
 - a. This ties directly back to 4.0 and should be consistent.
 - b. 5.1 and 5.2 state the treasure and Vice Chair shall have power to co-sign checks
4. Section 5.3: Does the Secretary need to have a copy of the current Bylaws on hand at each meeting?
 - a. Possibly having access to an electronic version at each meeting is good enough.
5. Section 6: States meeting are to be held on the 3rd Sat of each month and Annual meeting in October
 - a. We currently hold meetings the 3rd Thursday of each month
6. Section 7.3: In the event that the Chair resigns from and/or leaves office....
 - a. Possibly the Vice Chair assumes the role for the remainder of the term?
7. Section 9.0: The Bylaws Committee Chair shall act as "Parliamentarian" for the Council.
 - a. Are we sure that the Bylaws Committee Chair will be present at the Board meetings?
 - b. Possibly replace "The Bylaws Committee Chair" with "highest ranking Director present"
- 8.

