

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: Rod Rummel

Minutes of Board Meeting of October 27, 2022 Sierraville School 10: AM

1. **Roll Call:** Members present were Jeff Dowling, Paul Cueto, Patty Hall, Jim Turner and Sharon Dobija. Also attending was Danielle Bradfield and Todd Rummel. Sign up sheet of audience is attached.

II. Approval of Agenda & August Minutes: Moved by Member Hall, Seconded by Member Turner. Unanimous

III. Public Comment: None

IV. Announcements: None

V. Discussion/Action Items:

a: Board Nominations:

The positions of Board Chair, Board Treasurer and Board Secretary were to be ratified by the entire Board after nominations at the September meeting. Ratified were Paul Cueto as Board Chair and Board Treasurer and Sharon Dobija as Board Secretary. Motion to ratify the above positions was made by Member Hall, seconded by Member Dowling. Unanimous.

b. Danielle explained that since February of 2022 the FSSC has been working without an Executive Director. Grant funds have been obtained to fill that position and we have a candidate today that would like to introduce his qualifications to the Board.

Rodd Rummel spoke to the Board and introduced himself and gave the Board his background. Member Paul Cueto moved to accept Rod Rummel as Executive Director, seconded by Member Hall. Unanimous

c. Remove past members from FSSC bank account: Motion was made by Member Cueto moved and seconded by Member Hall to take off former signatories from the bank account. Unanimous.

d. Fire Safe Sierra County Social Media presence: Al Petri reported Facebook page is up and running. Marketing strategy will be foremost; we will need to decide topics for the page; we will follow the California Fire Safe Council suggestions for the page. Discussion as to hiring a Public Media person. Separately we are working on public outreach mailers.

e. Fire Safe Sierra County Bylaws: It was reported that County Council will be updating and making suggestions to the Bylaws and as such those will be presented to the Board Members for further discussion and revision. It was suggested that the Board meet separate from a regular meeting to discuss and ratify a formal copy.

f. MOU between Sierra County and FSSC: Danielle asked that this be tabled until the next meeting where Tim Beals can be present to present the symbiotic relationship between the County and FSSC and his vision of the MOU between the two entities.

g. Project Updates:

i. Fire Safe Sierra County:

- Sierraville WUI Mastication: to begin next week: Started yesterday federal funded of non-fed land project.

- Indian Valley Non-Fed Lands Project delayed until 2023: 120 acres near campground on private land. just funded

- Smithneck Phase 2 near Antelope Valley: invited for full proposal to SNC: near antelope valley - grant application going in tomorrow; USFS Rachael and staff putting in grant application; will have polygon for January or next meeting.

- Community Wildfire Defense Grant: County Coordinator to prepare application for funding for remaining fuel reduction units existing in CWPP. Rodd can speak to that: Rodd - uses target to treat non federal land. Targeted areas are in CWPP around Sierraville. 500 acres in the two million dollar range. Must be in CWPP from 2014 which is a constraint. Discussion as to what the CWPP entails for an audience member's question. Five year plan and it needs to be updated. Separate application to update the CWPP - funding is in place to update the project maps.

- CalFire Grant: areas within Downieville and Sierra City and Sattley are planned for grant application cycle, fall of 2022: Jeff and Danielle have identified areas to be treated with this grant. Response from surveys and community members. Application coming up soon.

ii. Sierra County: Green Acres project had a lengthy discussion as it is convoluted with USFS and other stakeholders. Green Acres was represented by Green Acres residents in the audience asking questions. 1,285 acres; types of treatments have been pinpointed. Fuel reduction; Yuba Ranger District put together the details; addressing disease and over story in the area. 480 acres are identified as aerial based clearing as opposed to ground based clearing. Looking at February for go

ahead. County has applied for a grant for other aspects of the project in 2023. Front burner project right now. Volume needs to be determined prior to grant application.

Forest City: Planning grant has been submitted for NEPA.

Community Wildfire Defense Grant: Rodd prepared one for FSSC and one in conjunction with county for CWPP update and another for moving projects into the shovel ready status.

iii. Sierra Valley RCD: Smithneck Project: work continues

iv. v. vi & vii: Frank Bojorquez of Sierraville RD: Independence 271 acres; 3 more units for next year at 158 acres each. Carmen Valley project working until the snow falls; 214 acres done out there. Future projects: Randolph and Sattley/Calpine all maps are made; pre-bid tour mid November for contract. Antelope Valley downsized about 550 acres of State Land and 40 of Fed land. New permanent weather station operational by end of November. Prescribed burning: reviewed of the program; recommendations and findings were implemented. Hoping to get some understory burning done soon. We have 1100 acres of piles for burning when we can. Fire Updates: fire restrictions will be lifted November 1st. Small fires are still happening. One arson incident. Misquito Fire is ongoing. Working partner of Nature Conservancy explained.

Cal Fire: Matt Furtado reported on under story burning, hand crews available and aircraft availability. Hand crews are staffed at only 25% and prisoners are no longer used. Funding is increased for firefighters.

f. Firewire Communities: San Francisco State Representative reported a clean up date of the 25th for the University area down to Green Acres.

Sharon Dobija, Secretary to FSSC