

# FIRE SAFE SIERRA COUNTY

## MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2022

### SIERRA CITY, CA 6:00 p.m.

- 1) **Roll Call:** Attending were Don Russell, Board Chair, Board Members Patty Hall, Jeff Dowling, Paul Cueto and Sharon Dobija. Absent was Board Member Turner. Al Petrie chaired in place of Dannielle Bradfield
- 2) **Approval of Agenda/June Minutes:** Approval of Agenda moved and seconded by Dowling/Dobija. Unanimous. June Minutes will be presented at August meeting.
- 3) **Public Comment:** Al Petrie reported on the 4th of July booth. Al reported that CalFire was instrumental in making the fuel reduction maps as well as the fuel project maps for the entire State and can be pulled up on their website. Jim Kelly reported on Fire Wise for Loyaltan Pines clearing projects. Question of where they were taking the brush was posed and a discussion of the closed Co-Gen plant ensued. Brush is still being taken to the County yards.
- 4) **Announcements:** Susan Hopkins reported that Fire Wise Sierra City will have an event on August 13th and a clean up day scheduled at that time. There have been two work days with great participation. Reflective house signs were purchased by a lot of home owners.
- 5) **Discussion/Action Items:**

a) **Survey Analytics:** Al reported on the 200 plus survey results and the project potential that came out of the survey responses. The projects are conceptual at this time. Analytics are the things that really drive the program of work. Maps are here for viewing. We will discuss the various areas and projects.

There was also an agency surveys and we got 11 responses. Nevada Energy has responded they are doing clearing projects in Verdi.

The Fire Safe website has survey results which has a lot of bar graphs and other information. The three biggest barriers of clearing for individual homeowners is cost, physical ability and time. The three most requested aspects of home hardening or clearing were grant funding, physical ability to do defensible space (clearing), and chipping. Jeff Dowling then explained the importance of defensible space pursuant to Public Resource Code 4290 and stressed if nothing else is feasible to do, that the 30' clearance could very well save a home. There was a discussion as to the need for funding for individual homeowners to offset costs; the USFS budget will likely depend on Federal funding from Cap and Trade funds.

b) Program of Work: There were some general discussion of the work as projected on the current maps with the idea that those projects will be driven by need and by funding.