

FIRESafe Marin
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, 8, January 2010

Attendance:

Lynne Osgood	FSM Coordinator
Eva D. Baker	County OES/FSM Secretary
Dan Kida	PG&E/ FSM President
Ari Golan	County Parks & Open Space
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley Fire
Kent Julin	Marin County Fire
Lori Jessell	Novato Fire
Mike Meszaros	Inverness PUD/Fire
Roger Sprehn	Corte Madera Fire
Mariko Roberts	Caltrans
Dick Sadler	Dominican Neighborhood
Mike Swezy	MMWD
Jim Kasper	Muir Meadows HOA (Tam Valley)
Jimi Scheid	CAL FIRE
Jordan Reeser	NPS
Max Korten	CCNB
Paul Smith	Kentfield Fire
Bill Tyler	Novato Fire

1. **Call to Order:** 0910 hours by President Dan Kida in the first floor conference room of the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership, 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, California, 94903. *There was a quorum.*
2. **Agenda reviewed and approved with no additions or corrections:**
(M/S Sprehn/Swezy)
3. **Minutes of the December 11, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved with one correction:**
To page #3 Mill Valley Fuel Break (Julin), should be "Great Tree Tenders," not "Grey."
(M/S Sprehn/Meagor)
4. **Treasurer's Report/Proposed Budget 2010 (Sprehn):**
Roger reported that as of 12-31-09 FSM has come out ahead of budget for 2009. Council reviewed Balance and Profit & Loss statements and also the budget for 2010. Lynne received a donation to FSM of \$1,500 from a private citizen. Going over the check detail, Lynne said that she will soon be purchasing an updated version of QuickBooks Pro and will also be looking for a laptop computer for the business. Checks were filed for audit. Motion was proposed to approve the 2010 Budget and approved with no additions or corrections.
(M/S Korten/Meagor)

5. **Approve 2010 Executive Board and New Board Members:**

Mike Swezy from MMWD volunteered to become Vice President for a two year term. Mariko Roberts from Caltrans volunteered to join the Board. Ari Golan from MCP&OSD will join the Board to replace Brian Sanford's term. Pete Martin will remain on the Board. A motion was proposed and passed to approve the following Board members with terms indicated (M/S Meszaros/Smith):

Scott Alber (term expires Jan 2012)
Eva Denegri Baker (Jan 2012)
Kent Julin (Jan 2012)
Peter Martin (Jan 2012)
Mariko Roberts (Jan 2012)
Dan Kida (Jan 2011)
Roger Meagor (Jan 2011)
Michael Meszaros (Jan 2011)
Max Korten (Jan 2011)
Dick Sadler (Jan 2011)
Ari Golan (Jan 2011)
Paul Smith (Jan 2011)
Roger Sprehn (Jan 2011)
Mike Swezy (Jan 2011)
Mark Heine (Jan 2011)
Amy Blakeney (Jan 2011)

Motion was also proposed and passed to approve the Executive Committee as follows (M/S Meagor/Smith):

Dan Kida, President
Mike Swezy, Vice President
Roger Sprehn, Treasurer
Eva D. Baker, Secretary

6. **Grants Clearinghouse Workshop – Hosted by FSM, January 11, 2010:**

Lynne told the Council that FIREsafe Marin will host a no-fee fiscal year 2011 grants clearinghouse workshop on Monday, January 11, 2010 from 12:30 to 4:00 pm at this 555 Northgate Drive location. To sign up for the workshop, go to the Grants Clearinghouse web page on the California Fire Council website.

****SOCIAL 10:00 am - 10:10 am****

7. **Once Around the Table**

- a. **Mike Swezy.** MMWD's draft vegetation management plan should be out in February. Their masticator is working up on Bolinas Ridge.
- b. **Jim Kasper.** Intends to submit at the workshop on Monday an application for Tam Valley to become a Firewise community. Spoke about how there is money available through the Oak Mortality Task Force for inventory projects (not so

much removal); requests are due January 22, 2010 (see their website for more info). Also mentioned that a GGNRA Habitat Restoration site has been identified at the western end of Tam Valley.

- c. **Lynne Osgood.** Has one-year extensions for four Open Space Task Agreements (for example, ladder fuels in Cascade Canyon and fuel break construction on Worn Springs Road). She will submit California Fire Alliance projects by February. As far as outreach projects, Lynne will speak in March at the College of Marin at a certification class for landscapers. She will also speak to the Las Ranchitos neighborhood about defensible space. Lynne also told the Council that there will be a Golf Tournament again in 2010; we hope to make a lot more money this year.
- d. **Kent Julin.** Will speak to FSM at the February meeting about a new project to clear evacuation routes in Mill Valley.
- e. **Ari Golan.** Two Open Space rangers have been assigned to vegetation management piling & burning tasks for exotic control and fuel breaks.
- f. **Max Korten.** CCNB has been pulling broom with MMWD. Starting next week they will do fire fuel reduction work with the Town of Tiburon on Middle Ridge.
- g. **Mariko Roberts.** Referenced Caltrans' five year plan; priority #1 is to remove eucalyptus. Mariko thanked Kent Julin, Amy Blakeney and Jim Kasper for the tour they gave her last month in the Caltrans interest areas. She was able to prioritize the work while on the tour.
- h. **Mike Meszaros.** Said the Forest Service grant for maintenance projects in West Marin finally hit the ground at Christmas (three contractors). They are shooting for completion before bird nesting season in March. Mentioned how well the phone tree system works which the West Marin Disaster Council uses to notify residents of upcoming projects. The system is used to target certain neighborhoods in which project work is scheduled (for example, SOD removal work). Overall the majority of the Inverness community has been supportive of all the work IPUD does to control fuel.
- i. **Bill Tyler.** Was recently promoted in October as Novato Fire's new Fire Marshall. Thanked Lori Jessell for all her past participation with FSM over the last two years to build a bridge between the agencies. Added that Novato Fire has launched a new website. They are working on grant management opportunities in neighborhoods. Asked that FSM members visit their community garden at Station #3, 65 San Ramon. NFD sponsored a community planting day in which many smiley faced residents, including children and scouts, participated in getting the garden planted in only one-and-a-half hours. Bill thanked FSM for helping to make this project happen.
- j. **Jordan Reeser.** Says that the NPS is implementing their stimulus program. They are very busy removing eucalyptus trees in locations such as Forts Barry and Baker, Marin Drive and Wolfback Ridge. They just received back their large diameter chipper, which can take up to a twenty-inch diameter tree. They are willing to lend this great tool out to fire agencies. Asked that FSM members help NPS by seeking out young adults over age eighteen to work on an NPS crew which will do eucalyptus and SOD work. The need for crew members is immediate. This is a great opportunity to build skills, especially using tools such as saws.

- k. **Paul Smith.** Kentfield Fire station has been completed, which included a huge seismic and facilities upgrade. Paul would be willing to host a future FSM meeting there. Two months ago Paul did a presentation with Marin County law commanders to homeowners groups on the Wildland Urban Interface and evacuations. This is the first time he has ever seen law partnering with fire regarding the MTZ. Paul's experience is that many homeowners are very concerned about evacuation. The Fire Prevention Officers took a look at County Fire's campaign "Ready, Set, Go," and decided to wait until spring 2010.
- l. **Jimmy Scheid.** Budget issues held up some CAL FIRE grant funded urban forestry projects (props 40/84).
- m. **Roger Meagor.** The Town of Fairfax finally received confirmation on a Forest Service grant. On January 30, 2010 the Town of Fairfax is going to hold an educational fire forum at the Fairfax Women's Club (0930-1230). Ray Moritz will speak. This forum came out of some concerns residents were having about fire code requirements.
- n. **Dan Kida.** Spoke about a PG&E project in the Camino Del Canyon to reduce fire risk and increase power line safety. Dan presented a project at Fort Mason and is waiting to hear the result.

**8. Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1040 hours followed by a group photo of the 2010 FIRESafe Marin Board members.
(M/S Smith/Meagor)**

Respectfully submitted,

Eva D. Baker

Eva Denegri Baker
Secretary, FIRESafe Marin