



FIRE Safe Marin
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, 14 March 2008

Attendance:

Lynne Osgood	FSM Coordinator
Kent Julin	MCFD/FSM President
Pete Martin	FSM
Brian Sanford	Marin County Open Space District
Mike Meszaros	Inverness Public Utility District/Fire
Dan Kida	PG&E/ FSM Vice President
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley Fire
Roger Wong	NPS
Casey May	MMWD
Bradley Mark	San Rafael FD
Roger Meagor	Ross Valley FD
Paul Smith	Kentfield FD

1. Call to order: 0907 hours by President Kent Julin in the downstairs conference room at 555 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, California 94903.
2. Agenda reviewed and approved as submitted with no changes.
3. Minutes of February 9, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted with no changes.
(Meszaros/Meagor)
4. Treasurer's Report (Matt Carbone not present)

Pete Martin reporting - \$ 10,000 forthcoming from County
 \$ 2,500 Due from NPS
 \$ 16,500 is on its way from Western States

Still awaiting - \$ 35,000 from the California Fire Alliance. That funding will
 pay \$30,000 in invoices for 2007 Chipper Days, and
 \$5,000 toward 2008 Chipper Days.

Checks - Checks filed for audit

Roger Meagor reported on the County Expenditure Group progress. If placed on the November ballot, it could raise \$3.5m annually for a full-time dedicated 20 person fire crew to conduct fuel reduction work, build cross county fuel break and be available county-wide for initial attack response. Additionally it would fund FSM in the amount

of \$165,000 annually for wildland/WUI educational support, several hundred \$K could be available for creation of evacuation routes along approximately 410 miles of roads identified as substandard for evacuation purposes.

5. Once Around the Table.

Roger Wong reported that he had a "Big Month" evaluating 10 grant proposals from Marin, San Mateo, San Benito and Contra Costa Counties. Some of the Marin grant proposals were for projects in Marin View, Muir Meadows, Chipper Days, Inverness and one other. Roger said that criteria for NPS grants is that they interface with federal lands, and secondly that they show a maintenance component so the initial work will remain effective. Rural Fire Grant Application for Stinson Beach, Bolinas, Inverness, Nicasio and Muir Beach distribution looks like it is in the pipeline.

Brian Sanford said that Open Space crews have conducted maintenance work on Bald Hill and that they are in the process of burning 350 burn piles in Cascade Canyon.

A volunteer project will be done near Old Saint Hillary's in the broom/acacia patch below Lyford Drive. The district has sent letters to property owners abutting open space informing them of permission to mow fuel breaks on district lands this spring. The district annually clears 350 "entries" to open space. These may be fire roads, trails, etc. Ari Golan has been appointed Chief Ranger for the district.

Bradley Mark stated that the San Rafael VMP Program is turning into a full time job. The focus on the program, while it has an enforcement component, is education and cooperation between the city and the public. The program seeks long-term results and will take a while to get there. On the city side, 100-foot fuel breaks are being completed along the WUI. The program has created positive feelings throughout the community.

Kent Julin is mapping eucalyptus everywhere throughout the county. He said the NPS layer had missed a few spots and that he will get the new info to them for upgrading their maps.

Lynne Osgood reported that she and Caerleon Safford had attended the Fire Wise on defensible space and she felt it was a very good presentation. It included the latest research on fire loss and dispelled some myths about fire behavior. Lynne will attend a one-day workshop on fund raising and outreach. She has obtained a commitment from the Marin IJ for four FSM ads in '08. She expects F.M. Global Insurance to contributor between \$3 - \$5,000.

Mike Meszaros found in a local West Marin newspaper report that a tree company is offering to remove SOD dead tanoak for homeowners in Paradise Ranch Estates for \$135 per tree.

Dan Kida has receive approval from CalTrans Architect to treat or remove eucalyptus trees in CalTrans right of ways. He is hoping to gain approval from above to begin work on the eucalyptus trees in Marin City. This week is National Arbor Day and P.G. & E. will participate in elementary school programs to plant trees and stress the need to "plant the right tree in the right place."

Roger Meagor - Ross Valley FD has hired a new fire inspector who will be on the job shortly.

Paul Smith - Has had decent response from homeowners groups including Kent Woodlands POA. This year the department will focus VMP inspections in the Greenbrae area

Casey May - Check the date for the upcoming Watershed Symposium at MARINWATER.ORG. There is a list of highly renowned speakers, all experts in their areas that should make for an informative day. It will be held at the Mill Valley Community Center. There is a \$20.00 charge for the daylong symposium, mostly intended to pay for the lunch that will be furnished to participants.

Adjourned about 10:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Pete Martin on behalf of
Eva A. DeNegri. Secretary, FIRESafe Marin