

LASSEN FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

June 19, 2024 5:45PM

The Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LFSC) opened the public General Meeting at 5:45 pm on June 19, 2024 (Juneteenth) at the Susan River Fire Hall, Johnstonville. LFSC members present were Board Chair Ruth Morentz; Managing Director Cade Mohler; and Board Members Kam Vento and Secretary/Treasurer Chevi Amrein.

- I. **Opening and Welcome** – Chair Ruth Morentz called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.
Sign in – A sign in sheet was passed around for voluntary sign in.

- II. **Managing Director Report given by Cade Mohler**
Active Projects
 - A. Managing Director Cade Mohler provided the LFSC Projects Overview to the attendees (see attachment with the minutes) of all project updates.
 - B. Cade Mohler highlighted the Dyer Mountain WUI Fuels Treatment will stop masticating next week due to the increased fire dangers. Shingletown WUI Fuels Treatment still is going strong with hand crews, tree cuttings and mastication which will continue through next week. The Clear Creek and Hog Flat Fuels Treatment will pick back up in the Fall, noting a need for traffic controls in order to continue.
 - C. Cade gave updates on the California Fire Safe Council grants and our County Coordinator, Hailey Park's, defensible space progress. The work progress has exceeded expectations. Specifically, in the Westwood area, 145 properties have been assessed, treated with work completed. Over 300 property owners applied for assistance. The original grant estimated the ability to complete only 80 properties. The Defensible Space Program is still accepting applications.

- III. **Closed Out Grants** – See spreadsheet for detailed overview.

- IV. **New Planned/Awarded Projects** – (see attachment with the minutes): Cade noted LFSC's South Lassen Wildfire Recovery Project has been recommended to be awarded according to the CalFire website. A \$275,000.00 grant has been awarded to the LFSC from the SNC, which will tie into the Defensible Space Project. There is a need for maintenance on the work already completed by LFSC.

- V. **Agency Updates: LFSC recognizes this Federal holiday (Juneteenth).**
BLM – Not Present
CalFire – Adam Mattos stated Cal Fire is declaring Peak Fire Season and will suspend all burn permits starting on Monday June 24, 2024. The Riverwalk Project has been delayed due to limited agency resources. The resources have been deployed to fires around the state. There are future plans in the works for a controlled burn at Happy Camp. Adam introduced new Assistant Chief on the Plumas National Forest, Joe Walton and Prairie Burt, the Defensible Space Inspector for Lassen County.
SNC – Not Present
NE CA Fire Prevention – Not present
USFS – Not present
Susan River FPD – Not present
OES Lassen County – Not present
SPI – Not Present
Beaty – Not present
Lassen County – Not present
Honey Lake Valley RCD – Not present
SIR – Not Present
American Red Cross – Duane Taaffe stated his organization has responded to the recent apartment fire in Susanville, wherein 13 Adults and 3 children were affected. ARC was able to get the fire victims housing and other assistance immediately after the fire. Duane also stated the Westwood community recently hosted the "Sound the Alarm" event. There were nine Westwood residents who received

smoke detectors and education on fire prevention. ARC is planning other events in the future including Bieber and Susanville locations. Duane gave “Kudos” for the work accomplished by High Sierra Fire in their defensible space efforts in Westwood.

Natural Resources Conservation Service/USDA– Not Present

Firewise Communities – Jacquie Cordova (Westwood FireWise), Jacquie stated the Westwood town cleanup which occurred on the first part of June was a good thing for the community. She stated she is actively connecting with people about fire safety and looks forward to her FireWise community attending the Friday Night Farmer’s Market and Westwood Chowder Cook Off in January. Jacquie stated they provide a booth with fire safety information and education to the attendees.

VI. Other –

VII. Public Comment/Questions – Prairie Bert of Cal Fire provided an overview of fire education and assessment process, which she is charged with in Lassen County. She is currently assessing the properties on Janesville Grade.

VIII. Next meeting – The July General Meeting will not be held due to LFSC attendance at the Lassen County Fair.

IX. Adjournment of Meeting – The meeting was adjourned at 6:50PM.

Chevi R. Amrein

I, Chevi Amrein, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Directors, Lassen Fire Safe Council, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full true, and correct copy of the minutes.