

# LASSEN FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC.

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2025, 5:35PM

The Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LFSC) convened in regular session at 5:35 pm on January 15, 2025, at the Susan River Fire Hall, Johnstonville. LFSC members present were Board Chair Ruth Morentz; Projects Coordinator Kyle Herron; and Board Members, Kam Vento and Chevi Amrein.

I. **Opening and Welcome** – Kyle Herron called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm

Sign in – A sign in sheet was passed around for voluntary sign in.

II. **Managing Director Report given by Kyle Herron (See Attached)**

**Active Projects**

A. **Kyle Herron** provided the LFSC Projects Overview to the attendees. Kyle read a prepared statement prepared by Managing Director Cade Mohler as Cade was unable to attend. (see attachments with the minutes). The overview included a spreadsheet and LFSC Active Project Overview and Mapping for reference. Kyle highlighted the new year is a time of change as LFSC is shifting focus on implementing our newest projects. Grant Funding opportunities from CALFIRE were significantly reduced in 24/25 compared to previous years. LFSC is well prepared for this decreased funding and is optimistic moving forward.

III. **Closed Out Grants** – Refer to spreadsheet for detailed overview.

IV. **New Planned/Awarded Projects** – Refer to spreadsheet for detailed overview. Kyle noted LFSC submitted three applications for this year's Forest Health Grant Program opportunities. The current awards for the Lassen County Wide Assessment Project, South Lassen Wildfire Recovery Project and North Susanville WUI Fuels Treatments Projects bids for biomass and mastication are due today January 15, 2025. Contracts are expected to be awarded in the next two weeks. Implementation to begin late January/Early February 2025.

V. **Agency Updates**

**BLM** – Not Present

**CalFire** – Not Present

**SNC** – Not present

**NE CA Fire Prevention** – Not present

**USFS** – **Mike Rahe** of the USFS/Plumas District updated they have a new full time, permanent Forest Supervisor, Rick Hopson. Mike updated on several mitigation and recovery projects around Plumas County, including Graeagle and Blairsden. Projects include Dixie Fire Recovery in collaboration with the Lassen National Forest. There are still staffing deficiencies throughout the agency. Mike highlighted the Stewardship Project near Graeagle. **Bobette Jones** of the Eagle Lake Fire Ranger District stated, although staffing deficiencies remain, they have successfully completed 2155 acres of hazardous fuels clean up this season in the Lassen National Forest. Current Projects include an active timber sale, The Willard Project, The Harvey Landscape Project, Pike's Point Low Water Ramp Project, Hat Creek Fires Restoration project, Dixie R5 Hazard Tree Project and the Westwood Hat Creek PG&E Powerline Project. Bobette concluded with a Roads and Recreation Report. Specifically, roads with designated snow mobile routes are closed to vehicles since 12/26/2024 and the docks at Eagle Lake Marina have been removed until next season.

**Susan River FPD** – Not present

**OES Lassen County** – Not present

**SPI – Steve DeBonis** of SPI Almanor District updated the attendees on current projects including fuel break treatments along Hwy 36 near Coppervale and Fredonyer Summit, Eagle Lake fuel breaks, additional mastication on the Mackenzie Project, work along Hwy 44 on the Fruit Growers Parcels, which tied into the HWY 44 already completed work. Steve also stated the Hwy 44 project's completion is the priority.

**Honey Lake Power** – Mark Shaffer stated the plant is running well in spite of a recent issue with the geothermal well. HLP recently received two transportations grant awards in December 2024. HLP is also submitting additional grant requests for projects at lake Almanor and the Adin/Ash Project for next Spring and Summer. The plant is currently receiving approximately 40 loads per day. Mark stated the plant is no longer on the market for sale, as has been the case for the past ten years.

**Beaty** –Not Present.

**Lassen County – Tom Neely** District 2 Supervisor had nothing to report

**Honey Lake Valley RCD** – Catherine Wooster, Post Fire Project Coordinator stated they received a 1.7-million-dollar grant for seed collection in Lassen County. There is a shortage of reserves. Catherine stated they have employed a Resiliency/Restoration Coordinator to aid in long term reforestation projects. She stated there is a community collective effort to gather and harvest Pine, Doug Fir, Cedar and all other available seeds. The optimal months for collection are July-September.

**Susanville Fire Department-** Not Present.

**SIR** – Not Present

**American Red Cross** – Not Present

**Golden State Natural Resources** – Not Present

**Firewise Communities** – Not Present

- VI. Other** –LFSC Wildfire Resiliency Coordinator, Hailey Park is moving on to a new career with Lassen County Office of education. She was an amazing asset to the mission and to the community.
- VII. Public Comment/Questions** – None noted.
- VIII. Next meeting** – February 19, 2025.
- IX. Adjournment of Meeting** – The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

*Chevi R. Amrein*

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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.