



CFSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION
June 11, 2015
8:30 am – 11:00 am
Wildland Fire Training Center – McClellan (Sacramento)
Rattlesnake Room

The following directors were present: *Jerry Davies, J.Lopez, Kate Dargan, Pat Kidder, Pat Frost, Jay Watson, Frank Stewart, Troy Whitman, David Horne, Dave Bischel, and Niel Fischer*

The following directors were excused: *Bruce Turbeville, Meritorious*

The following members of staff were present: *Katie Martel, Amber Gardner, and Liron Galliano*

The following guests were present: *Patty Ciesla (Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council), George Alves (Placer County Fire Safe Alliance), and Steve Willis (El Dorado County Fire Safe Council/Lakehills Fire Safe Council).*

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Davies called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. and opened the floor to self-introductions of Board and staff members.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2015 MINUTES

On motion made by Mr. Horne, seconded by Mr. Frost and carried, the board approved the previously distributed minutes of the meeting of the board held on February 24, 2015.

FIRE SAFE NEWS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patty Ciesla of Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council is the new program coordinator for the Fire Safe Council. She gave an overview of her position and her recent activities and inquired about the Grants Clearinghouse payment process.

Trudie Mahoney, Assistant Director of Fire and Aviation Management, USDA Forest Service, expressed gratitude to CFSC for assisting USFS to distribute wildfire prevention grant funds to assist communities and homeowners in California. She noted that without CFSC, her office does not have a mechanism for distributing large sums of grant funds, and therefore these funds would not make it to local Fire Safe Councils and other grantees. The partnership between USFS, CFSC and local entities in California is vital in helping to decrease wildfire loss.

The 2016 SFA budget will be approximately \$3 million for the next cycle. The 2016 Western States WUI grants have been awarded and will be passed through CFSC. CFSC might consider a WUI grant for the 2017 cycle and then subgrant the funds for projects in California. CFSC's application should be project-specific with fuels treatment across a large number of acres.

Steve Willis of El Dorado County Fire Safe Council/Lakehills Fire Safe Council was appreciative of the recent payment fulfillment and additional assistance. Their chipping programs have recently increased in their region, and they estimate spending approximately \$10-12,000 per month to fulfill requests for chipping and green waste dumpsters. Mr. Willis offered to assist CFSC with the payment request issue and is willing to help with the gap in payments. Mr. Willis thanked PG&E for recent funding which, he stated, rejuvenated their Power of Partnerships Quarterly Stakeholders meetings. Mr. Willis advised that there are 11 associate Fire Safe Councils under El Dorado County Fire Safe Council and 5 emerging groups, demonstrating very positive movement toward wildfire preparedness. He noted that they received SRA funds and launched a RFP for a countywide CWPP, about \$75,000.

-----BREAK-----

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 31, 2015 Financial Statement Approval

Mr. Horne, Treasurer, reviewed and responded to the directors' questions on the previously distributed financial statements.

On motion made by Mr. Frost, seconded by Mr. Lopez, and carried, the board accepted the Financial Statement from March 31, 2015.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A) 2015 CLEARINGHOUSE UPDATE

Ms. Martel passed out a list of staff activities. For the 2015 cycle, CFSC received 62 applications requesting \$7.3 million; \$3 million is available for subawards. The timeline for this cycle is on track. Suggested that the board set a date for conference call to review and ratify the list of projects selected by the Review Committee. Ms. Martel described a new, improved payment request process and how it may expedite the payments to grantees.

B) WUI CONFERENCE

Mr. Davies, Ms. Martel and Ms. Dargan attended the IAFC conference in Reno in May 2015. She gave an overview of the conference tracks and lessons learned. The greatest opportunity was to be part of a panel discussion facilitated by the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network. Ms. Martel shared her presentation on California's approach to fire adapted communities through the local Fire Safe Council program.

C) FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES LEARNING NETWORK CONFERENCE

Ms. Martel presented on her recent trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to attend the annual Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network Conference, which brings together the hub organizations to discuss network issues and strategies. Ms. Martel noted the great support of

the network from various agencies as well as impressive contributions from network participants.

CFSC PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Davies reported on the partnership with Community Alert Radio in Santa Barbara and Mr. Mike Williams, president of the Fire Services Training Institute. Community Alert Radio has good audience and exposure through its distribution of fire safe and disaster prevention coverage. Mr. Davies and Mr. Williams created three public service announcements about CFSC and the Grants Clearinghouse. The PSAs were premiered and are available on the website.

CALIFORNIA FIRE SCIENCE CONSORTIUM PRESENTATION

A presentation was made by Ms. Stacey Sargeant Frederick of the California Fire Science Consortium. The consortium is a network of scientists and managers funded by the Joint Fire Science Program to collect and synthesize fire science and research to encourage local collaboration. Founded in 2010, the consortium seeks to bridge the gap between the fire scientists and the people who can use that knowledge through the Fire Science Exchange Network.

----LUNCH BREAK at 11:35 pm-----

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

In a motion made by Mr. Frost, seconded by Mr. Horne, and carried, Chairman Davies moved the meeting to Executive Session at 12:12 p.m.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

In the Executive Session the Board discussed the 1) Election of CAL FIRE Staff Chief Dave Shew to the board; 2) Board adopted a board reimbursement policy; 3) September meeting will occur in Auburn; and 4) Honored Mr. Horne on his retirement from California State University, Long Beach.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

In a motion made by Mr. Horne, seconded by Mr. Kidder, and carried, Chairman Davies adjourned the Public Meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Next CFSC Board Meeting:

September 10, 2015 Placer County (Location TBA)

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Gardner

Clearinghouse Administrator