

FIRE SAFE SAN MATEO COUNTY

Minutes

April 11, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Denise Enea at 9:47 a.m. Self-introductions were made. Doug Toler, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, was welcomed back.

Attendance: Bryce Robertson, Highlands Recreation District; Lori Cuesta, Joel Smith, PG&E; Brian Malone, MROSD; Joanne Kur, Town of Woodside; Philippe Cohen, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Stanford U.; Pamela Noyer, San Mateo County Parks; Randy Amores, Andy Hubbs, John Martinez, Rich Sampson, Cal Fire; Denise Enea, WFPD; Guido Ciardi, SFW; Doug Toler, BAAQMD, Steve Hernandez and Steve Richmond, Fire Safe.

Additions to the Agenda: Richmond briefly reported on a serious inmate injury at Ben Lomond Camp.

Grant Requests: Discussed the upcoming chance to submit requests through the Grant Clearing House. Most likely we should attend the workshops since rules for submissions have changed.

Crew Days: John Martinez was asked to check to determine if we can secure more crew days for the Wunderlich Project through the grants he handles. It was also asked if the Pescadero Park Project had used its allotted crew days.

Brush Bandit 3500 Demonstration: Guido Ciardi reported on the demonstration held on watershed property. The equipment has impressive engineering but still needs modification. The equipment became stuck and it also needs different tracks for off-road work. County Parks, NPS, Open Space, South Skyline and Fire Safe were in attendance.

Web Site: Denise Enea reported on progress. We may need a contract if we are unable to keep the site updated .

Non-Profit Status: Denise discussed progress. Need to determine who would be on the Executive Board, conflicts of interest, develop by-laws, etc. There is a website that explains tax preparations for non-profits. Steve is to contact Nevada County for a copy of their by-laws.

Project Updates: Richmond advised Ben Lomond Crews will be training the last week in April and first week in May. They will not be available for project work.

Denise Enea, Woodside FPD: Denise talked about the FPD making their own road side signs to post addresses and road conditions for emergency equipment at long driveways. Woodside will begin chipping with Ben Lomond Crews mid-May through October. She is working with Los Trancos for work by the crews to develop an escape road for that community.

Highland Recreation District - Ben Lomond Crews have done three days of work on the community fuel break and will start pile burning the second week in May.

Doug Toler, BAAQMD, stated he would be happy to make a 20 minute presentation on open burning at our next meeting.

Highway 35 Project – PG&E will assist for any trees in their right-of-way.

Brian Malone, MROSD, is still working to gain “by in” from Cal Water on the Hwy 35/84 shaded fuel break. Cal Trans and Ben Lomond Camp are on board.

AGENCY ROUND TABLE:

P.O.S.T – Half Moon Bay, still working on a project to eliminate Eucalyptus and Cypress groves on coastal bluffs.

Pam Noyer, County Parks – There was a visitor medical aid at Edgewood County Park. Cal Fire responded and did a great job.

John Martinez, Cal Fire – He is working on a new program to capture every fuel reduction project in the unit to develop a data base for future planning.

Guido Ciardi, Hetch Hetchy Water – Snow pack and rain are the lowest in recorded history at this point. The agency has used a contract masticator on their fuel breaks for the past 20 years. It is interesting to notice the slow vegetation conversion taking place. Guido has a tentative date of June 8 for the agency fire season meeting at the Water Temple. Mark your calendars!

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Richmond

Fire Safe Coordinator