

FIRE SAFE SAN MATEO COUNTY

Minutes April 9, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Steve Richmond. Self introductions were made.

Attendance: Brendan Downing, MROSD; Priscilla Alvarez, San Mateo County Parks; Margaret Glomstad, Highlands Recreation District; Denise Enea, Woodside Fire; John Martinez, Paul Van Gerwen, Pete Munoa, Cal Fire and Steve Richmond, Fire Safe Coordinator.

Pete Munoa introduced Battalion Chief Paul Van Gerwen, Cal Fire. Paul is the Greater Bay Area news media person for Cal Fire. This is a new position and Paul is in the process of developing contacts. He hopes to be able to assist Fire Safe in featured articles with the news media. Currently, it has been difficult to develop good, long lasting contacts as many positions in the media are being reduced.

Crystal Springs Southern Fuel Break – Steve Richmond reported all pile burning has been completed and work will begin again in August.

Wunderlich Park Project – Priscilla Alvarez reported the first phase of the project has been completed. Phase 2 will be to disk and use herbicide to keep the meadow clear of regrowth. Parks will be working toward making the meadow access an all weather road.

Highland Recreation District – Margaret Glomstad stated Ben Lomond Crews will be pile burning on May 5-9.

Sponsor Training – The session was well attended and well received by those present.

Grant Requests - Four requests were received to utilize the seven crew days available. John Martinez and Steve Richmond will inspect each project and make a recommendation at the May meeting.

AGENCY ROUNDTABLE:

John Martinez, Cal Fire – Dave Moore, County Parks, made a porta pottie available for Cal Fire use so hand crews can be scheduled to work on Cal Fire truck trails. John says Cal Fire will be sending out a mailer the first week of May to target area residents to clean up their property.

Denise Enea, Woodside, has arranged for the Sudden Oak Task Force to work with residents and arborists on how to treat for SOD.

Priscilla Alvarez, County Parks - Parks has gone into their fire season with staffing and patrols.

Brendan Downing, Mid Pen. Regional Open Space District – Seasonal crews have been hired. District is in the process of brushing trails. Disking will begin after wild flowers have bloomed. They plan to burn again in Russian Ridge and are getting ready for fire season with slip-on pumps on equipment and the posting of "Fire Danger" signs.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Richmond
Fire Safe Coordinator