



# Grizzly Flats FireSafe Council

## MINUTES FOR AUGUST 1, 2015 - GRIZZLY FLATS COMMUNITY CHURCH

1. Call to order – Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Mark Almer.
2. Flag Salute – Led by Steve Frazier.
3. Roll Call – Conducted via signup sheet.
4. Meeting Room Cleanup Volunteers – Norma Dawdy, Steve Frazier, Roy Rodgers.
5. Approval of the Agenda – Kim Gustafson announced that Andre LeGrand will make the presentation for Item 11A. It was pointed out that the September meeting will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> rather than the 5<sup>th</sup>. Norma Dawdy moved, and Charlene Ank seconded, that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.
6. Approval of the July 11, 2015 Minutes – Norma Dawdy moved, and Kim Gustafson seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.
7. Treasurer's Report – Steve Hupner reported a checking account balance of \$32,310.36.
8. Public Comment – None.
9. Council Member's Comments – Mark reported that Judie Irwin had what appeared to be a massive stroke last week, but it turned out to be caused by brain tumors. She also has tumors in her lung. She is now home from the hospital. Judie has asked for a leave of absence which was granted July 31. On next month's agenda Mark will introduce concept of mentoring program so that people interested in taking on board positions can shadow board members to learn the particulars of the jobs.

Mark was contacted by Shiva Frentzen's assistant, Elaine Gelber, offering a draft letter of support for CAL FIRE conducting 4291 inspections in Grizzly Flats. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

Steve Hupner passed out a flyer addressing a new refuse collection system that offers trash and recycle containers to El Dorado Disposal customers. Steve suggested that people ask for Grizzly Flats residents to receive the option of having green waste containers to reduce pine needle issues.

Steve Frazier suggested a community notice asking residents to request green waste containers.

Steve Frazier moved, and Clair Gregory seconded, a motion to write a letter of support for providing a third green waste dumpster, to the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Amador disposal. Motion carried.

Lorna encouraged people to attend the PFPD Board meeting on August 11 to hear the discussion about the future of Station 35 in Grizzly Flats.

Phill Dayton announced that he resigned from the Pioneer Fire Protection District and will no longer serve as a volunteer firefighter.

Ernie Lory thanked Phill for his years of service to the community.

10. Agency Reports
  - A. District 2 Supervisor - Shiva Frentzen was not present.

- B. Pioneer Fire Protection District - No representative was present.
- C. Comm. Dev. Agency/Tran. Div. Dep. Director - Don Spear reported that he has been allowed to fill four vacancies which will restore at least one position to the South County. He talked to Supervisor Michael Renalli and learned that the BOS will send a letter of support for Senate Bill 16 which will bring funds to the County. He has submitted the Logan's Grade project to be considered for funding if SB 16 passes.
- D. Grizzly Flats Community Services District: Kim Gustafson reported that the reservoir intake valve had to be opened slightly due to a decrease in flows, but that is expected this time of year. The grant-funded drought infrastructure projects continue.
- E. U.S. Forest Service - Will Harris reported that he will replace Jason Withrow as the Division 6 Fire Management Officer until Jason returns from a temporary appointment on the Tahoe National Forest (in October). The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) comment period is still open for the Trestle Forest Health Project. There has been a lot of fire activity up north and the USFS is getting close to minimum staffing levels. Engine 363 is on rotation for the next Strike Team. Ernie Lory asked about the islands of Eldorado National Forest land within community. Will the Trestle project include them? [Subsequent to the meeting, Will reported that they will not be included in the Trestle treatment.] Steve Hupner asked about the dead trees on the grounds of Station 63 that are flagged. Can people cut and remove the wood once the trees have been felled? Will replied that the wood can be cut and removed with a valid wood cutting permit.
- F. CALFIRE - No representative was present.
- G. Sheriff – John D'Agostini was not present.
- H. El Dorado County Fire Safe Council – Ernie reported that the EDFSC met on July 23. The Web page now has a calendar that we can populate with our activities and events. The Georgetown Fire Safe Council received a PG&E grant for fuel reduction. The Logtown Fire Safe Council is using the California Conservation Corps on its fuel reduction projects. The EDCFSC is preparing a comment letter on the Trestle Forest Health Project. Four new fire safe councils are forming: Cool/Pilot Hill, Coloma/Lotus, Royal Equestrian Estates, and the Patterson road neighborhood. The EDCFSC is reviewing the wording of the "hold harmless" on its volunteer documents. They are also creating a "hold harmless" clause for landowners and for contractors doing work through County FSCs. Mark Almer suggested that the GFFSC should also have a hold harmless statement on the Defensible Space evaluation forms.

11. Unfinished Business

- A. Post BBQ Report -- John Rogers reported that the BBQ was successful and there will be a debriefing meeting on August 5.

12. New Business

- A. Proposal For CSD Cost-Share of Drafting Hydrant – Andre LeGrand reported that the need for a way to pump water from the CSD reservoir was raised during the GFFSC's table top drill. What followed was a discussion about how to provide that capability without damaging the reservoir. After investigating the options, the CSD recommends a floating pipe with suction port with a direct connection for fire trucks. This option will also strain the water during the suction process.

The CSD also plans to add a large turnaround area allowing most fire trucks to get in, get water, and turn around. Information about the specifications of the selected system, and photographs, are attached to these minutes. Mark Almer entertained a motion that the GFFSC cover half the cost of the project, not to exceed \$2,000. Phill Dayton so moved; Rob Janzen seconded. Kim abstained, citing her employment with the district, as did Mel Kelly, citing his volunteer position as CSD Treasurer. Motion carried.

B. Member Resignation – Member Appointment – Mark Almer announced that AJ Janzen submitted her resignation. She has asked to be an honorary member. Greg DeArte is her replacement, having been approved as a future member at June 6 meeting.

C. Proposed GFFSC Mission Statement Revision – Mark Almer reported that the mission statement is proposed to be revised so that the GFFSC can act on projects such as the cost-share of the CSD drafting hydrant. The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council's mission statement was distributed as a model for the GFFSC to consider. Steve Hupner suggested an edit to the EDCFSC's mission statement to remove the word "protect" which could have legal implications of a guarantee against fire losses. Ernie suggested changing "community" to "sphere of recognition" to allow us to expand beyond the developed park. Phill moved to adopt the following new mission statement: "The Mission of the Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council is to preserve Grizzly Flats' natural and manmade resources by informing, educating and mobilizing all residents and landowners to make their homes, properties, neighborhoods and the community fire safe, and to provide area-wide cooperation, innovation and action in an effort to buffer the sphere of recognition from catastrophic wildfire." Charlene Ank seconded. Motion carried.

D. Proposed Response to Trestle Forest Health Project EIS – Ernie Lory reported that he reviewed the EIS and talked to Community Services District Board Member Doug Updike who reviewed the EIS for the CSD. Ernie recommends that the GFFSC support Alternative 2 because it provides the best long-term protection for the community as well as the watershed utilized by the CSD. Phill Dayton moved, and Rob Janzen seconded, that Alternative 2 be approved as the GFFSC's recommendation and that the Executive Board be given the authority to approve and sign a letter to that effect, to be submitted prior to the mid-August deadline.

- 1) 2016 Grant Applications – Steve Hupner reported that Item 12E2, "SNC Grant for a CEQA document for future projects", has been cancelled due to the restrictive requirements of the grant application.
- 2) SRA Grant for GF-13 fuel reduction project – This grant is the second SRA grant to be offered. The GFFSC submitted a grant proposal last year but it was not accepted. Steve recommended that it be resubmitted. Rob Janzen so moved; Phill Dayton seconded. Motion passed.

13. Committee Reports

A. Newsletter – Lorna Bernard did not give a report due to time constraints.

B. Defensible Space – Vacant

C. Grants/CWPP – Steve Hupner reported that a representative with the California Conservation Corps (CCC) has offered to perform 11,000 hours' worth of free labor in our community, which translates to 91 days of work. Steve

suggested that any incidental costs associated with the project work need to be approved by the Council. Rob Janzen moved that the Council approve incidental expenses of up to \$5,000. Steve Frazier seconded. Motion carried.

D. Parliamentary - Judie Irwin is on a leave of absence.

E. Public Education - Mark Almer did not give a report due to time constraints.

14. Community Announcements – Rob Janzen reported that Clair Gregory will be promoted to Captain of the Civil Air Patrol in a ceremony conducted by Tom McClintock on Aug. 6 at the Veterans Hall in Placerville.
15. Agenda Items for Sept. 12, 2015 Meeting: New Business -- Mentoring Program for Future Board Members. Unfinished Business -- Post-BBQ Wrap-up.
16. Adjourn -- Norma Dawdy moved, and Rob Janzen seconded, a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:32.

### **July 11, 2015 GFFSC Meeting Attendance**

**Members:** Mark Almer, Charlene Ank, Lorna Bernard, Norma Dawdy, Phillip Dayton, Greg DeArte, Steve Frazier, Clair Gregory, Kim Gustafson, Kathie Hawkins, Steve Hupner, Rob Janzen, Mel Kelley, Liz Lawless, Ernie Lory, John Rogers, Roy Rodgers, Bill Roloson.

**Agency Reps:** Will Harris, Don Spear.

**Guests:** Doug Updike, Angela DeArte, Andre LeGrand.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lorna Bernard  
GFFSC Secretary

## **Grizzly Flats Community Services District**

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## **Drafting Hydrant Information**

One of the worst case scenarios situations that came up during the Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council's Wildfire Tabletop Exercise in April included fire hydrants on Blue Mountain Drive losing pressure, and the fire department not being able to use them to fight the fire. The incident commander sent a water tender truck through the South View Drive entrance to pump water directly out of the GFCSD reservoir, but Leo Rainwater (GFCSD's Water System Manager) discovered that the water tenders use metal strainers when drawing water, which could potentially tear the HDPE liner in the reservoir. Leo thought that a good solution would be to install a permanent drafting hydrant at GFCSD's reservoir, which would allow emergency agencies access to draw water without risking damage to the liner.

Leo spent some time researching different drafting hydrant options, and discovered floating drafting siphons and floats that keep suction hoses on the surface of the reservoir, and off the liner material. This option will not only come at the lowest possible cost, but will provide multiple benefits to the community as well.

### Benefits:

- Provide a safe location for emergency vehicles to draft water in a fire emergency.
- Protect the reservoir liner from damage.
- Allow the use of lower cost, untreated water for emergency use.
- Provide an additional drafting point for the sale of raw water for construction and other purposes.
- Give the District a way to drain the reservoir for maintenance purposes without setting pumps on the reservoir floor. When the reservoir was drained for the Water System Improvement Project (WSIP), District staff had to carry gas powered pumps down the reservoir walls to the bottom of the dam, to pump the water that was below the level of the drain piping. With the floating drafting station, District staff will be able to set a large pump on top of the reservoir and safely lower the water level.

This project can be completed for around \$3,500-\$4,000.

*Grizzly Flats CSD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



## Floating Siphon Strainers in Use





## Hose and Pipe Floats



## PVC Drafting Station Example

