

Mono Basin Fire Safe Council Minutes
21 July 2021 (via Zoom)

Attendees: Glenda Bayless, Lisa Cutting, Robbie Di Paolo, Margaret Eissler, Bob Gardner, Paul McFarland, Joe & Annie Moore, Tom Strazdins, Nathan Taylor, John Warneke, Marga

Minutes recorded by John Warneke.

- Public comment
 - Is BLM clearing the firebreak, the vegetation between private property owners and dirt road in Mono City? (Lisa)
 - Talks this year with Ana Maria, with focus on fuel breaks on south side with FS lands and riparian sections including west of Hwy 395 in campgrounds, and additionally BLM land
 - Problem with mower resulted in BLM firebreak to take backseat this year
 - Slightly off topic...
 - Mono City Fire has a brush mower for borrow, and plan to get a skid steer with a mower attachment (John)
 - How would the equipment be paid for? (Glenda)
 - Annual funding from by the County to all fire districts, with commissioners directing how funds are allocated (Bob)
- Rea Ranch discussion/feedback
 - Please see the June Minutes for a recap of the Rea presentation
 - Most in the North Mono Basin are against the Rea and Swiggum campsite projects and rezoning (Glenda)
 - 'Friends of the North Mono Basin' have a lawsuit against 'the situation'
 - After last month's presentation, several residents wrote to Rea to express opposition to campground and everything ... [call cut out]
 - Hopeful the FSC is not an ally of the Reas
 - Without discussion, the FSC doesn't have a strong opinion either way right now, or plans to follow up right now (Robbie)
- MBFSC website
 - No feedback yet
 - Hoping for more use by information centers and utilized during fire season
 - May need to promote through more outreach
- Fliers & Banner
 - Fliers
 - Laminated posted at campgrounds; non-laminated handed out to camp hosts and businesses selling wood (Tom)
 - Unknown party removed postings at Lower LV, Moraine, Big Bend campgrounds; Tom replaced
 - No update from vendors (Tom)
 - Will follow up and have info for next meeting

- Banner
 - E-mail sent to DWP about repositioning near the AmeriGas tank (Bob)
 - Response: will check lease and see what the situation is
- Brush bin in Mono City
 - Currently full
 - Dave Swisher normally calls D&S to empty
 - Will follow up with Dave (John)
 - Someone from Forest Service contacted regarding bins in Lee Vining and Mono City? To have them pay for bins in each location? (Paul)
 - Replied but didn't get a response; Will follow up (Robbie)
 - Wonder if related to grant Holly applied to
 - Good to hear interest from the FS that they were looking into it
- SCE gates
 - SCE said no to giving out keys to their gates
 - LV Fire want to have all locks keyed the same
 - Sent note to Cal Rossi (Paul)
 - LV Fire ready to go now; Not wanting to wait for locks keyed same; Need a local contact so that we can get gates locked with locks on hand
 - Lock on gate to road south of old Cunningham property limits access (Tom)
 - Add gate to list for Cal Rossi (Lisa)
 - Lock different than other SCE locks; Will call Ana Maria to see if lock belongs to Forest Service (Tom)
- Other business
 - Smoke detector education campaign
 - Last year, Red Cross to facilitate and recruit volunteers
 - Will follow up to see if the program is still operating (Tom)
 - Home Hardening seminar/outreach campaign
 - Compile list of resources for distribution
 - Action item to work on for next meeting (Robbie)
 - Started looking at contractors and Experts (Bob)
 - Contractors are not necessarily specialized in this field
 - Homeowners research & choose what they want installed
 - Detailed online offerings that can be put on the FSC website
 - Encourage those interested in information to visit the website
 - Find local residents to talk about their choices in home hardening & defensible space
 - Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection Project (Robbie)
 - Start a dialogue; Ask them for ideas regarding home hardening
 - Presentation? Recorded meeting? Possible contacts?
 - Presented a comprehensive insurance presentation (Lisa)

- Idea to identify something for the community to take advantage of (Robbie)
 - The more who take advantage, the greater benefit to all
- Unaware of grants for subsidizing home hardening; Grants are there for fuels reduction (Bob)
- Communities at risk might not have resources to do home hardening; Seeing demonstration of how it can be done would be of benefit (Robbie)
- CA Fire Safe Council County Coordinator Grant Program (Bob)
 - Effort to develop local and regional capacity and coordination, in order to encourage collaboration between agencies
 - Program funded by CalFire, with \$175k available to 28 counties for 18-month position
 - Mono County's application underway; Hopeful as program aimed at rural areas
- Next meeting to be held on 18 August 2021 at 5pm