



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, supporting emergency response efficiency, and to provide area-wide cooperation, innovation, and action in an effort to buffer the Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council's Sphere of Recognition from catastrophic wildfire.

Minutes – January 6, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Location:

**Join Zoom Meeting**


<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87971436943?pwd=ZUtKcmdnd1MrSU15YUZFU01ZbG05Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 879 7143 6943**

**Passcode: 105592**

**Dial by your location**

• **+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)**

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Chairman Mark Almer.
2. **Flag Salute** - The flag salute was conducted by David Maske.
3. **Roll Call** - The attendance was taken by Chairperson Almer
4. **Timekeeper Volunteer** - The time keeping volunteer was David Manske
5. **Approval of the January 6, 2024 Agenda** - A motion was made by David Manske to approve the agenda as submitted. A second was made by Scott Edwards. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **Approval of the November 4, 2023 Minutes** - A motion was made by David Manske to approve the minutes as submitted. A second was made by Ernie Lory. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Treasurer's Report – Robin Kelley** - not present; Mark Almer shared the report linked here:  [Treasurer report for Jan 6th 2024-1.pdf](#)
8. **Agency Reports**
  - a. Pioneer Fire Protection District – PFPD Chief Dave Whitt/Fire Marshal Ken Earle - not present
  - b. Report of Information from Pioneer FPD meeting/GFFSC Information to be shared at PFPD Board Meeting – David Manske/Robin Kelley - not present

- c. El Dorado County Sheriff's Office / OES – Deputy Scott Bare/Deputy Greg Almos/Deputy Kris Kersmarki - Deputy Kris Kersmarki gave an overview of his duties and the type of support he provides to the community. Tuesday -Friday are his regular days. His cell is and his email is : 530-919-5185 kersmarkik@edso.org
- d. El Dorado County Fire Safe Council – Ernie Lory - Ernie Lory shared that the EDCFSC applied for 3 grants for defensible space development, chipping and hazardous tree removal for approximately \$10 million. The assessor training dates will be shared soon. The date for the Defensible Space training hasn't been set yet but is expected to be in February/March. EDSO is creating a new website for emergency information and should be activated February 2024.
- e. California Highway Patrol – Public Information Officer Andrew Brown - not present
- f. El Dorado Resource Conservation District – Mark Egbert - not present
- g. U.S. Forest Service – Placerville Dist. Ranger Travis Thane (acting) - not present
- h. CAL FIRE, Amador-El Dorado Unit –Battalion Chief Josh Vickers / Public Information Officer Wendy Oaks - not present

## 9. Neighboring Fire Safe Councils

- a. Aukum/Fairplay - not present
- b. Omo Ranch - Shiela Triebull shared that the FSC is on break and new updates will be shared at the next meeting.
- c. Sand Ridge - not present

## 10. Old Business

- a. GFFSC Vacancies – Mark Almer – Discussion/Action - Mark Almer reported there are 10 vacancies and to tell friends and neighbors.
- b. Time Sheet Submittal – David Manske – Discussion - David Manske gave an update on the timesheets and reminded everyone to turn in their time sheets and shared that we are a Firewise community and this is important for insurance in many cases.
- c. Routes Out of the Community Signage – Mark Almer - Discussion/Action - Mark Almer shared that he doesn't have any significant updates other than the signage project is still in progress.
- d. GFFSC 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee – Ernie Lory – Discussion - Ernie Lory shared about the project. It is expected that this will be a slideshow as well as a possible hard copy/coffee table type of book.
- e. Firewise Communities Renewal Status Update - Mark Almer - Discussion - Mark Almer shared that we have been renewed. He also shared that the changing rules have made this most current renewal very difficult.
- f. Blue Mountain Drive/USFS Hazard issue - Mark Almer - Discussion/Action - Mark Almer provided an overview of the issue. The USFS has given landowners permits to fall trees that are within striking distance of the surrounding property owners. Note from previous minutes: USFS will not be able to do anything until a NEPA is

filed and approved which will be in spring of 2024. Olivia Moreno asked about how they can get help with removing a potential hazardous tree on their property.

## 11. New Business

- a. Revision of the GFFSC Mission Statement - Mark Almer/Ernie Lory - Discussion/Action - Ernie Lory informed the council the reason for adding the extra wording to the mission statement that supports emergency responders ability to provide services to the community. A motion was made by Ernie Lory to approve the revision of the GFFSC Mission Statement. A second was made by David Maske. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Defensible Space Assessor Training - Ernie Lory - Discussion/Action - Ernie Lory shared that the new dates are not published as of the time of this meeting.
- c. Spring Green Waste clean-up day (suggested date of May 18<sup>th</sup>) - Ernie Lory - Discussion/Action - Ernie Lory shared that this event will help the community with post winter storm clean up and preparing for the dry summer months. This will include compostable green bags and large green waste bins and possibly chipping. May 18, 2024 is the proposed date. Ernie Lory expressed a need for someone to chair this event. This will be returned to the next meeting to see if someone is willing to chair this event.
- d. 2024 Firewise Day – Mark Almer – Discussion/Action - Mark Almer shared that John Taylor, the property owner where the event is held, and the Burger Night lead, Robin Kelley, and Mark Almer decided that this event should be held on June 8, 2024 which does not conflict with the GFSCC regular meeting. This event will be combined with the Burger Night as their kick off and the 20th Anniversary of GFSCC. A motion was made by Ernie Lory to approve the date of 2024 Firewise Day. A second was made by Kelly Krohn. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. Community Christmas Tree – Mark Almer – Discussion/Action - Mark Almer shared that community members are interested in having a live Christmas tree at the new post office. The way we can make this fit into the GFSCC mission statement is that we would hang ornaments that have fire safety messages that would be viewed by community members as they view the tree. A motion was made by Ernie Lory to approve the Community Christmas Tree Project including the purchase of the tree for a maximum of \$250. A second was made by Liz Lawless. The motion passed unanimously.

## 12. Committee Reports

- a. Public Education - Mark Almer - Mark Almer shared that the community bulletin board is ready and will include a community map and a map with the “routes out of the community”.
- b. Defensible Space – David Manske /Robin Kelley / Liz Lawless / Matt Nunley - David Manske shared that he hasn’t had any requests for defensible space evaluations. He explained what this evaluation entails. David Manske asked Ernie Lory to look into ways to keep the previously trained people to be updated. Ernie

Lory stated that this is something that the EDFSC is looking into. Mark Almer expressed a need for a consistent form used by the evaluators.

- c. Grants – Ernie Lory / David Manske - The Stevens Authority funds will be redirected in the common area west of PineRidge to thin the forest. This area is not burnt and is a fire concern. This should be mapped and flagged in the next few weeks. The other portion of the funds will be used in the Cosumnes Mine Woodpecker Acre area that needs to be thinned out. RCD will also be looking at the Eagle Hill Road area with other funds and will work on the other properties in the “donut hole” Phase 2. Ernie Lory is communicating with the EDFSC about the E16/Grizzly Flat Road project.
- d. Fundraising – Robin Kelley / David Manske David Manske has had one request for reflective signs. Information about this will be posted on the community bulletin board.
- e. Website – Deirdre Girardi / Kelly Krohn / Robin Kelley - Deirdre Girardi gave an update. Mark Almer posted up the recent minutes and agenda.

**13. Public Comment** – Limited to 3 minutes for items not already on the agenda.

- a. Liz Lawless gave an update about the The Pioneer Volunteer Firefighters (PVFA) Association meeting and expressed that it was well attended including the FSC councils. Sheila Triebull shared that there was a request for all calendars to alleviate calendaring conflicts and encourage attendance across associations. Shiela Triebull gave an update on the wine signage project pilot.

**14. Council Member Comments** – Limited to 3 minutes for items not already on the agenda.

- a. Olivia Moreno shared a concern about the recent pile burns and the smoke from these fires. Ernie Lory and David Manske shared that these are pile burns as part of ongoing clean up by different agencies including RCD’s contractors, Sierra Pacific Industry, private contractors, and others. Mark Almer asked Ernie Lory to research ways to communicate with the community about large pile burns. Shiela Triebull asked that this request for clear communication about large burn piles to include all of the FSCs.

**15. Public Announcements**

- a. none

**16. For the Good of the Order**

- a. none

**17. Adjourn** - Scott motioned and Kelly Krohn seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:26. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Deirdre Marsh-Girardi*

Deirdre Girardi

Secretary