



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 Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council's Sphere of Recognition from catastrophic wildfire

Minutes – January 7, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Location: Virtual – via Zoom

- 1) Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Mark Almer.
- 2) Flag Salute was led by Ernie Lory
- 3) Roll Call – roll was taken by both Secretary Girardi and Chairman Almer
- 4) Timekeeper Volunteer – Robin Kelley volunteered to be the timekeeper.
- 5) Approval of the January 7, 2023 Agenda – Mel Kelley motioned and David Manske seconded the approval of the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Approval of the November 5, 2022 Minutes – Kelly Krohn motioned and Roy Rodgers seconded the approval of the Minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.
- 7) Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Robin Kelley reported the current balance is \$52, 991.43, with an available balance of \$36,358. Title III balance is \$87 and the P,G&E balance is \$2,432. Still have undesignated funds EDCF fund of \$15,000.
- 8) Public Comment – There were no Public Comments.
- 9) Council Member Comments – There were no Council Member Comments

**10) Agency Reports**

- A. BOS District 2 Supervisor - not present
- B. Pioneer Fire Protection District – no present
- C. El Dorado County Department of Transportation – not present
- D. Grizzly Flats Community Services District – not present
- E. El Dorado County Sheriff's Office / OES – not present
- F. El Dorado County Fire Safe Council – Ernie Lory reported:
  1. The EDCFSC did not meet in December and Ernie will report further at our February meeting.

G. California Highway Patrol – not present

H. U.S. Forest Service –District Ranger Scot Rogers reported:

- The USFS Administration Site is “in the process of rebuilding” but it will be years. They will have temporary structures, with an engine company staffing them this spring.
- The USFS is working with the school to have USFS land conveyed to the school district. That may take a while so, in the interim, they are drafting a special use permit.
- They are working with the Grizzly Flats CSD to authorize them to remove hazard trees, along with the construction of a temporary road. They also assisted the CSD with the FEMA reviews.
- During the fire, the USFS had significant tree operations and many of the trees have since been removed.
- The NEPA analysis of the Grizzly Flats Fuel break was completed unusually fast. The harvesting has already started and are about half-way through the falling process (Capps Crossing, Leoni and North/South Roads J&R Logging is the contractor. Weather is affecting continued work.
- In the future, more harvesting will occur. It will occur in the high mortality areas, mainly for the safety of visitors. In all, there is \$1-1.5 billion reforestation needed for all the work – which is not fundable – so they have to concentrate on public safety. It will be a collaborative process. Shaded fuel breaks (2000-7000 acres centered around ridgelines and roads) are part of the plan so they can re-introduce prescribed fire.
- There is a plan to have Federal/Private partnerships along the borders of USFS/private properties so that private property owners can achieve defensible space (approximately 1000’) around all property lines.
- The Caldor Reforestation document will be done in mid-2024. The 200’ clearing from roads in the Caldor Fire footprint is a priority.
- Ernie Lory inquired about the newly installed gates on local USFS roads. District Ranger Rogers explained that closures would occur during threats to public safety. They are coordinating with landowners to provide access via daisy-chained locks. The gates are not closed very often. Contact Scot Rogers regarding the roads.

I. CAL FIRE, Amador-El Dorado Unit - not present.

J. Neighboring Fire Safe Councils

1. Aukum/Fairplay – not present
2. Omo Ranch – Shiela Triebull reported that the next Winery Signage meeting is taking place on January 17, 2023.

K. Long Term Recovery Group – not present

## 11) Old Business

- A. GFFSC Vacancies – Mark Almer reported there are still have vacancies on the Council and for the members to let their friends and neighbors aware of the opportunity to join the Council and serve the community.
- B. Time Sheet Submittal – David Manske reminded everyone to please turn in their timesheets.

## 12) New Business

- A. 2023 Meeting Dates – Mark Almer reviewed all the planned meeting dates. Manual Lopez motioned and Kelly Krohn seconded to accept the proposed dates. Motion passed unanimously. Ernie Lory will submit the list to the EDCFSC for insurance purposes.
- B. 2023 Sponsored Events – The only suggested event for 2023 was the Community Clean-Up. Robin offered to help out. The item will be returned to New Business for the February 2023 meeting. Robin Kelley will be contacting Craig Heinrich to discuss the proposed event.
- C. Routes out of the Community Signage – Mark Almer summarized the previous program and the potential of re-installing a limited amount of signage within the USFS boundaries, particularly at road junctures. Robin Kelley felt that the GFFSC should not be putting up the same evacuation signs, but that signs should definitely be placed at important junctures in the roads. District Ranger Scot Rogers will look into their road budget to ascertain if installing signs at critical junctures. Potentially they could partner with the GFFSC by installing the official USFS road name post and the GFFSC could install the directional sign on the same post. Scot will also discuss at a future El Dorado County FSC meeting. This item will be returned to “Old Business, 11C” at the February 2023 meeting.
- D. BBQ Fundraiser/Firewise Day – Mark Almer informed the Council members that the Executive Board met and came up with an idea to have this year’s event at one of the Burger Nights (July 14). We could partner with the Burger Night group and provide an “enhanced meal” (possibly dessert). We could also have door prizes that fit our Mission Statement (such as rakes, leaf bags, etc.). Since this is the annual event, full Council membership participation will be required for a successful event. This item will be returned to “old business” for the February 2023 meeting. In the interim, Treasurer Robin Kelley will review our budget so we can discuss how much funding to dedicate to the event. Sheila Triebull (Omo Ranch FSC) sent a Zoom chat to the attendees stating that a Home Hardening Display is available for us to use at the event. A motion to move forward with the proposed event was made by Manuel Lopez and seconded by David Manske. Motion approved unanimously.

## 13) Committee Reports

- A. Public Education - Mark Almer reported that it’s been fairly quiet and that as new topics arise, he will post on social media.

- B. Defensible Space – Defensible Space Chair Robin Kelley reported all is quiet in that program. Ernie Lory reminded everyone that the chipping program along with the Senior/Veteran/Disable Defensible Space program is still available.
- C. Grants – Grants Manager Ernie Lory reported:
  - 1. The GF-18 (Henry’s Diggins) Caldor Roadside Shaded Fuel Break is complete.
  - 2. Ernie also shared three project/progress maps from the RCD Recovery and Reforestation project. A brief discussion ensued about the RCD notifying residents and CAL FIRE dispatch about large burning projects.
  - 3. David Manske asked District Ranger Rogers about the plans for the Helipad. Pioneer Fire Protection District has also been using it for an observation point during reports of fires. David has taken on the maintenance of the helipad, including repainting. Scot will research the plans and get back to us.
- D. Fundraising – David Manske reported that he has not had any orders for reflective address signs. Mark Almer suggested he set up a display at the proposed 2023 Firewise Day event. They could also be given away as a door prize during Firewise event.
- E. Website – no report.

**14) Public Announcements** – none

- 1. **For the Good of the Order** – David Manske and Mark Almer thanked USFS Scot Rogers for attending and Mark reinforced how our partnership with the USFS is just as strong now, if not stronger, than it was prior
- 2. **Adjourn** – A motion to adjourn at 10:51am was made by David Manske, with a second by Manuel Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mark Almer*

Mark Almer  
Chairperson/Secretary Pro-Tem