



Promoting Wildfire Safety Through Education and Action

**Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council
Executive Committee Meeting
November 2nd, 2022**

Executive Committee Directors Present: Paul Van Leer, Kevin Varga, Rob Hazard, Nic Elmquist, Victoria Cooper

Executive Committee Directors Absent: N/A

Others Present: Anne-Marie Parkinson, Kian Brouwer, Ted Adams

Motions:

- Approve the RFP (R. Hazard, P. Van Leer seconds, all in favor)
- Apply for Lompoc CWPP and public education grants for 2023. (N. Elmquist, R. Hazard Seconds, all in favor)

1. Rob Hazard: RFP for Herbivory

- R. Hazard is still working on the mapping
- Problem: State parks where several treatments are planned, may not be interested
- R. Hazard sent them an email asking if they want to be in, or would they want to be apart of CAL BTP
- Acreage is fine
- N. Elmquist suggest adding “mapping to be released soon”
- That way they could let us know if they are even interested
- If they don’t get back to R. Hazard, he will go ahead and finish it either way.
- Post a link of the RFP: make it open to anyone
- RFP contains everything, contract, scope of work, etc.
- If State Parks back out there is still a way to make it work
- Many areas along the Gavito Coast need this work done
- RFP is for grazing services: we could hire multiple contractors: N. Elmquist suggest we do the same for chipping manager position
- N. Elmquist says have them agree to a daily rate, over by the acre, that way they won’t raise the cost of certain landscape
- R. Hazard will make a call to CEC who have been doing grazing, ask for advice
- **Motion to approve RFP R. Hazard, P. Van Leer Seconds, all in favor**

2. Personnel Budget:

- K. Varga and A. Parkinson created documents tracking funds
- Exec. Director will use them to track when will run out of salary funds, etc.
- By 2025 we will have a lot of funds to use
- Grant duration calendar tracks how long they are active for, and makes it easier to manage
- AMP asks if we should put Gustavo on Cal Fire Grant for 3 quarters then 25 for NFWF. He currently is the opposite.
- He is doing work that would qualify under the Cal Fire grant
- R. Hazard says that will have to be recorded using the project codes
- V. Cooper says one way to expend funds is hiring support staff
- K. Varga asks if we could back charge those funds we spent in the past few months which we couldn't charge to the Cal fire grant (No)
- R. Hazard says there has to be a trail of where employees salaries are coming from, and what time from each grant. Suggests that we plug in hours to certain grants we need to use, therefore there is a paper trail
- R. Hazard says we could start moving funds around, K. Varga says that is possible.
- Exec. Director could be paid through various grants, because they are essentially running the whole program
- N. Elmquist says we should start sending out the ED position
- T. Adams brings up liability insurance. Says we should start thinking
- N. Elmquist and R. Hazard say that contracts will make hires liable
- That will most likely be the first task for the Executive Director, then they will take oversight of projects
- P. Van Leer says we already have liability insurance, K. Varga will send out to exec. Committee

3. Grant Brainstorming:

Project Ideas:

- Lompoc Valley CWPP
 - 3-3.5 years
 - Apply next grant cycle
 - CWPP takes about 18 months but we don't want to shortchange
 - Once the project is done you close it out, you can finish it at any time
 - N. Elmquist suggest possibly creating more GIS maps to create countywide mapping
 - Connect Lompoc CWPP to all the other ones in the county
 - R. Hazard says we document will probably be \$160,000 for consultant fee

- Put grant in for around \$350,000
- AMP says benefit to finishing it would be expanding our work to North County: we would have employee up there
- R. Hazard says get a full time local person, incorporate their cost into grant request
- This person will be stationed in Lompoc, figuring out what they need. Person would need to live local
- This CWPP will let us know if anyone/organization is interested in Wildfire mitigation
- P. Van Leer says we should do everything in Lompoc at once under one grant: CWPP, community chipping, outreach, etc.
- N. Elmquist suggests once Signal is no longer a part of RWMP, the FSC should take over, would give us more staff, funding, etc.
- County Wide RWMP
 - R. Hazard says we will need to have deliverables from the current RWMP grant.
 - 2024 would be the best time to work into expanding into a county wide RWMP
 - Will talk structure later
- Chipping in Cebada Canyon
 - Don't need to apply
 - R. Hazard says it would be possible to do under current grant
 - AMP says it would most likely only need to be done once
- Implement some CWPP projects from San Marcos Pass CWPP
 - County fire won't be putting in any grant requests
 - R. Hazard says a lot of the projects are being completed already by county hand crews
 - Trouble is availability of hand crews: county is bringing on a few more crews soon
- Education Curriculum
 - V. Cooper says we should give workshops for landscapers, builders, architects, etc. Provide them a connection to learn about fire mitigation
 - Curriculum for teachers: modules for teachers
 - N. Elmquist says there is a public education grant category for cal fire: R. Hazard says they are easy because there is no mapping
 - Marin county has a fire protection authority which goes to fire safe marin because their website has all the fire safe information
 - This grant would cover an employee, supply budget, translation services budget, computers
 - There is a ton of these grants out there that we could incorporate

- **N. Elmquist Motion: To apply for Lompoc CWPP and public education grants for 2023. R. Hazard Seconds**
- AMP says we should hire a part time grant writer
- N. Elmquist says this is something we will sit down with ED and figure everything out
- Fire prevention grants most likely won't be due until January R. Hazard says

Personnel Needs:

- AMP suggests we should have a social-equity board member
- Victoria says that our work already has social equity in our principles, to designate someone on the board specific tasks relating to social equity, would isolate that person.
- We should have someone representing those communities on the board, but there shouldn't be a specific title

4. Gaviota Coast Supplies Expense Approval

- Approved: but make sure cost of 1 item doesn't exceed \$5,000
- Gustavo Laptop

5. Membership Committee Updates

- P. Van Leer says we should bring that up in the beginning
- Having set time for public comment: people bring something up "We'll consider it and get back to you next meeting"
- Can't let concerns take over the meeting
- V. Cooper: Says there should be a letter from the chair of board of directors in the quarterly newsletter

Action Items:

- In two weeks add discuss Executive Director position
- Chipping: Do we plan on hiring one person, or hire several for chipping position
- Create a "projects" tab on the website