



Promoting Wildfire Safety Through Education and Action

**Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council  
Executive Committee Meeting  
September 20th, 2023**

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

**Executive Committee Directors Absent:**

**Others Present:** K. Brouwer, T. Adams, P. Seymour, G. Agredano, S. Edner

**1. Concerns about communities burning piles:**

- G. Agredano has been conducting home evaluations and is worried about residents burning their own piles. He is concerned about what could go wrong, as these people have no help
- He wants to know if we can offer these populations any help or helpful contacts to make this process safer
- R. Hazard: They are under strict restrictions and have to have a burn permit.
- T. Adams: San Marcos volunteer fire dept. Offers help to people in the WRA. G. Agredano could connect the two parties
- P. Seymour: Possibly the SBCFSC could create a pool of volunteers to help community members with projects like this. Firewise communities could play a large part in community members helping each other out

**2. Lompoc Event:**

- K. Brouwer and K. Furlong have been meeting with community members and organizations in Lompoc

**3. Tabling at SB Farmer's Market Community Booth:** Shaine Lutsky

- Defer to AMP when she is back. We will need to figure this out with staff/volunteer hours. We will wait for her to return
- K. Brouwer will respond that we support the idea but we need to ensure we have the proper staff/set-up

**4. Finance update:**

- We received checks from the Coastal Conservancy, and two from Cal Fire.

- These checks should help us extend our current finances for another few months
- We should also be receiving an advance for the NFWF RWMP grant, and a large advance for the chipping project
- K. Varga believes we are looking good on finances in the near future
- He noticed State Treasurer checks are on more than a week's hold.
- N. Elmquist: Do we have a system for ensuring we are up-to-date with our reimbursement and advancement requests? K. Varga says we have a great tracking system in place but need to work on a proper budget projection.
- EC agrees they all need to be more involved and informed about the finances
- EC agrees we should look into a grants manager as a staff position

**5. Liability insurance renewal:** [Alliant renewal proposal](#) or change to [Nonprofits Insurance Alliance](#)

- K. Varga has been researching the two different Liability insurance options. We currently have Alliant, and he recommends renewing this plan. The other option is much more expensive.
- ***Motion to renew Alliant Liability Plan: V. Cooper, N. Elmquist seconds, All in favor***

**6. Review next BOD Agenda:**

- N. Elmquist presents the agenda for next week's meeting. EC approves the agenda

**Motions:**

- *Motion to renew Alliant Liability Plan: V. Cooper, N. Elmquist seconds, All in favor*

**General Notes:**

- P. Seymour wants to start working on our interaction with board members. Introductory binder, etc.

**Minutes submitted respectfully: Kian Brouwer**