



**Wrightwood Fire Safe Council**

P.O. Box 3100  
Wrightwood, CA 92397  
(760) 249-3249

[www.wrightwoodfsc.com](http://www.wrightwoodfsc.com)

## Meeting Minutes

**Call to order:** The general meeting for the Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) was called to order by Jim Emery on Sept 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 1900 hours local time, at 6000 Cedar, Wrightwood, CA 92397.

**Flag salute:** The flag salute was led by Jim Emery.

Roll call: The following WFSC Board of Directors were present:  
John Aziz, Jim Emery, Terri Hill, Ben Smith and Kathy Smith.  
Absent was: Robert Comperini, Hank Hallmark, and Bruce LaClaire.

The following agency representatives were present: Seth Mitchell (USFS ANF), Lauren Blake (USFS SBNF), Karl Hegle (San Bernardino County Fire Department), Ariel Verayu (Los Angeles County Agricultural Commission).

### **Public comments and questions:**

Craig Hansen- Express appreciation of WFSC and San Bernardino Code Enforcement in regards to Oak Springs Valley hazard abatement. Also addressed WFSC Board and meeting attendees regarding "Shooting Range" in Wild Horse Canyon proposal being a fire safety threat.

Terri Hill discussed new fire restrictions on San Bernardino National Forest, Recreational shooting restrictions- in Permitted ranges only.

**Approval of minutes:** There was not a quorum present to approve August 2019 minutes, Ben and Terri abstained due to not being present at August 2019 meeting. Approval of August 2019 minutes need to be approved at October WFSC meeting.

**Centerstage Wrightwood presentation to SBCoFD Station 14:** Tom and Gayle Dowling representing Centerstage Wrightwood raised \$600 during "Fire on the Mountain" benefit concert and presented to Karl Hegle of Station 14. Money will be used for specialized cold weather gear.

**Golden Spotted Oak Borer (GSOB) Infested Firewood- Tree Killing Pest:** GSOB Insect that infects and kills oak trees. GSOB is native of Arizona, and has been brought into California through transportation of infected firewood. It was first found in San Diego area, but now has been found in Idyllwild, Oak Glen, Green Valley and recently Big Bear. WFSC working on scheduling a public meeting for public outreach/ education. Steer clear of buying oak for firewood.

**Funding Opportunity- California Conservation Corps (CCC):** \$173,000 (appx. 5000 hours) awarded to the CCC through Prop 68, currently evaluating projects in the area. CEQA requires a lead agency, WFSC cannot be lead agency due to 501c3 status. San Bernardino County Fire volunteered to be lead agency. Scheduling time with RPF to walk area of work, and continuing with mapping possible work. Focusing on East side of Wrightwood due to past fire history.

**Southern California Edison Grant:** The Wrightwood Fire Safe Council has applied for a grant (\$5,100) through SCE to cover miscellaneous costs of annual Wildfire Disaster and Awareness Day, and Green Waste Events. Costs include flyer production and mailings, emergency contact magnets, portable restrooms.



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**Cooperative Partner & Agency Updates:**

**Angeles National Forest** (Seth Mitchell): Seth is the new District Fire Management Officer- previously with Big Bear Hot Shot Crew, worked with Chris Matthews on Blue Ridge and Guffy thinning project. Seth was also involved with Blue Cut Fire- familiar with Wrightwood and surrounding area. Plans on continuing were Chris Matthews left off- winter time prescribed fires, community outreach, CCI grant.

**San Bernardino National Forest** (Lauren Blake): Summer had been quiet (fire wise) until Sunday, San Jacinto fire, and Front Country fires. Couple of fires in the Cajon Pass less than 6 acres. Fuel moistures dropping, currently around 70%. Resources returning and will be back at full strength by the weekend. Santa Ana wind events/ season is coming.

**CalFire** (David Haas): David responded via email, they are currently out on fires. Fenner crew cleaned in front of Caltrans yard for pine needle recycling event. Mike Jennings finished hazard tree removals along highway 2 (except Edison marked tree by Elm).

**LA County Fire:** No Representative, no info.

**SB County Fire** (Karl Hegle): Chief Anderson currently up on fire in Inyo County. Type 6 crew was up in Redding last week, returned Saturday. Residential Assessment Program coming soon- Program to provide citizens residing in wildland urban interface areas with current information and best methods available to protect homes and property from destructive wildfires. A few lightning caused fires around Table Mountain, and Guffy from last storm. Call Dig Alert prior to excavation, and don't dig on their marks. Contractor hit a natural gas line, directly under indicator marks. Fire evacuated several homes until gas could be shut off. Karl expressed gratitude towards community support and announced Wrightwood would be receiving a new snowcat for Wrightwood.

**SB County Code Enforcement:** No Representative, Oak Springs Valley Hazard Abatement Program has been effective.

**LA County Agricultural Commission** (Ariel Verayu): Antelope Valley is 93% complete in the 2019 hazard abatement cycle. Three parcels were listed in the Wrightwood area that had not met requirements, and will be mitigated by county. Next on the list is tumbleweed cleanup around the antelope valley as well as illegal dumping.

**Treasurer's report:** \$17,566.06 in the account. Recent checks include reimbursement to John for Pine Needle mailers, and Insurance renewal. Pine Needle Recycling event donations averaged \$1 per load average.

**New/ Continued Business:**

- Southern California Edison Grant of \$5071, final report was submitted with budget and expenditures- mailers, magnets, postage, printing, permits.
- Partnering with Mt Rim Fire Safe Council for GSOB grant
- Pine Needle Recycling September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>- 34 vehicle loads Friday, 36 vehicle loads Saturday. Thank you to all involved- CalFire Fenner crew, SB Co Fire Glen Helen crew, CR&R, CSD, and all the volunteers that make it happen.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2012 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting



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will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Minutes submitted by:

Ben Smith, Vice President (for R. Comperini)  
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council