



Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

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

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 May 17, 2022 at 1800 hours local time. This was a virtual meeting, held live using the Zoom service. This meeting was recorded. Audio of the meeting is available here: <https://wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.5.17.2022.mp3>.

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

The following agency representatives were present: Beeyond Prepared (Trish), Fenner Canyon, Matthew Bokach (ANF), Julie Clark (UC Cooperative Extension), Travis Lemm (CAL FIRE), Philip Salazar (San Bernardino County Code Enforcement), Ryan Morris (St. Edward Retreat Center), Frank Spandler (CAL FIRE), Tom Stukey (LA County Fire), Strech Suba (CERT), Donna Termeer (LA County Supervisor Barger's office), Ariel Verayo (LA County Agricultural Commission).

Announcements: Strech Suba announced that CERT will be holding their annual firefighter rehab training on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at Mountain High East.

Wrightwood Property Owners Association Garden Faire recap: This event took place on May 7, 2022 at the Wrightwood community building. Ben Smith reported that he was present. He discussed the GSOB and defensible space with attendees.

Green waste recycling event: This event will be held at the county yard located at 1452 SR-2 in Wrightwood. The event will be held June 3, 4, 5, 2022, from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Jim Emery reports that the WFSC is still looking for volunteers to man this event.

Public comments and questions: None

Approval of minutes: Minute approval was postponed, because there was no quorum at the meeting.

Return to in-person meetings: Meetings will continue to be held remotely using Zoom for the near future.

Cooperative partner & agency updates:

Anges National Forest (Matthew Bokach): The National Forest Foundation received funding for fuel reduction projects in the Big Pines area. ANF will meet with them next week. The Monument received \$2.6 Million. This will fund fuels reduction projects in the Chilao and other parts of the Monument. Part of this money will be used to purchase 4 new chippers. These will be made available to Wrightwood for fuels reduction projects and events. The Big Pines Highway clearing project has completed. There are no new updates on the new Forest Supervisor position.

San Bernardino National Forest: No report. Ben Smith reported that he saw Lauren Blake at the Garden Faire event. She said she will work on finding a permanent representative from the Forest to attend WFSC meetings.

CCC: No report.

CAL FIRE (Travis Lemm): Travis reported on a few local fires that CAL FIRE responded to. Jim Emery asked if CAL FIRE could help clear the area in front of the county yard, in preparation for the upcoming Green Waste event. Travis indicated that he would send a crew out to clear that area. CAL FIRE will have a booth at the County Fair this year. Travis discussed how COVID and funding has affected inmate crew staffing levels. Prior to COVID, there were 6 inmate crews available. This represents approximately 100 people. For 2022, only 2 inmate crews are fully staffed. This represents approximately 32 people.

Frank Spandler gave an update on the GSOB battle. He is currently working on a rapid response plan to battle the GSOB problem. One important step will be to identify the problem areas in the Wrightwood area, by documenting the affected trees in the area. This plan will also discuss various ways to provide funding. This rapid response plan should be completed in one month.

LA County Agricultural Commission (Ariel Verayo): LA County owned property inspections have been completed. Wrightwood property inspections will begin during the last week of May or the first week of June 2022.

LA County Fire (Tom Stukey): Tom discussed staffing levels for the upcoming fire season. Brush inspections are in progress. The 2022 aircraft contracts are in place, with assets coming online by July 1, 2022.

SB County Fire: No report.

SB County Code Enforcement (Philip Salazar): Wrightwood property inspections will begin during the week of June 6, 2022. The inspection process will take 1-2 weeks.

LA County Board of Supervisor's Office (Donna Termeer): No report.

Treasurer's report: Ben Smith reported that 3 checks were written this period:

- \$140.63 to John Aziz for green waste event mailers
- \$265.00 to USPS for mailing fees
- \$253.91 to Buena Park Plaque for green waste event banners

The current bank balance is approximately \$23,246.

New/continued business: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1923 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held on June 21, 2022.

Minutes submitted by:

Robert Comperini

Robert Comperini, Secretary
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council