



**Wrightwood Fire Safe Council**

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[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 July 19, 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.7.19.2022.mp3>.

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

The following agency representatives were present: Beeyond Prepared (Trish), Matthew Bokach (ANF), Julie Clark (UC Cooperative Extension), Fenner Canyon, Karl Hegle (SB County Fire), Travis Lemm (CAL FIRE), Seth Mitchell (ANF), Victoria Rineck (Mountaineer Progress), Strech Suba (CERT), Donna Termeer (LA County Supervisor Barger's office), Stan Souders (CERT), Ariel Verayo (LA County Agricultural Commission).

**Announcements:** John Aziz announced that he found a potentially new GSOB infected tree in Wrightwood. This tree is more eastward than other GSOB trees in the village.

**Sheep Fire (6/11/22):** Matthew Bokach is investigating how recent fuels reduction projects may have helped contain the fire. In recent years, there were projects on the north side of SR-2, and a recent CCC effort to clear the area near Wright Mountain Road and SR-2. The cause of this fire has not yet been determined. The Angeles National Forest is looking at possible restoration projects to return Pinon Pines and Joshua trees to the area, that were lost to the fire. Matthew also discussed funding sources that might be used to help rehabilitate the area.

**Public comments and questions:** CERT announced that they will pay the class fees for members who wish to become amateur radio operators.

**Approval of minutes:** Minutes from the June 21, 2022 meeting could not be approved. Hank Hallmark was not present at the meeting, and that only left 4 board members who could vote. Since there was no quorum, the vote was tabled until the next meeting.

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

### Cooperative partner & agency updates:

Angeles National Forest (Matthew Bokach): Supervisor Tom Torres will be leaving at the end of July, 2022. The new permanent supervisor will be Ray Torres. Ray will begin on 8/1/2022. Matthew will brief the supervisor on the WFSC, and our functions. He will also brief the supervisor about the recent Sheep Fire. Seth Mitchell announced personnel changes in Patrol 38. The contract for the fuels reduction project planned for the south side of Big Pines Highway can probably be issued by October

San Bernardino National Forest: No report.

CCC: No report.

CAL FIRE (Travis Lemm): A few crews have been dispatched to the Madera area, to support fire activity in that area. CAL FIRE is still hiring, to fill shortages. A 5<sup>th</sup> crew at Pilot Rock camp will be in place by August.

LA County Agricultural Commission (Ariel Verayo): Over 1100 parcels in the AV area have been cleared. As of last week, the Crystalaire district has been completed. Wrightwood District: As of June 25, 67 cleared parcels. 27 of these have been cleared by the county. The remaining properties were cleared by property owners. All parcels are now cleared in the Wrightwood district. John Aziz asked Ariel to send a map that shows the boundaries of the Wrightwood district.

LA County Fire: No report.

LA County Board of Supervisor's Office (Donna Termeer): Jim Emery discussed the debris being left on properties after law enforcement eradicates illegal pot grow operations. Donna asked that reports of these kinds of things be sent to her, and she will try to get the properties cleaned up.

SB County Fire (Carl Kegle): Chief Corbin has retired. Chief Kelly Anderson is replacing him. One million dollars of state funding has been awarded to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District to purchase more equipment for the Wrightwood station.

Last week, several off-roaders went to the top of Lytle Creek road at approximately 2:00am and launched an aerial device. A small fire started as a result. This small fire was quickly contained. San Bernardino National Forest will take over the investigation.

Chief Kegle thanked the community and all responders for their support and cooperation during the Sheep Fire. It has been over 100 years since there was a large fire in that area. SB County fire's response to the Sheep Fire included: 17 engines, 2 water tenders, 2 dozers, 1 ambulance and numerous personnel.

SB County Code Enforcement: No report.

**Treasurer's report:** The WFSC received a \$1000 deposit from the Wrightwood CSD, for waste collected during this year's green waste event. The CSD agreed to pay \$10 per ton of waste collected, to offset the cost of this event. The WFSC submitted an invoice to the Mountain Rim FSC for reimbursement of miscellaneous expenses related to the green waste event.

**New/continued business:** Hank Hallmark discussed the County's plan to install curbs, and improve drainage along Park Avenue in the business district of Wrightwood. Hank asked that the WFSC consider writing a letter to the county in support of having this project done as soon as possible, to make sure it remains a priority with the county. Hank talked about the dangers of having standing water turn into ice because of a lack of curb and adequate drainage. It is very easy for people to fall on the ice, especially since Park Avenue is such a steep hill.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1907 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held on August 16, 2022.

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Comperini". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

Robert Comperini, Secretary  
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council