



Meeting Minutes

Call to order: The general meeting for the Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) was called to order by Jim Emery on February 21, 2023 at 1802 hours local time. This meeting was held as a virtual meeting via Zoom because of inclement weather. Audio of this meeting is available here:
<https://wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.2.21.23.mp3>

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

The following agency representatives were present:

Julie Clark (US Cooperative Extension – Ventura), David Haas (CAL FIRE), Eddie Lambaga (St. Edward Retreat Center), Jason Mahan (CAL FIRE), Patricia (Beeyond Prepared), Gissella Quiroaga (Inland Empire Resource Conservation District), Matthew Ramstead (ANF), Stan Souders (CERT), Donna Termeer (LA County Supervisor Barger’s office).

Public comments and questions: None.

Approval of minutes: Approval of the January 17, 2023 minutes was postponed until the March 2023 meeting.

WFSC Board Elections: Jim Emery presented the slate of nominees for the March 2023 WSFC board member election. The nominees are: Aziz John, Robert Comperini, Jim Emery, Hank Hallmark, David Larkin, Ben Smith, Kathy Smith and Tim Heinrick.

WDAD: This event will be held on May 13, 2023 at the Mountain Hardware parking lot, from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Jim Emery discussed several of the exhibitors that will be present.

Green Waste Recycling Event: Will be held June 2-4, 2023 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. This event will be held at the county yard in Wrightwood.

Taskforce on Wildfire Resilience Field Trip: Held a few weeks ago. John Aziz and Jim Emery attended this event. Several sites of recent wildfires were toured.

GSOB Updates: John Aziz has implemented an online form on the Wrightwood FireSafe Council website, for Wrightwood residents who have Oak trees on their property. This form can be used to request a free tree inspection to check for the presence of GSOB. The form can be accessed here:
<https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/GSOB/gsobinspection.htm>

Gissella Quiroaga: IERCD just received a grant from the Forest Service. This will allow IERCD to offer support in Wrightwood for GSOB tree surveys.

Julie Clark: GSOB training for Wrightwood is being planned. Julie proposed that Saturday April 29, 2023 be the date for training. John Aziz asked if the training could take place after WDAD. Julie stated that their trainers are not available in May, but could find a date in June. John Aziz said that a June date (after the green waste event) would be best. This way, this training could be advertised at both WDAD and the green waste event. After some discussion about possible dates, it was decided that June 17th is the best possible date.



Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

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Cooperative Partner & Agency Updates:

Angeles National Forest (Matthew Ramstead): The next phase of the Big Pines fuels reduction project has started. This phase will be approximately 650 acres. Remaining piles in the Big Pines area are still too wet to burn, so those will probably not be burned this season.

San Bernardino National Forest: No representative, no report.

CCC: No representative, no report.

CAL FIRE (Davis Haas): Staffing levels will begin to increase during March and April. Burn permits are now being accepted online. Visit <https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov> for more information. There are a few fuels reductions projects planned for the areas north of Wrightwood (Desert Front road).

Jason Mahan introduced himself. He is a Battalion Chief at Pilot Rock Fire Center. He discussed the staffing at Pilot Rock. He also briefly discussed the upcoming training for their crews. His responsibility includes the Insect Control Program. People with bark beetle concerns can reach the Insect Control Line at (909) 338-8604.

LA County Agricultural Commission: No representative, no report.

LA County Fire: No representative, no report.

SB County Fire: No representative, no report.

SB County Code Enforcement: No representative, no report.

Treasurer's report: No report.

New/ Continued Business: Hank Halmark mentioned that there are reports of people being stopped by ANF law enforcement on Ball Flat road. Jim Emery was also aware of these reports. It is unknown why people are not allowed to be on that road. Jim Emery said he would try to find someone in ANF that could answer that question.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1906 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held at the Wrightwood Community Building on March 21, 2023 at 6pm.

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Comperini".

Robert Comperini, Secretary
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council