



Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

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Meeting Minutes

Call to order: The general meeting for the Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) was called to order by Jim Emery on September 17, 2024 at 1900 hours local time. Because the Bridge Fire was still active, this meeting was held remotely, via Zoom. Audio of this meeting is available here:

<https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.9.17.24.mp3>

Roll call: The following WFSC Board of Directors were present: John Aziz, Robert Comperini, Jim Emery, Tim Heinrich, David Larkin, Ben Smith. Absent was Hank Hallmark and Tom Foley.

The following agency representatives were present:

Kelly Anderson (SB County Fire), CAL FIRE, Charles Bostwick (County Supervisor's Office), Julie Clark (US Cooperative Extension – Ventura), Gil Lester (Tree People), Ray Mitchison (LA County Fire), San Bernardino County Fire Dept., station 14, Kayla Thompson (Inland Empire Resource Conservation District), Ron White (ANF), Adrian Zavaca (LA County Agricultural Commission).

Approval of minutes: Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting was tabled until the next meeting.

Cooperative partner & agency updates:

Angeles National Forest (Ron White): Ron discussed the current conditions of the Bridge Fire. At this time, the Bridge Fire has consumed almost 55,000 acres, and is 25% contained. Ron discussed the staffing levels on this fire. The mandatory evacuation for Wrightwood ended this afternoon at 2:00pm.

SB County Fire (Chief Anderson): Chief Anderson discussed the department's staffing level on the Bridge Fire. SB County Fire will remain on scene until the fire is completely out. The department will also assist in cleanup, to include removing hose lines, etc. Some hazardous trees will be removed. The department thanks the residents of Wrightwood for having defensible space, and for evacuating quickly. The department thanks the WFSC for the events that help prepare the community for disasters such as this. Road closures in LA county will remain as Edison crews repair lines.

LA County Fire (Chief Mitchison): Chief Mitchison discussed the number of engines and crews that were assigned to this fire. He discussed the current fire conditions along Big Pines Highway. The department will continue to fight the fire's advance in this area, and will try to hold it at the roadway. The Chief thanked the WFSC and the community for having defensible space. It makes a difference.

CAL FIRE: Discussed their efforts during the fire. The representative also thanked the other CAL FIRE teams that came here, from other parts of the state. Thanks to the WFSC for all their efforts.

San Bernardino National Forest: No representative, no report.

CCC: No representative, no report.

CalTrans: No representative, no report.

LA County Agricultural Commission (via email): All LA County properties in the Wrightwood area are now in compliance.

SB County Code Enforcement: No representative, no report.

LA Supervisor (Charles Bostwick): Nothing to report. Several communities in my district are forming their own Fire Safe Councils. They look to the WFSC as the role model.

Beyond Prepared: Health & Safety classes will be held tomorrow at 10:00am via Zoom. Call or text 909-578-1274 or email: info@beeyondprepared.org for more information. The topic of this meeting will be "Be the Help Until Help Arrives".

IERCD (Kayla): No GSOB updates to report, mainly due to the Bridge Fire and the Line Fire. We will research to see if fires changes the spread of GSOB. At the next WFSC meeting, we will discuss various resources available to people post-fire.

Tree people (Gil Lester): We received funding for surveys around Wrightwood. These surveys will identify areas of overgrowth that may need fuel reduction. This information will be passed along to the ANF for possible future modification efforts.

Treasurer's report: No treasurer's report was submitted.

CWPP: Discussion was tabled until next meeting.

New/continued business: Ben Smith reported that Mountain High is still assessing damage to their property. There was some damage. Mountain High supported firefighting efforts by providing a source of water for ground and air support. There are a lot of hazards along the roadway in the Big Pines area.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1906 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held on October 15, 2024.

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Comperini". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert Comperini, Secretary
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council