



Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

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www.wrightwoodfsc.com

Meeting Minutes

Call to order: The general meeting for the Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) was called to order by Ben Smith on June 17, 2025 at 1805 hours local time. This meeting was held at the Wrightwood Community Building. Audio of this meeting is available here: <https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.6.17.25.mp3>

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

The following agency representatives were present: See attached attendance log.

Flag salute: The flag salute was led by Ben Smith.

Public Comments: The new general manager of the CSD, Ramona Evey, was present and introduced herself to the WFSC. Ramona can be reached by email at gm@wrightwoodcsd.org or by phone at (760) 220-8378.

David Larkin has submitted his resignation from the WFSC. The WFSC is accepting applications from residents who are interested in serving on the board.

Approval of minutes: Minutes from the 5/20/2025 meeting were accepted as written. Motion to approve made by John Aziz. Motion seconded by Hank Hallmark. Motion approved 5/0.

Green Waste Event Recap: John Aziz discussed the event. He said that there was a great turnout, and it appears that this year was the most active of the past 17 years. Since the beginning of this event, more than 5 million pounds of green waste have been collected. This year, 789 carloads were collected.

For <https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/WAW2025/GreenWasteHistory.Recap.2025.June.Final.pdf> details, visit the Wrightwood FSC webpage:

<https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/WAW2025/GreenWasteHistory.Recap.2025.June.Final.pdf>

Cooperative partner & agency updates:

Angeles National Forest: (Jorge Perez): We will be awarding the fuel reduction contracts (for the Blue Ridge and Big Pines Highway projects) soon. Jorge briefly discussed ANF support for other fires in the state. ANF has no updates on when SR-2 or more portions of the Forest will reopen. John Aziz reports that he had email contact with Caltrans, and was told to not expect the highway to reopen before late summer.

San Bernardino National Forest: No representative, no report.

CCC: No representative, no report.

CAL FIRE (Drew Smith): We have completed our hiring push, and are now fully staffed. This level of staffing will remain at least into November. During May and June, we've had 24 fires larger than 1/4 acres in size. The Ranch fire in Apple Valley is currently 4,293 acres in size. It began on BLM land. It is a wind driven fire, with winds in the 18-34 mph range. No structures were lost so far. The fire is 90% contained. Fuel reduction projects are taking place in the Lake Silverwood area. Fuel moisture levels: May - 107%, June - 95%. In a few months when we have higher temperatures and dryer weather, levels will go down. Any moisture level below 60% is considered to be a critical level.

John Aziz asked why he saw CAL FIRE personnel doing defensible space inspections in Wrightwood, and asked what their responsibility was, versus the County Code Enforcement. Drew responded that since we are in an SRA area CAL FIRE has jurisdiction in the community. The County is more focused on weed abatement. It is possible to be inspected by both agencies. The San Bernardino County standards supersede the CAL FIRE standards.

Hank Hallmark asked about the fire marshal maps that still show Wrightwood being in a “severe” fire hazard zone. Hank asked if that map can be updated. Drew discussed the process how those maps are updated. As of right now there is no change to the maps. Drew discussed being a “Fire-Wise community”.

Drew discussed new regulations that will be placed into effect soon, including new standards for the first 5 feet around houses. For more information, see Public Resource Code 4291.

Caltrans: No representative, no report.

IERCD: Kayla Thompson (kthompson@iercd.org) reported the following, via email:

Thanks to the flyer you distributed during your recent green waste pickup day, we've completed surveys on 6 properties throughout Wrightwood. In total, we assessed 54 trees and identified 6 with GSOB infestations. Two of those trees were recommended for removal. The infested trees were located on Oriole Rd and within Heath Canyon. We also have 3 more surveys scheduled in Wrightwood between the end of this month and early July.

Regarding the Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council's Hazard Tree Removal Program, the temporary pause due to CEQA issues should be resolved soon, as Laura was able to identify a solution. Once active again, residents with hazard trees (dead or dying trees that pose an immediate threat to a structure) may qualify for cost-share assistance. Unfortunately, there are still no programs available to reimburse for oak trees that were previously removed.

Lastly, IERCD recently hosted the San Bernardino County GSOB Blitz at The Wildlands Conservancy's Oak Glen Preserve. We trained 18 volunteers on how to identify and report GSOB infestations. Participants left with the tools and knowledge to continue surveys independently and contribute valuable data to regional GSOB distribution efforts.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Thanks again for your ongoing support!

LA County AG: No representative, no report.

LA County Fire: No representative, no report.

SB County Fire (Brandon McGarvy): Our “Tower 19” academy just completed. 38 new firefighters were hired. Statistics for last month: 100 calls, including 11 vegetation fires, 1 structure fire, 2 traffic collisions with extractions, 5 other traffic collisions, 14 public service and 1 fire investigation. The remaining calls were for medical aid.

SB County Code Enforcement: No representative, no report.

Wrightwood CSD: Porta potties were removed from the parking lot this week. For more information on CSD activities, visit the CSD website at wrightwoodcsd.org.

CERT: There will be no CERT meeting in June. A training class is scheduled for September 19-21, 2025.

New/continued business:

The Wrightwood FSC has a vacancy on the board. The WFSC is accepting applications from anyone interested in serving on the FSC. If interested, please let us know.

Fire hydrant mapping/adopting: 22 people signed up to adopt a hydrant during WDAD. 18 people signed up during the recent WWPOA ice cream social.

CWPP Update: No updates.

Treasurer's report: Ben Smith reported that \$1,790 was deposited this period. This included \$1,690 in donations during the recent green waste event and \$52 in donations from WDAD. Expenses this period included costs from the WDAD event, including \$48 for water and \$96 for merchandise. Other expenses included porta-potty rental fees, flyers and the cost for mailing. The WWFSC also received a check from the Mountain Rim FSC for \$1,867.29 for our events. The FSC made a \$60 donation to the WWPOA ice cream social event for their raffle. A motion was made by John Aziz to reimburse Hank Hallmark for that donation. The motion was seconded by Tim Heinrich. Motion approved 4/0. Hank Hallmark abstained.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1931 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held on July 15, 2025.

Minutes submitted by:



Robert Comperini, Secretary
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

G-17-25 WFSC MEETING

John Ariz	wFSC
Bob Compton	wFSC
Tim Heinrich	wFSC
Bar S.M.	wFSC
Hank Hallmark	wFSC
DAVID DELACRUS	WW CERT
Ramona Every	CSD General Manager
Kara Hatfield	resident
STRETCH SWEAT	CERT
Brandon McFarney	SBCoFD
Roid Bithell	SBCoFD
STAN SODDENS	WW CERT
Drew Smith	Cal Fire
Jorge Perez	ANF
Ronelle Ingram	WW home owner