

Fish Camp Fire Rescue Association

MINUTES

Saturday, May 14, 2011

Harter Residence

Call to Order – 9:32 am

Roll Call - Present: Donn Harter, Barry Green, Karen Green, Mike Mellana

Ex-Officio: Jim Wilson, David Cooper

Absent: Howard Davies (excused), Greg Royse

Guests: Bill Keller, Brian Mattos, Tom Miller

Minutes: The minutes for the August 21, 2010 meeting were read. Barry Green moved to approve the minutes with the correction, second Karen Green. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Donn Harter presented the treasurer's report. Donn asked C.J. Jackson if he had any requests. He asked for \$2000 for fire equipment. Barry Green asked to see the list of equipment before approval. Barry Green suggested that \$2000 be budgeted for help with wood-cutting for wood sales in August.

Donn opened a discussion about road clean-up after this heavy winter. Thunder Ridge equipment is used for this. Donn asked for suggestions as to how to do this work without the huge expense to the Thunder Ridge Company. Barry suggested that Donn do a mailing to property owners listing the phone numbers of Bill Keller and Steve McQueen, leaving it up to the property owners to contact them for debris removal. (Donn needs to estimate his equipment charge and work this out with Bill and Steve.) Barry asked that an amount be budgeted for the mailing. Barry moved to approve a budget item of \$100 for this mailing. Mike Malana seconded and the motion was approved. Brian Mattos gave suggestions for debris pile size.

Barry asked C.J. about the specific equipment requested. C.J. would like to purchase some rescue equipment, a new television for training, and a DVD player. Barry moved to give C.J. \$2000 for rescue and training equipment, Karen seconded, the motion approved.

Donn brought up the question of a location for a community burn pile this year. The location of last year's burn pile isn't available due to the potential construction of the new fire station. C.J. said there is a place towards the back of the property that there could be a small burn pile, but he needs to coordinate this with the Mountain Ranch property. C.J. has a meeting with the Mountain Ranch next weekend and will find out for sure with what can be done to establish a burn pile.

Old Business: Donn asked Chief Wilson to report on the progress of the new fire station. As of next Friday, the 15-day comment period for the FONZI certificate will be up. The certificate will be issued the week of May 23. At that time funds will be released for 10% of the budget. The request for proposals for phase I grading, septic, approach roads, base rock, utilities up to the foundation, and a capture pond for run-off water are all included in the first phase of the RFP. There is a 3 week bid period followed by a 1 week review. Ground-breaking will probably take place near the 3rd week in July. Phase 2 will include the foundation footing, the building, interior finishing, landscaping. At that time 20% of the budget will be released. Whether or not the foundation and frame will be up before winter will depend on the weather. Heavy snowfall doesn't usually occur until January. The area should be accessible even with light snow. Preliminary estimates for the cost of the building are coming in much higher than the estimates 2 ½ years ago. There is a completion deadline of Sept. 21, 2012 for all 3 new fire stations. Donn mentioned that snow removal needs to be

covered by the county even in heavy years such as the one we just had. According to his records there hasn't been this much snow in Fish Camp since 1937. Jim Wilson said that the county has an obligation to keep access and egress open at all times to the new fire station for emergency services. Barry suggested having another meeting after the barbecue to analyze the fire rescue and county budgets for snow removal.

Dave Cooper spoke about the forest service and their slow start due to all of the snow. Hot shot crews started this week and will be going through 2 weeks of training. Look-outs should be staffed around July 4 – Signal Peak and Shuteye. Donn asked about funding for snow removal in the snow play area. No funding is allocated specifically for the snow play area. Barry explained that closing the road is necessary for efficient snow removal. Dave suggested that it might be feasible to purchase a loader for snow removal. Donn would like to store equipment at the new fire station so it would be easily accessible during heavy snowfalls. Forest clean-up is being reviewed for the Fish Camp Project. The request for public comments for the project should be posted in local newspapers. Bill Keller asked about clearing the curve on Highway 41 north of the intersection of Summit Road and 41 (east side of roadway when looking towards town). He and Mike will walk the area and see what needs to be moved. The federal government is quickly decreasing funding for brush removal. There will be a helicopter at Mariposa this year for rescue.

Barbecue Business: Merced County school district has sent a letter requesting an insurance certificate for the barbecue. Donn asked Jim Wilson to take the letter to Jim Allen to discuss this request. Mike asked about donating spa treatments, etc. for the live auction. Howard Davies let Donn know prior to the meeting that he and his wife will be available to help again this year. Barry reported that everything is underway. Karen and Rita Cornegia are working on auction items. Donn will prepare his request for the Tenaya Lodge. Rita had asked Karen to ask about ice cream sales. Although the ice cream doesn't make money everyone was interested in seeing it continue. We will have ice cream sales again. During the month of July the mailing will go out and posters and signs will be made. Once again volunteers are needed to call on merchants. Donn asked for suggestions as to what to do with donations that don't auction for the amount they are worth. It was suggested that some of these places may want to donate something worth a smaller amount in the hopes that it would sell closer to what it is worth. Karen asked about budgeting a specific amount for the purchase of raffle items. Donn said that is included in the budget item for auction items. Donn will schedule a date for preparing the mailing. Bill asked about helping with clean-up. He can help and also will help with parking.

New Business: Donn asked if there was any other new business. Karen mentioned not having the summer social due to the social event the week prior to the Fourth of July date for the summer social. It was agreed to cancel the summer social this year, but continue it again next year.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 2 to finalize barbecue preparation. B. Green moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mike seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:46.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Green