



Amador Fire Safe Council

PO Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665

www.AmadorFireSafe.org



December 15th, 2021

3:00-5:00

19888 Church Street, Pine Grove (Behind to the Pine Grove Park)
Volcano Communications Tech Center
Gates for both parking lots will be open

AGENDA

1. Approve/Modify Agenda*
2. Approve/Modify November Minutes*
3. Introductions
4. Treasurers Report (John)*
5. Coordinator Report
 - a. Project Updates
 - b. Community Outreach Opportunities
 - c. Partnership Opportunities
6. Grants Committee Update (John)
 - a. Potential Grant Opportunities-
 - CAFSC 2021 County Evacuation Route Grant Opportunity
 - 2022 Calfire Fire Prevention Grant Opportunity
 - 2022 SNC Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Grant Opportunity
7. Fire Safe Ordinance Committee (Connie)
8. AlertWildfire Cameras Project Update (Frank)
9. FireWise Community Groups Update (Dick)
10. Public Comment
11. Other items/adjourn

*Action items



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November 17th, 2021

Volcano Communications Tech Center

3:00-5:00



MINUTES

Present: Frank Leschinsky, Dick Stamm, Susan Peters, Connie Gonzales, John Heissenbuttel Richard Yarnell & Jay Francis

Staff:

Public: Cindy Engel, Tom Ellison, Ralph Meyer, Robert Deakin, Kayla Dale, Nancy & Richard Reed

1. Approve/Modify Agenda – Connie called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. The proposed Agenda was approved unanimously.
2. Approve/Modify August Minutes – The October 2021 minutes were approved unanimously after receiving corrections from Cindy Engel.
3. Introductions – Board members and the public in attendance introduced themselves.
4. Treasurers Report –The Budget shows that as of **10/31/21** we had an account balance of **\$479,210** in the bank due to advance payments from the Tiger Creek and Mitchell Mine Grants. \$1.5 million has been budgeted and \$750,000 spent so far. A significant amount of work is planned in the next few months that will require these funds including 80 acres of mastication on Tiger Creek, completing the Mitchell Mine Fuelbreak, and numerous county road easement clearing projects. CAL-FIRE has still not yet approved the Notice of Exemption so that we can begin working on private parcels. Once this is approved we will start doing work in River Pines and Running Gold areas.
5. Coordinator Report – see attached Coordinator Report for specifics. In Amanda's absence, John gave updates on various projects included with the Treasurers Report.
 - a. Project Updates
6. Grants Committee Update – John reported to the group that a new grant opportunity is available from the California FSC. Up to \$380,000 per grant is available to counties with a large percentage of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. John has already secured a slot on the next BOS meeting agenda to present this grant opportunity. He stated he has talked with Amanda and they feel they have time to complete and submit the grant application by the 12/15/21 deadline. The AFSC Board voted unanimously to give John authorization to pursue this grant.
7. Fire Safe Ordinance Committee – Connie states there are no updates to report as it is still held up at the Supervisor's Office.Perhaps we can get Jeff Brown or Brian Oneto to attend the next AFSC meeting to discuss what still needs to be done.
8. AlertWildfire Cameras Project Update –Frank reported that permit process is well underway to install the two new cameras at Kirkwood and Schneider Cow Camp but is unaware of when these will be approved.

9. Firewise Communities Groups – Dick reported there are four very involved communities working to achieve the FireWise designation but some changes in key responsible personnel has slowed the process. They hope to have the work completed after the first of the New Year. There are additional four or five groups trying to get committees put together to proceed. Connie mentioned that folks in the Surrey Junction area may be interested. Dick took some names (Michael Dubois and Ron Monk) and will contact them.

Connie reported that some Insurance Companies are starting to give discounts to policy holders for becoming FireWise Communities, fortifying their home and doing home hardening.

10. Public Comment – Nancy Reed expressed her gratitude to Dick for helping to communicate the benefits of the FireWise program.

Richard Reed spoke of the value of “dry hydrants” in our rural areas where there is no large water mains. He also expressed concern about the lack of effective communications during fires or other emergencies where the power is lost. Susan referred him to the actions that Lockwood Radio Group is undertaking.

Frank noted that with the increasingly dry winter we may be having, that additional tree mortality may soon appear and we need to get ahead of this potential disaster. We need to get the word out that preparatory work needs to occur now and that we should resume community meetings.

11. Other items/adjourn – *Meeting Adjourned at 4:10 pm*

AFSC 2021 Calendar Year Budget

**FY 2019/2020 AFSC Budget
Jan 1 – Dec 31 2021**

**Income and Expense Actuals
FY Jan 1 – Dec 31 2021
*Jan 1 – Nov 2021***

Assets/Income

Bank Balance Combined		\$ 479,229.30
Unrestricted Bank Balance	\$ 80,000.	23,534.46
Mitchell Mine x4206		169,514.72
PG&E x4255		588.03
Tiger Creek x4222		268,161.69
SNC Am Co Stwd x4230		17,430.40
PG&E CEMA Program	75,000. ⁱ	\$ 0.00
SNC Tiger Creek Planning	38,000. ⁱⁱ	\$ 0.00
SNC Tiger Creek Implementation	440,000. ⁱⁱⁱ	\$276,713.18
CAL FIRE Mitchell Mine	435,000. ^{iv}	\$443,181.32
CAL FIRE Ingress/Egress	365,900. ^v	\$ 0.00
SNC Am Co Stewardship	82,000. ^{vi}	\$ 28,588.50
Defensible Space	10,000. ^{vii}	\$ 10,000.00
Contributions	250.	\$ 519.52
A/I TOTAL	\$1,526,150.	\$ 759,002.52

Expenses

Operating:

302 Depreciation	450.	0.00
305 Service Charges	0	0.00
321 State Filing Fees	85.	0.00
324 Software Licensing	140.	0.00
330 Insurance, D&O	1,600.	1,734.51
335 Internet Service	0.	0.00
343 Bank Charges	100.	185.00
345 Office Supplies	1,500.	551.12
346 Postage	400.	0.00
350 Outreach	20,000. ^{viii}	956.69
356 Professional Fees	1,200. ^{ix}	475.00
365 Telephone	375.	194.00
370 Travel & Entertainment	2,250.	725.94
Total	\$26,080.	\$ 4,822.26

Contractual:

305 AFSC Coordinator	41,200. ¹	18,370.91
306 Coordinator Assistant	6,300. ²	0.00
310 RPF Professional Forester	170,000.	38,495.51
315 Environmental Documentation	110,000.	76,205.77
320 Groundwork Contracted Labor	1,043,000.	515,052.86
311 Bookkeeper	3,000.	1,924.65
	\$1,373,500,	\$650,049.70

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$1,399,580.** **1/1/22 Bank Balance \$206,570.**

¹ Assumes 80 hours/month @\$50/hour. Also includes back pay for raise approved 4/20.

² Assumes 20 hours/month @\$35/hour to financially track and report on grants.

ⁱ Assumes we receive same amount as previous year.

ⁱⁱ Assumes archeological flagging, owl surveying, AFSC oversight and RPF work.

ⁱⁱⁱ Assumes 180 acres fuel reduction, AFSC oversight and RPF work. 140 acres currently under contract

^{iv} 75 acres mastication work currently under contract which will complete all mastication under project. Complete handwork in fall 2021. Includes project oversight and RPF.

^v Assumes 20 miles of road clearance, AFSC conducting 8 town halls and RPF filing exemption.

^{vi} Assumes archeology, botany/wildlife and silvicultural work completed, AFSC oversight and RPF work.

^{vii} To be complete by 5/21

^{viii} Increased significantly to reflect outreach in Ingress/Egress grant. This includes financial assistance for organizers of Fire Wise Communities.

^{ix} We owe tax returns for 2019 and 2020.

**Amador Fire Safe Council
Coordinator Monthly Report**

Dec-21

Date Range: November 15th 2021 - December 15th 2021

Project	Update	Future Planned Actions
Mitchell Mine	Contractor selected work will start shortly	Finalize contract/work start
		Set mtg with ARCD regarding maintenance grant
Tiger Creek Fuel Break	Final reporting completed for the planning grant and grant officially closed.	Start work on Phase 2 implementation
	Contract executed for the Tiger Creek South Project (Calaveras County). Implementation has started.	
	Contractor selected, finalizing contract, work will begin this week.	
AmCo Stewardship - Mokelumne Community Forest	EA/DR/FONSI signed. Concept proposal for implementation has been written, will submit to SNC when funding available.	Complete budget change letter and grant progress report. Close out grant.
		Submit implementation grant
Amador County Collaborative Ingress, Egress and Education Plan	Contractor selected, will start with ~5 miles of road as a initial phase of the full 20 miles.	Collect ROES.
	ROE letters sent out to the first ~5 miles to be treated.	Finalize contract/work start on January 1st
County Coordinator - CAFSC	AFSC was awarded funding from the CAFSC to implement a county coordinator project. \$175,000 was awarded.	Compile/upload all necessary documents. Execute the grant agreement.
Communications Grant	AFSC received a \$5,000 communications/technology grant with help from Volcano Communications. The AFSC has purchased a laptop and will purchase a drone, portable virtual mtg equipment, video editing software.	Continue to research and purchase equipment.
Grant Opportunities	AFSC Awarded Calfire grant for Pine Acres Grant	Hold a Grant Committee Meeting
	Tiger Creek Expansion grant application approved for funding	
	Calfire Fire Prevention Grants Winter 2022 round is open.	
	SNC Forest Health and Resiliency Grant round is open.	

SmokeChasers | May 21, 2022

A First Responder Festival: *“Beat the Smoke”*



Overview

The SmokeChasers event is a one-day, outdoor festival to bring emergency preparedness information to Amador County residents. This family and community oriented event provides a fun, engaging way for local and nearby residents to learn how to prepare for and respond to emergencies.

Emergency preparedness is serious business, but learning about it doesn't have to be. This event features fun ways for attendees to be engaged, and as a result gain knowledge, becoming better prepared and self-reliant in the event of a disaster. During the event attendees watch demonstrations, visit informative booths, participate in fun activities, meet first responders, enjoy craft beer and local wines, purchase delicious open fire “smoked” food, view offerings from artists and craft persons, listen to live music, meet rescued wildlife and K-9 teams, and much more.

The first annual event is scheduled for May 21, 2022 at the historic Amador County Fairgrounds. (There is a possibility to extend this to a two-day event: 21st and 22nd.)

Activities

In addition to BBQ fare, crafts vendors, beverages, and live music, the event features fun and educational activities for all ages. Activities are divided into zones, one for each aspect of emergency preparedness or response. Within each zone, a combination of walk-up information booths, demonstrations, seminars, and interactive games are presented throughout the day.

The following are examples of zones and activities:

- Evacuation – Sheriff's Department provides evacuation gate tags, tours of Sheriff's emergency vehicles, Code Red signups, communication options, introduce the “Amador Ready” website, demonstrate K-9 abilities, and provide demonstrations and seminars on how to prepare for evacuation.
- Fire – CalFire and AFD (hereafter includes all participating Fire Protection Districts) demonstrate firefighting techniques; provide educational games for kids, hold inter-agency competitions, tours of engines, and helicopter and rescue demonstrations.
- Personal Safety – AFD and local paramedics demonstrate “sidewalk CPR,” seminars on what to do in a wildfire, what to pack in a Go Bag, child safety seat usage, basic first aid, and information booths.
- Animals – ETA and ACART, along with Tri-County Wildlife Rescue, provide examples of how to prepare to evacuate animals, tips and tricks for large and small animals, education about how wildlife reacts in a wildfire, and demonstrations of search and rescue dogs.
- Communication – Local radio watch groups, Sheriff's Department and other enthusiasts provide demonstrations and information about the use of group texts, social media, Code Red, Ham radios, and GMRS.
- Preparing - Demonstrations and seminars from agencies about how to make a home and property fire resistant, Forest Service plans, and Amador Fire Safe Council clearing activities.

SmokeChasers | May 21, 2022

A First Responder Festival: *"Beat the Smoke"*



Venue

The event is being held at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, California. The historic fairgrounds are notable as the staging area for first responders, and receives and houses evacuated animals.

Participating Groups and Agencies

At this time, the following groups have expressed interest in participating in SmokeChasers:

Amador Arts Council	Fiddletown/Amador Radio
Amador Community Foundation	Fire Safe Fiddletown
Amador County Animal Response Team (ACART)	Forest Service
Amador County Fairgrounds	Lockwood Neighborhood Radio Watch
Amador County Fire Safe Council	Master Gardeners
Amador County Sheriff's Office, Office of Emergency Services, Office Search and Rescue (SAR)	National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF)
Ambulance (American Legion post 108)	Passport to Rotary
Amador Fire Protection District	PG&E
Boy Scout Troop 63 (Sutter Creek), Boy Scout Troop 888 (Amador County)	Red Mule Neighborhood Radio Network
Burn Institute	Rotary Jackson
Cal Fire	Rotary Plymouth Foothills
California Fair Plan Property Insurance	Rotary Upcountry
California Fire Safe Council	Sierra Foothill Fire Extinguisher Service
California Highway Patrol (CHP) Amador Area	Sutter Amador Hospital
El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club	Sutter Creek Fire Protection District
Evacuation Teams of Amador (ETA)	Tri-County Wildlife Rescue
FFA - Amador High School and Argonaut High School	Twin Cedar K9 Training
	UCCE 4-H Program of Amador County

Goal

SmokeChasers' mission is to promote emergency preparedness in support of Amador County's first responders in order help save lives and property in the event of a disaster.

SmokeChasers | May 21, 2022

A First Responder Festival: *"Beat the Smoke"*



Details

Date	Saturday, May 21, 2022 Sunday, May 22, 2022 (Potential date)
Location	Amador County Fairgrounds, Plymouth, CA
Event hours	11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Projected attendance	1,500
Pricing (TBD)	\$15 adults, children 6 and over \$5, children 5 and under free. Family pack available for 2 adults and 2 children for \$30.
Fee inclusion	Ticket price includes access to all activities. All food and beverages extra. Ticket price does not include parking.
Activities	Live music, interactive stations, kids' games and competitions, panels and seminars.
Number of participating vendors	1 beer purveyor, 10-20 wineries, up to 8 caterers; 30 vendors
Financial Structure	This is a non-profit event. All net proceeds to go to local agencies based on services provided to the community and financial need.

Contact Information

Coordinator: Kayla Dale
Phone
Email kdale@amadorgov.org

Coordinator: Deirdre Mueller
Phone 209-418-5707
Email dmueller@blueoakbranch.com
Postal PO Box 237 Fiddletown, CA 95629

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Twitter #SmokeChasers

SmokeChasers | May 21, 2022

A First Responder Festival: "Beat the Smoke"



2022 SmokeChasers Proforma		
Income		
Ticket Sales (600 @ \$15 at door, 600 @ \$10 in advance)	\$15,000	
Net Sponsorship Funds	\$5,000	
Wine Sales, Beer Sales, Other Beverages Revenue	\$2,184	
Caterers (5 @ \$100)	\$500	
Vendor Space Revenue (40 @ \$75)	\$3,000	
Merchandise Sales	\$392	
Total Income		\$26,076
Expenses		
Consulting Fees, Assistants & Labor	\$3,450	
Coordinator/Producer Fees	\$5,000	
Venue Parking Coordination and Shuttles	\$0	
Public Traffic Management	\$0	
Site Rental and Expenses (Trash, Picnic Hill, Carnival, Windmill, Pokerville,	\$2,095	
Picnic Tables (20 @ \$15)	\$600	
Media Comps including accommodations	\$0	
Promotional (PR Fees, Internet, and email service)	\$0	
Entertainment	\$1,250	
Security and Medical Response	\$0	
Permits and Fees	\$246	
Miscellaneous	\$1,000	
Toilet/Stocking/Cleaning (Fair 2 @ \$250 bathrooms, 1 person @ \$245)	\$645	
Water and Ice	\$364	
Supplies	\$500	
Posters/Rack Cards/Signs/Graphics	\$1,100	
Trash (30 @ \$12 includes dumpster)	\$360	
Glasses	\$0	
Printed Program	\$0	
Shirts for Staff and Given Away	\$1,000	
Capital Expenditures	\$500	
Volunteer Beverages and Food	\$300	
Insurance	\$250	
Compostable Food and Beverage Supplies	\$0	
Total Expenses		\$18,660
Net Income		\$7,416
Reserve		\$0
Net Available Proceeds*		\$7,416