

**Prescott Area
Wildland/Urban Interface Commission
Minutes
May 7, 2015**

Participants: Shirley Howell, Lois Hoskinson, Chris Kuknyo, Loren Bykerk, Daniel Hauck, Jason Clawson, Toby Cook, John Alden, Larry Gray, Sylvia Dodd, Ken Karkula, Bill Brye, Neil Cooperrider, Bruce F. Gustin, Betty Higgins, Greg Clark, Craig Brown, Ben DeBlois, Cheri Ditto, Roger Swenson, Ben Roche', John Beddow, Kris Trainor, Marty Trembly, Judy Egan, Ginny Shugars, Dan Fraijo, Ronnie Gamble, Marty Zytowski, Ken Murray, Jerry Borgelt, Mary Ann Clark, J.D. Greenberg, Sarah Tomsky, Douglas Stefanko, Cynthia Gentle, Cynthia Miner, Mike Brockert, Bob Celaya, Leigh Cosby, Linn Lisbona, Don Devendorf, Jeff Schalau, Paul Mazade, George Sheats, Jeanne Seely, Russ Shumate, Hugh Vallely, Sue Unverricht, Darrell Anderson

Recorder: Seleatha Mendibles

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved.

3. Financial Report

• **Treasurer's Report**

April 30, 2015 Starting Checkbook Balance	\$	18,669.01
Credits/Deposits	\$	53,763.38
Debits/Expenses	\$	2,362.89
Ending Bank Balance	\$	70,069.50
Pending Balance	\$	51,716.88
Checkbook Balance	\$	18,352.62
Title III Monies	\$	9,842.60
Actual Operational Monies	\$	8,510.02

SFA12102 final payment was received and mailed to communities approximately 10 days ago.

4. Agency and Community Activity Reports- Notice that task force reports have been removed from the agenda, as they are designed as short term and items previously covered are now in the following agency/community reports.

Board of Supervisors/Emergency Management- The free slash program is ongoing until 6/1. All County transfer stations are participating, but only during normal working hours. For additional information, contact the Yavapai County Public Works Department at (928) 771-3183. A proclamation was issued declaring May as the Wildfire Community Preparedness month in Yavapai County. This will be a time dedicated to creating awareness of wildfire danger, teaching Yavapai County residents how to prevent and reduce the severity of wildfires and organizing activities to prevent wildfires and lessen their severity in the community. Please let your District Supervisors know of special activities communities are sponsoring.

PFD- some chipper service funds are available through June 30, but act quickly. Please call (928) 777-1700 for additional information. Since we are entering into fire season, there has been lots

of interest in mitigation work. There were 42 chip jobs, 17 of those new requests. Working with AZ State Forestry on a fuels project at UCYC. This project begins on 5/18 and will be completed by the end of the month. There were over 35 participants at the recent Forest Trails dumpster pick up day.

CYFD/Chino Valley Fire Department- Fire crews have completed training and are ready for the season. A community forum is scheduled tonight at the Paulden Community Center.

ASFD/ Forest Health- Crews finished up work in the Groom Creek area and are now moving to Yavapai Hills. Crews will continue to be in the area until fire season becomes more active. Bob Celayas has been working in the tornado blow down area with PNF

Jeff Schallau U of A/Yavapai County Cooperative Extension- There are 4 candidates for the Forest Health Agent position. Interviews are scheduled for 6/9 in Payson. Email Jeff if any PAWUIC members are interested in assisting with these interviews.

PNF- Timber updates- Spence Basin TS is complete and the closure lifted. Prep work has begun on the Amulet Stewardship project, which is about 600 acres in the Walker area and 250 acres of hand thinning at Spruce Mountain. Beetle traps have been set at the tornado site. Fire/fuels updates- There have already been a few small fires in the area, but were knocked out fairly quickly with combined efforts from local agencies. The rain has helped, but the area still suffers from drought conditions. The fuel break project at Camp Yavapines is almost complete, the contractor will return after the monsoons have started to finish the work. Jason Clawson is leaving. He has accepted a position on the Kaibab National Forest in Williams, AZ.

Firewise Communities- **There is now a Firewise day and chipper day event list. Please update and allow PAWUIC to assist in publicizing your event by notifying the appropriate agencies. Please also share items that other communities might use or implement.**

Ponderosa Park- Using the 90/10 grant, one homeowner cleared 8 acres. A firewise meeting day is scheduled for 5/23. Work will also be done to clear creek beds and community areas.

Forest Highlands- On 5/2, two lots were cleared. The community is up to 42% firewise.

Rancho Vista Hills- Firewise day is scheduled for 6/20 with a local Firewise-trained contractor presenting. The brush and chipper day is scheduled for 5/18.

Yavapai Hills- A minimum of 4 acres is scheduled to be treated next week.

Santa Fe Springs- Brush was recently cleared several properties with great coordination from homeowners.

Prescott Lakes- Approximately 40 acres have been treated over the last 18 months. Currently applying for Firewise status.

Highland Pines- An ice cream social and firewise day is scheduled for 5/23. The community will be discussing their reactions to the Doce fire.

Iron Springs- An informal breakfast and firewise day is scheduled for 7/18. Bob Celaya will lead a community/nature walk and discuss healthy forests.

5. Old Business

- **WFHF 14-206 Quarterly Report-** 23.6 acres treated, \$37,324.22 in federal funds used, 268.43 hours of in kind match, 317.43 volunteer hours and 586 trees were removed.
- **SFA Applications-** No word from AZ State Forestry regarding status of application at this time.
- **New WFHF 2015 Grant-** Filed and waiting for award.

6. New Business

- **Expand Executive Board- from 7 to 11 members (Approved by commission)**

The motion was to amend the PAWUIC structure/policies/procedures to increase membership on the executive board from its current 7 members to 11 to include four agency representatives and two community at large members. The procedures call for membership to include: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Past Chairman, Treasurer, Designated Grants Manager, and two from the 7 government agencies. In reality we have PFD as the City Designee, ASFD, PNF and Emergency Management as the County Designee instead of two. The goal is to keep the agencies at four seats and add two additional seats appointed by the Chairman from the community at large.

- **Review Survey Results with action (Chairman Action)**

A handout was provided showing the operations survey results. Meeting start time, meeting frequency, facility satisfaction, program content and accomplishing PAWUIC mission were topics reviewed on the survey. Some corrective actions have already been taken. In an effort to attract a greater audience and make it easier on our colleagues from Phoenix, effective December 3, we will move our meeting start time to 8:00 a.m.

7. Committee Reports

- **Marketing-** Working on rebranding the PAWUIC name for easier community recognition. The commission had a productive discussion regarding this topic. The PAWUIC name will remain in the title, but it was suggested to add AZ or Prescott to the newly rebranded title. Additional suggestions are always welcome at any time.

8. Guest Speaker- Chris Kuknyo, City Councilman and Mayor Pro-Tem

Chris' goal is to address issues surrounding the FY2016 city budget and the effect it has on fuels mitigation efforts within the City of Prescott. He is also passionate about working towards increasing governmental transparency and responsiveness to all citizens. Chris is a long time resident of Prescott, moving from Chicago to Prescott when he was 13. He understands the mission of PAWUIC and believes it is extremely important in the community. City officials can only do so much and must rely on homeowners and organizations like PAWUIC to keep the area as firewise as possible by being proactive and not reactive. City code enforcement is a tool the City uses to maintain the community and works hand in hand with homeowners to ensure compliance to city code. Assessments are just the first step in this effort. There continues to be a great deal of unanswered questions regarding the Yarnell Hill tragedy and Chris is dedicated to continuing to ask the tough ones. The changes regarding the wildland division are unfortunately, budget driven and details still need to be ironed out. Other local agencies such as Chino Valley FD and CYFD are essential to keeping the Prescott area safe. While details continue to be figured out, it's important for the community to continue efforts toward code enforcement and overall firewise preparedness.

9. Announcements

-Firewise sign replacements are about 50% complete

Expo 2015 recap- Immediately following adjournment

Adjournment at 8:21 a.m.

Note: Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th at 7:00 a.m.