

**Prescott Area  
Wildland Urban Interface Commission  
Minutes  
November 7, 2019**

**Participants:** Bob Betts, Tom Haney, Dennis Shaw, Tom DiCamillo, Loren Bykerk, Cheyenne Warner, Donna Fagan, Andie Smith, Russ Shumate, Barb Ross, Gary Wellborn, Augie Giliberto, Julius Koenigskecht, Miles Graybill, Jim Zimmerman, Rob Stockus, Don Schafer, Mike Donovan, Dawn Salcito, Eric Thaler, Donna Forster, Don Sauntman, Randy Clark, Scott Grey, C Silveira, George Sheats, Al West, Thomas Yssel, Ken Karkula, Jerry Borgelt, Darrell Anderson, Patrice Russell, Donna Trigilia, Richard Poulton, Steve Canter, Pete Lang, Russell Lafayette, Stephen Lovejoy, Marla Meier, Marty Trembly, Steve Lombardo, Wade Ward, Brian Kelley, Debbie Miller, Ron Miller, Marsha Collier, Ron Norfleet, Rick Martin, Toni L. Yowell, Eleanor Sisson, Marty Zytkowski, Jim Poore, Mary Ann Clark, Terry Kepler, Richard Hall, Glen Blomgren, Rick Van Demark, Shirley Howell, David Bowden, Carl Matthes, Katie Speranske, Craig Brown, Mary Mallory, Ian Haney, Peter Glenn, Lois Hoskinson

**Recorder: Seleatha Mendibles**

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

**2. Chairman's Remarks- Bob Betts**

Did you know that the Old Senator Highway/Juniper Heights community sets up our meeting place every month? Thanks to Megan and Douglas Taylor-Gebler and "Bucky" Yowell's parents.

How about another unsung contributor to PAWUIC's operations? Please meet our social media guru and webmaster, Mary Ann Clark.

Some of the highlights of October included the retirement of longtime friend and official of the Yavapai County Office of Emergency Management, Hugh Vallely. It was also nuptials month with the weddings of Sarah and Jason Clawson as well as Shelby and Ron Sauntman.

Last week there were sixteen separate wildfires racing across California burning more than 94,000 acres. I'm not going to argue about whether there is or is not an effect of climate change. But I will tell you that it has been reported by one homeowner that her home insurance policy premium has gone from \$2,000 to a staggering \$19,000 per year.

Some of you are old enough to remember The Platters' reprise of the song "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." In the basin and elsewhere we have had some pretty heavy smoke from the pile and prescribed burns prompting many calls to the Forest Service, ADEQ, and others. It dawned on me the other day when I was driving along Haisley Road and the smoke was rising to the south. I thought momentarily that the grey smoke was a lot better than the possibility of black smoke and an orange glow emanating from the horizon. Please folks talk to you communities about how important it is to reduce the fuels load by burning. Remind them that "Fire has a Role."

Interesting article entitled "Fire Ember Production from Wildland and Structural Fuels" by N. Carolina A&T State University and the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety. Go to [www.firescience.org](http://www.firescience.org) to view the article.

## PAWUIC Minutes November 2019

There is at least \$9,000 still available from the City of Prescott as matching grants for creating defensible space. These 50/50 matching grants, up to \$500, are available to Prescott residences. Go to [www.Prescott-az.gov](http://www.Prescott-az.gov) for more details.

If you haven't noticed, you have not heard a lot of "I"s coming from this podium recently. That's because, as the old saying goes, there is no "I" in team. Our Firewise sites, our cooperating agencies and the PAWUIC volunteers are a team! We work better together.

Max Efrein, reporter for the Daily Courier, wrote an informative story on abandoned properties and their being a contributing factor for house fires. The City is keeping a close eye on these situations. If you see something, say something.

I wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved.

### 4. Financial Report- Treasurer's Report

September 1, 2019	Beginning Bank Balance	\$	54,531.88
	Total Deposits	\$	-
	Subtotal plus Credits/Deposits	\$	54,531.88
	Debits/Expenses	\$	18,714.13
	Ending Bank Balance	\$	35,817.75
	Pending Expense Balance	\$	124.00
September 30, 2019	Checkbook Balance	\$	35,693.75
	Title III FF1819	\$	2,150.00
	Unisource Donation (Remaining Funds)	\$	552.51
	NRCS Payment for DOC invoices	\$	3,342.29
	Actual Operational Monies	\$	29,648.95

October 1, 2019	Beginning Bank Balance	\$	35,817.75
	Total Deposits	\$	21,687.85
	Subtotal plus Credits/Deposits	\$	57,505.60
	Debits/Expenses	\$	13,493.34
	Ending Bank Balance	\$	44,012.26
	Pending Expense Balance	\$	6,879.33
October 31, 2019	Checkbook Balance	\$	37,132.93
	Title III FF1819	\$	2,150.00
	Unisource Donation (Remaining Funds)	\$	552.51
	NRCS Payment for DOC invoices	\$	3,342.29
	Actual Operational Monies	\$	31,088.13

Kroger and Amazon Smile donations help! Sign up and earn money for PAWUIC.

Grant Status: Funds are still available and grants are moving along nicely. Forwarded the additional information requested for WFHF19. Still unable to spend funds, but can work on getting bids for work. WFHF12-201 was extended to March 31, 2020. It's important to use your allotted acres, as they will go away after the extension. WFHF18 expires on 10/31/2020.

Title III monies are still available, but running short. Must be used by 12/31/19.

## 5. Agency and Community Activity Reports/Issues

**AZ Dept. of Forestry and Fire Management-** Lewis crew is working on prescribed burns, suppression, and mastication. Finishing up a 550 acre mastication project in Mayer and will be moving to Dewey. Waiting on clearance from SHPO to start additional projects in Williamson Valley and Pioneer Parkway. Rich VanDemark shared additional projects in collaboration with Arrow Fire and Crown King Fire. Fuel breaks, mechanical thinning, mastication and hand thinning projects are included. Areas of work include various camps in the Prescott area, Government Canyon, and tree removal along power lines. The mechanical work is in collaboration with Dakota Logging.

**APS-** Overhead right of way work is ongoing. This project creates defensible space around equipment power poles. Areas include Dewey, Kirkland Junction, and Yarnell. APS is also investing in technology related to fire mitigation. Prevention, mitigation, response is the focus.

**Central AZ Fire and Medical Authority-** Have been short staffed over the last two months so haven't been able to do any assessments. Sent engines to assist in California. Recently, crews have responded to RV fires. It's important to check recall lists and workings of the refrigerators. They can cause fires.

**City of Prescott FD-** Continued work in Mountain Club through the winter. Will help CAFMA with assessments for homeowners close to the city of Prescott.

**Jerome FD-** Fuel abatement projects are ongoing. Burning brush piles on site and have completed 70 assessments over the project time. Still having trouble treating trees of paradise and can only do hand cutting at this time.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service-** Joint Chiefs' reminders will be emailed out soon.

**Emergency Management-** Thanks to the communities for maintaining preparedness levels. Recent Risk Analysis workshop was a success. Submission period for the CFWP Plan has been extended to 11/15/19.

**Prescott National Forest-** Timber: The Banning Creek Restoration project is complete. It was funded through a grant from the National Forest Foundation. The Wolf Creek Watershed Improvement project is finishing up. Most of the cutting is complete, still working on piling. The Francis stewardship project started yesterday. This is a mechanical thinning project between Copper Basin road and Thumb Butte road and is 505 acres. Several trails, including parts of the circle trail will be rerouted. The intent of the project is to improve forest health, reduce the risk of severe wildfire and insect outbreaks. Information related to volunteer hours was shared. Volunteer hours can be used a match when competing for grant funding and makes us more competitive. Please continue reporting your volunteer hours! Fuels: Wrapping up permanent fire hire and temp hire will begin next week. Women in Wildfire Bootcamp graduated 18 new firefighters. There are three prescribed burn units, including one with helicopter ignitions. This helps in reduction of smoky days. Burns that generally take seven days, only took three. There are about 1000 acres of mechanical treatment projects ongoing. Blue Hills area is next up.

**Jeep Posse-** Available to speak to at firewise meetings regarding evacuations and being prepared, even during winter months.

**6. New Business-**

- Volunteers are needed for staging of engines during the Christmas parade. A volunteer is also needed to pick up coffee and donuts for the parade. The parade is on 12/7 from 11-1.
- 50/50 Raffle- Marla Meier won and donated the money back to PAWUIC.

**Adjourned: 9:03 a.m. Next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at 8:00 a.m.**

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