

THE MARIN WILDFIRE PREVENTION AUTHORITY
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Held a meeting:

3:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25, 2021

Via teleconference due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

1. Call to Order- Chair Tyler called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Member Attendance: Joe Chinn (Ross), Eric Dreikosen (Marinwood), Jim Fox (Inverness Fire), George Kraukauer (Bollinas Fire), Al Piombo (Mill Valley Fire), Mark Pomi (Kentfield Fire), Darin White, (San Rafael), Dan Schwarz (Larkspur), Rich Shortall (Sleepy Hollow Fire District), Bill Tyler (Novato Fire), Garrett Toy (Fairfax), Chief Welch for Chris Tubbs (Southern Marin Fire), Jason Weber (Marin County Fire), Chris Gove (Muir Beach)
Committee Members Absent: Kenny Stevens (Stinson Beach), Todd Cusimano (Corte Madera), Dave Donery (San Anselmo),
Staff Attendance: Executive Officer Mark Brown

3. Agenda Adjustments

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4. Open Time for Public Expression

There were no comments.

5. Executive Officer's Report

Executive Officer Brown presented a staff report and discussed the following: 1) Board of Directors meeting and Retreat, discussion of Draft Mission and Vision Statements, and Goals, Values, and Objectives; 2) Executive Committee meeting, approval of Grizzly Corp position to work on three project areas; 3) Finance Committee meeting, developing Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget framework; 4) Recruitment for Planning and Program Manager closed on Monday, interviews to begin on March 8th; 5) Request for Proposals (RFP) for environmental consultant services were released on February 22nd and close on March 31st.

Chair Tyler had questions about the \$10 million budget for Core Projects. Executive Officer Brown explained a minimal amount has already been allocated for Zonhaven or other operational costs that need to come off the top.

Committee member White had questions about vetting the selection criteria for upcoming programs and stated he has a list of fifteen or twenty different considerations. Chair Tyler stated the Advisory/Technical Committee has been working on new forms for programs and projects.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

6. Consent Calendar

- a. Approve January 28, 2021 MWPA Operations Committee meeting minutes

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

M/s, Weber/Fox, to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

Ayes: All

Absent: Stevens, Cusimano, Donery

7. Presentation: 2021 Chipper Program

Committee member Shortall presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) 2020 Chipper Program Report; 2) Program Overview; 3) Administration & Reporting; 4) Schedule; 5) Contractor Selection; 6) Budget. He asked for a recommendation or acknowledgement from the group so they can send this on to the Board for approval.

Committee member Toy asked if these were the FIREWise neighborhoods that were not done last year. Committee member Shortall stated “no” and noted they have dropped the FIREWise concept for this year. They are using the mutual threat zone maps. He discussed how the sign ups work.

Committee member Fox wanted to make sure his represented area was included this year.

Executive Officer Brown stated the program came in under budget for Fiscal Year 2020/21. He asked if the requested \$400,000 includes or excludes the under budget. Committee member Shortall stated it excludes the under budget amount.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

Board President Goines asked where the material ultimately gets delivered. Committee member Shortall stated the bulk of the materials are taken to Marin Resource Recovery.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

Chair Tyler noted there was a consensus for approval of this program.

8. Presentation: Air Curtain Burners

Ms. Kate Anderson, Vegetation Specialist, presented a report and introduced Chief Kurt McCray from Cal Fire who gave a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) Air Curtain Burners (ACB); 2) Purposes and Principals; 3) Semi Stationary Model and Mobile Trailer Mounted Model; 4) Biomass Power Generator; 5) Trench Burner; 6) Before and After Removal; 7) SRF Dozer Operator; 8) Advantages to ACB vs. Open Pile Burning (OPB); 9) Factors Affecting Production; 10) Other Uses; 11) Air Burner Specifications; 12) Final Thoughts/Considerations.

Committee member White asked if they have seen other jurisdictions use the mobile trailer. Chief McCray stated "no".

Chair Tyler asked Chief McCray about the number of personnel needed to handle the material and if he uses CalFire employees or contracts it out. Chief McCray stated they use CalFire personnel or Federal partners. It takes two to three people to continue operations. Chair Tyler asked if the purchase of the units was through a grant or the CalFire General Fund. Chief McCray stated it came out of the CalFire Budget. Chair Tyler asked if it is possible to lease the equipment. Chief McCray stated he did not know. He stated the MWPA could demo one of his units.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

9. Presentation: Dspace/Home hardening software application

Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) Defensible Space Inspection/Evaluation (Software) Tool; 2) "Old" Resident Report; 3) Process Overview; 4) Development Timeline Summary; 5) Resident Report; 6) Field Crew & Program Management; 7) Admin Manager; 8) Better ROI for Defensible Space Budgets; 9) Property Owners & Responsibility; 10) Defensible Space Code Violations; 11) Report Summary.

Committee member Weber asked if there was interconnectivity to emergency reporting (RMS system). Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando stated "yes- it needs to send the information directly to CalFire".

Executive Officer Brown asked if there was a way to connect the data from the app to the partial level of risk assessment in the CWPP. Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando stated this could be done during the next update of the CWPP.

Committee member Fox had a question about internet connectivity and real time applications.

Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando stated the data would be uploaded and available at 5:00 p.m. the same day.

Committee member Welch asked about the plan going forward to help people who are technologically challenged. Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando explained the process and the contact information given. Committee member Welch asked about the impact of this tool on the possibility of an insurance cancellation. Advisory/Technical Committee member Lando stated he was told that the insurance companies do not trust the data. This is something they need to work on.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

10. Evacuation Plan Study Update

Ms. Charlotte Jordain, Project Manager, presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) Evacuation Risk Assessment; 2) Zonehaven- Project Overview; 3) Multi-Agency Team Leads; 4) Agency/Organization Data Source.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

11. 2020 Work Plan Update

Committee member Weber presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that including the spreadsheet of monthly projects (local and d/space funds only).

Chair Tyler stated he would like more uniformity and standardization in the process and perhaps the MWPA Program Manager position could help with this.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

12. FIRESafe Marin 2020 Program Updates

Committee member Shortall presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) Webinars; 2) Workshops; 3) Red Flag Warning Signs; 4) "Get Ready 5th

Grade!"; 5) Handouts, flyer, brochures, videos, newsletters; 6) Community Meetings; 7) NOAA Weather Radios.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

13. Firescaping Proposal

Mr. David Lewis, Director of the UC Cooperative Extension in Marin, presented a report and a PowerPoint presentation that included the following: 1) Photographs; 2) Land Grant Institutions; 3) Today's UCCE in Marin; 4) UCCE Subject Matter Experts; 5) Master Gardeners; 6) UCANR Fire Education Programs; 7) Fire-Smart Landscaping Content; 8) Topics We Do Not Address; 9) Fire-Smart Landscaping Presentations; 10) Websites: UCANR Statewide; 11) Master Gardner YouTube Channel; 12) Publications.

Chair Tyler stated the ad hoc committee groups could discuss the proposal.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

14. Group Discussion: Zone & Agency Project Management of 2021/22 Workplan

Chair Tyler stated this item should be moved to the work plan committee meeting. The volume of work will require program management consisting of an existing employee, hiring a new employee, consulting with a firm, etc.

Committee member Weber stated it will be important to share resources.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

15. Committee Reports

Chair Tyler stated the Ad Hoc Work Plan Group has not met. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Committee member Pomi stated Ad Hoc Finance Committee has not met.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

16. Information Items

Committee member Schwarz asked for information on the research that needs to be done in order to use the air curtain burners and coordination with the Bay Area Air Quality Management Agency. Committee member White volunteered to do some research.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

17. Committee members request future agenda items

There were no requests.

Chair Tyler opened the meeting to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Tyler closed the meeting to public comments.

18. Adjournment- Chair Tyler adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis,
Recording Secretary