

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FOREST HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2011 AT 8:00 A.M. IN THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM.**

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Paul Esparza called the meeting order at 8:10 a.m.

**PRESENT:**

Norris Dodd, Kirk Webb, Kelly Wood, Paul Esparza, Steve Campbell, and Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk.

**ITEM NO. 1, REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FOREST HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MAY 4, 2011:**

**KELLY WOOD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOREST HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MAY 4, 2011. NORRIS DODD SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ITEM NO. 2, UPDATE ON COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOREST HEALTH AND FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCE USING THE STATE FIRE ASSISTANCE GRANT AND THE SHOW LOW FIRE SPCH GRANT:**

Mr. Esparza said they had the Firewise trailer at the Bike Rodeo, and said he and Sue Stein were there. He said he thought there were too many things going on, and said they did not reach as many people as they thought they might. Kelly Wood said there were approximately 1,500 people there, but said not as many people were interested in forest health and fire protection. Kirk Webb said people ignore those types of things. He said he did a presentation about three weeks ago informing a local homeowner's association the grant was still available. Mr. Esparza said they published a press release in the *White Mountain Independent* and sent it to the radio stations. He said it was effective, as they received a number of calls. He said Cody Blake generated 25 letters, and said, by the following week they were receiving calls to schedule appointments. He said they had about a 75% response rate, and said the letter encouraged people rather than threatening them. He said they would continue to send letters out.

Mr. Esparza said Chris Jessop, of the Show Low Fire Department, has an extremely heavy workload. Steve Campbell said he went out and cut trees with them for a day, and said Mr. Jessop only has two people assisting him. Mr. Wood said everyone else is working on fires. Mr. Esparza said they would continue to process the requests and refer people to Mr. Jessop, but asked if they could staff two crews. Mr. Campbell said five people would be more efficient, as they could have three people cutting and two people chipping. Mr. Dodd said Kelly Udall was talking about hiring prison crews for work around Town, and wondered if they could be used in this instance. Mr. Wood said the prison workers do have a chain saw crew. Mr. Campbell said it would be expensive. Mr. Webb asked about using Town crews. Mr. Wood stated they are spread very thin. Mr. Campbell stated the grant runs through September, and said the stimulus grant goes into 2012. He said they would rewrite and reapply for the Western Bark Beetle Grant. Mr. Webb said as soon as they get back to full staff he could send two of his personnel.

Mr. Esparza stated he sent out the interpretive sign proofs to the committee members. Mr. Dodd stated those are the low quality signs. He said one set of signs are up at Mountain Meadow and look nice. He said they would use the other set at events. Mr. Campbell asked if he could use them for Show Low Days. Mr. Dodd stated he would receive a high-resolution set on a CD from the company, and said it could be used to make posters. He said they are working on additional signs for Mountain Meadow.

ITEM NO. 3, UPCOMING EVENTS TO DISCUSS FOREST HEALTH ORDINANCE (JUNE 25 NATURE DISCOVERY PROGRAM):

Mr. Dodd said the Nature Center would be focusing on Firewise information at their event on June 25. He said he and Mr. Esparza would be attending. Mr. Campbell said he could do another chain saw training event. Mr. Dodd said they would combine the program with a landscaping program. He said the Bureau of Land Management trailer would be there. Mr. Campbell stated he would be doing the youth program in conjunction with the Yellow Jacket Youth Center and the Show Low Parks & Recreation program.

Mr. Wood said he had given information to Pinetop Country Club, and said he would be speaking at Pinetop Lakes and White Mountain Summer Homes soon. Mr. Campbell said they would be treating the right-of-way again in September, and said they need to get ADOT involved and treat the other side of the highway as well. He said the basins are in need of treatment; and said the dead snags should be removed. He talked about using Constable Reinhold's kids. Mr. Wood said he would be willing to use and train them. Mr. Campbell stated he would contact Constable Reinhold.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2011, at 8:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2011.

/s/ Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk