

**PINE-STRAWBERRY FUEL REDUCTION COMMITTEE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Walt Smith called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.
The meeting was held at the Pine Senior Center Dining Room
Pat Burke led the Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Walt Smith, Janet Brandt, Katie Calderon, Ron Calderon, Jack Malloy,
Mel Palmer, Gail Reese

Member Absent:

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Ron moved to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2011 meeting. Gail seconded.

Motion Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Gail presented the Treasurer's Report.

\$29,676.67 in checking; \$41,145 in savings; \$19,343 in Fire-on-the-Rim account; Total \$90,165

Fundraiser: 337 have responded donating a total of \$28,299

Katie moved to accept Treasurer's Report. Janet seconded.

Motion Passed.

CORRESPONDENCE/BILLS:

Walt: Note received from Rim Country Regional Chamber of Commerce thanking PSFRC for joining.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Arrowhead Canyon Project: Mike Brandt introduced Jeremy Plain from the U.S. Forest Service in Payson. Jeremy noted the Forest Service has received about \$1.1 million for fuel reduction. The bulk of money will be for maintenance of fuel breaks in entire Payson area including Pine and Strawberry. There will also be money for new thinning and piling including about 40 acres in the Arrowhead Canyon area. Money from the FRC Fundraiser will be able to add another 20 acres of thinning. Jeremy showed a map of what has been completed and what is planned with this additional money.

Ron asked how much additional money would be needed to complete the project. Jeremy said his cost is about \$780/acre.

Janet asked why the head of the canyon, previously planned for, wasn't marked as part of this project. Jeremy replied that the main threat of fire was from the southwest. He also said that prescribed burning from Bradshaw Meadows down to Arrowhead Estates is scheduled for this fall.

Ron asked how much it would cost to complete the whole project? Jeremy replied that he would need to get on the ground in the area for an accurate answer so that money is spent for what is actually needed.

Mike suggested that if more acres thinned would make the area more secure, that the money donated to the Arrowhead Canyon fundraiser should be used, as this was the reason for the fundraiser.

90-10 Grant Accomplishments: Mel reported that Mike was working up a contract for the Gould property, which are being worked by Armstrong and Dale Lee. There was a discussion on setting up the invoices to both contractors. Mike indicated he has told each what their invoices will be.

Mel said the Gould 10%, \$5800, has been received. Now we are waiting for the two contractors to start the project.

Camp Lo Mia: Mike reported that Camp Lo Mia has agreed verbally to the project and the bid process is in progress. There are still discussions concerning who will pay for the burning with the air curtain. There are 200.1 acres to clear and the price is dependent on who pays for the air curtain.

Walt noted this has been a long process and thanked Mike and Mel for all the work they have done in getting to this point.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grant Application Presentation: Ernie Borgoyne reported that his own economic impact study indicated the bike race brought in around \$6000 to \$9500 to the communities. He has been able to seek a grant from the "Bikes Belong Foundation" to do further economic impact studies of bike related events. He sees this as an opportunity to build on what he already started.

Ernie asked the Board to consider his proposal and submit the grant for \$10,000 on his behalf, as it has to come through a 5013b organization. The four-phase study would include:

1. Determine ways to increase the bike race each year.
 2. Determine the economic impact of the improved trails for the race and as a destination for the public.
 3. Ways to encourage the communities businesses to be more involved with the race.
 4. Ways to make Pine-Strawberry a permanent destination for mountain biking.
- 5%, \$500, would go to the PSFRC for administrative costs. \$500 would be allowed for committee travel to study other bike race events and the remainder to his study.

Ron moved that the Board submit the grant proposal and identify Ernie Borgoyne as the lead researcher. Janet seconded.

Questions: Jack asked how long the study would last? Ernie replied it should be completed by June to help prepare for the next bike race and that it would be a blueprint of goals and objectives for races in the future.

Motion Passed

Meeting Highlights: The addition of meeting highlights to the FRC website was discussed. This would allow citizens to receive Board information in a more timely manner than waiting for a month until the minutes are approved.

Mel so moved. Gail seconded.

Motion Passed

Bike Race Update: Katie reported the next race would be held September 14th, 15th and possibly 16th. The old rodeo grounds have been reserved for the venue. Events will include bike race for children, bike rodeo events, bike clinics, planning to get the band Junction 87, provide spaghetti dinner for racers Friday night, pancake and granola breakfast for the racers Saturday morning, food vendors, silent auction, raffles, letters will contact sponsors soon, monthly volunteer meetings begin the first of the year, bike repair booth, Mike Taylor's website has already started promoting, and this Saturday Mike and Janet Brandt and Ron and Katie Calderon will be going to the White Mountain Bike Race to observe their organization.

Oktoberfest: Janet reported that the Rimside Grill would donate their profits from the Oktoberfest this Saturday to PSFRC. There will also be a bake sale and Janet asked those in attendance to volunteer to this effort. Janet also asked for volunteers to staff the tables. Pat Burke and Mike Blaes volunteered to work the bake sale this Saturday for the FRC.

Trails and Fuel Break Project: Janet reported that Mark Flint finished Phase-1: east side of 87 at Pine Trailhead over to above Portal IV about 15 miles of trail. Mark has also laid out about 1 ¼ mile of a bypass for the race to avoid Randall's private property.

The next step is an archaeological and biological study of the area involved.

Volunteers for FireWise Trailer: Mike Brandt said that while someone in blue always needs to be present that there is a need for volunteers to help man the FireWise trailer at events. He said it would also be nice if some from the committee volunteer and suggested a sign-up when the events begin next year so someone representing the community and Fire District would be with the trailer.

Mike will update the Committee when classes are held to increase knowledge in topics relating to the FireWise trailer.

Willene suggested making the trailer available at the Christmas tree lighting when more children will be present.

ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, POSSIBLE ACTION:

Walt asked about a notice at the Post Office that the brush pick-up program being discontinued. Janet said she did that a few weeks ago.

Walt presented an update on the Fire Board and FRC grants. The brush pick-up program seems to be on schedule to be approved in about two to three weeks if there are no changes.

Mike Brandt noted that there will be an initiative effort for the November, 2012 ballot to have the citizens of Pine and Strawberry vote to approve paying for the brush pick-up service so the communities will no longer be tied to the whims of grants.

He also noted that of the structures that burned in the Wallow fire, two thirds were because of small creeping ground fires, making the point of the continued need for individual property FireWising and the importance of the brush pick-up program.

Walt summarized what will be needed for an initiative petition and the need to get a committee started working on the process.

ADJOURNMENT:

Gail moved to adjourn. Katie seconded.

Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Jack Malloy, PSFRC Secretary