



Warm Springs Citizen Advisory Board

Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Warm Springs Rural Citizen Advisory Board held on May 11, 2022, at Regional Shooting Facility, 21555 Pyramid Highway, Palomino Valley

1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - Susan Ambrose, Karenne Smith, Hugh Ezell, Kevin Cook. Absent: Marshal Todd, Pam Roberts (alternate).

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge was recited.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –

Melanie Sutton, Washoe County School District Board Candidate, said she took her kids out of school because she is concerned with violence and drugs. The children no longer will be referred to as boys and girls.

Kenji Otto, Washoe County Clerk Candidate, introduced himself and provided background. He said he would be the ears and voice for the citizens. He said there are issues with the county clerks' office – there are 6-7 Human Resources complaints about 15 employees in that department.

Katherine Snedigar said Commissioner Herman apologized for not being here but wanted to extend her thanks to the speakers for attending.

Edwin Lyngar, County Commissioner District 5 candidate, introduced himself and provided background. He said he is here to listen. We need smart development.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF [MARCH 09, 2022](#) –

MOTION: Huge Ezell moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2022. Kevin Cook seconded the motion which carried unanimously in favor.

5. WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – There were no Washoe County Sheriff's Office representative in attendance.

6. PANEL –

- **NV ENERGY - NATURAL DISASTER PROTECTION PLAN –**

Greg Jackson, Fire Management Officer, Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue, shared information about the fuels reduction program and its impact on Palomino Valley. He spoke about clearing vegetation around power poles and invited citizens to inform him if they have a power pole on their property. Nancy Brown asked if they were clearing poles on vacant land. Mr. Jackson said he would like to get permission before entering the vacant property. He encouraged everyone to inform your neighbors

He spoke about the wildfire cameras alert website; a camera on Virginia Peak covers this area.

He spoke about the fuels reduction crews; Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District has

22 people working on fuels reduction. He said we are trying to treat 10,000 poles a year. He said NV Energy is doing system hardening. He spoke about planned outages on red flag days. He said when they shut it down, each fuse and pole needed to be inspected. Mr. Ezell advised the community to get your generator ready to power your water well during outages. Kelly N., NV Division of Forestry, asked if they communicate the outage for those who it impacts their water. Mr. Jackson said it's communicated through many different channels but isn't sure if it's part of the Washoe County 311. Mr. Jackson said there is a green cross program for those who need a secondary power source for live-saving devices such as oxygen. Mr. Jackson said he would share that contact information for the green cross program. Mr. Ezell said you could purchase above-ground pools that hold 10,000 gallons; they are nice for firewater. A 2-inch pump could run for 45 minutes. They can fill a water fire truck with the pool water. He recommended getting a generator. Megan Kay, Living With Fire, said it's good preparedness to have water all the time for any emergency, not just a wildfire.

Bryan Tresler asked about water storage out here. Mr. Jackson said he was aware of a large helo-tank for fire suppression but isn't aware of other developed water sources.

Kathryn Snedigar asked why they don't have the balloons on the wires that prevent them from slapping together.

Mr. Jackson provided fire suppression information on behalf of Battalion Chief Solaro. He said they would respond to Moonrocks events. Paul F., BLM representative, said we would have staff patrolling during the Memorial Day weekend. He said BLM fire would make sure the campfires are out on Monday. There will be an active helicopter pad. Sheriffs will have a presence out there.

Mr. Jackson said open burning is closed due to lack of moisture. Warm weather will return this weekend. Please clear defensible space around your property. He said there are regulations and rules for outdoor cooking devices which are available on the TMFPD website. There are no burn barrels allowed now that open burning has closed.

He spoke about prevention and preparedness: Check your smoke detectors and replace batteries, and if the smoke detectors are over 10 years old, they should be replaced.

Be careful with gas can storage. He spoke about spark arresters and off-road with a GPS device.

He talked about targeting shooting regulations. Shooting explosives is illegal.

He recommended carrying layers, cell phone, and water when hiking; weather and temperatures change rapidly.

Nancy Brown asked if there will be BLM officers patrolling the Moonrocks areas for unsafe shooting. Paul with BLM advised them there is patrolling; however, call the sheriff's office if there is unsafe shooting. Mark Deverow expressed concerned about unsafe shooting around mountain biking trails. Huge Ezell said he has called Sheriff's Department about unsafe shooting on Winnemucca Ranch road.

- **BASIC FIRE BEHAVIOR, DEFENSIBLE SPACE, TMFPD WILDLAND DIVISION OVERVIEW –**

August Isernhagen, Division Chief, Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue, provided a presentation about defensible space and fire burn patterns on different types of topography and weather. If your house is within 1,000 of a powerline, Truckee

Meadows Fires Protection District will help with fuels mitigations

Wanda Wright asked about a neighbor with overgrown weeds in his yard. Mr. Isernhagen said there is a TMFPD or Washoe County code enforcement that can address this concern.

Hugh Ezell said we back up to BLM where the brush is overgrown. He asked how we can get permission to do fuel reduction to help reduce the fire hazard coming into our property. Jennifer Diamond said she works for the fuels reduction program and can come out to look.

August Isernhagen announced the green waste program on May 14 at Lazy 5, and May 15 in Palomino Valley.

- **CODERED, HOME HARDENING AGAINST FIRE, EVACUATION READINESS –**

Megan Kay, Outreach Coordinator, University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension, Living With Fire Program provided an overview of home hardening and defensible space. She spoke about how embers flying ahead of fires that get caught in bushes, hedges, and can go into the attic vent which can start the fire from within a house. She spoke about what parts of your house are most vulnerable and the mitigation such as ventilation into the attic, metal flashing near vegetation to help with buffer. She had information brochures about making your house less combustible. There is wildfire curriculum in the schools. She spoke about emergency alert system: Sign up to receive CODERED alerts, follow the social media accounts for the County and NDOT. She spoke about evacuation preparedness. She had facts sheets available and encouraged the public to post them on the refrigerator. Chair Ambrose advised the community members to contact Washoe County Animal Services now if will need assistance with evacuating your animals with a trailer.

Megan Kay spoke about Living with Wildfire Smoke and particulate matter impacts. N95 respirator masks are the only mask that can help. She said HVAC filters rated 13 or above are advised. Kathryn Snedigar asked what does have planned for our evacuation. Megan Kay said she works with the university system and not in charge of the evacuation. Division Chief Isernhagen said Washoe County Emergency Management handles the evacuation with the help of the Sheriff's Department. There is no mandatory evacuation in Nevada. Megan Kay said there might not always be the resources to knock on your door to notify you to evacuate and that's why you should sign up for CODERED alerts. Ms. Diamond said they are seeing fast moving fires and it's up to you to do your part to get out ahead of time. There aren't enough resources.

Huge Ezell said you need to have a plan if you don't plan to evacuate. Division Chief Isernhagen said if we say go, we recommend you go.

Wandra Wright asked if you recommend cutting or pulling weeds as part of fuels reduction around the property. Division Chief Isernhagen said tumble mustard can be cut because doesn't do well to continue the fire cycle. Cheatgrass is the culprit. We recommend you mow it before it turns purple. He said he prefers mowing and leaving roots for stabilization and spraying and adding preemergent in the fall. He said tumbleweeds are also invasive species that burn flashy and hot; mow it and spray it. He said he recommended burning it during open burning instead of taking it to green waste day and spreading the seed. Megan Kay said the cooperative extension has great programs to help with gardening.

Alexandra Wilson spoke about signing up for CODERED and twitter alerts. She advised them to call Washoe311. They will have the latest evacuation information for you and your pets.

Karenne Smith said she is signed up; what do we expect to receive when a code is being issued? Ms. Wilson said text or phone call notification based on what you signed up for. Megan Kay said there is an app that you can sign up on.

7. RECREATIONAL TARGET SHOOTING IN THE WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE - Paul Fuselier, Assistant Field Manager, and Jennifer Diamond, Fire Mitigation Specialist, BLM-Carson City District, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Diamond spoke about outreach and education about target-shooting-related fire at ammunition and gun shops to help spread the message. NVinfo.org collaborative effort with NV division of forestry, NV State Lands, and BLM. She spoke about prevention orders on the website. Paul encouraged the public to complete a survey to provide feedback that will help design a future project: www.washoelife.washoecounty.gov/sign-up/.

Kathryn Snedigar asked why there was no demonstration of how a bullet starts a fire. Ms. Diamond said she has materials and studies with contact for signs and research. She said she was a fire investigator. She can see where a fire has advanced, leads back to the origin area, and goes to a bullet. Ms. Snedigar said she wanted to see a physical demonstration. She said she has responsible shooters who report themselves as starting a fire.

Wanda Wright asked about the type of bullet. Ms. Diamond spoke about kinetic energy and combustible cheatgrass with winds. Mr. Ezell said it doesn't matter if it hits a rock to spark.

Chair Ambrose requested a safe, facility demonstration. Mr. Jackson said he had responded to a fire at the range. Ms. Diamond said Mr. Leery at the range has partnered with us because he has had several fires at the range. Chair Ambrose said Commissioner Herman and Kenji Otto worked on identifying sites for established firing ranges. He said they created an ordinance but didn't create alternatives for shooting illegally.

Paul said commissioners had approved this collaborative program. Mr. Otto said this would identify those shooting illegally but doesn't identify areas ideal for shooting facilities. Paul said it's part of their program to identify locations for Washoe County or a group to develop a shooting range. Mr. Otto said NV has money to build a professional range, if not a world-class range; it was determined a few years ago. He said Jeanne has been pushing for this for years. He said the feet dragging is with the other commissioners.

8. WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATE- Washoe County Commissioner Jeanne Herman was not in attendance and sent her apologies for not being able to attend.

9. CAB MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS — This item is limited to announcements and/or requests for future agenda items by CAB members.

10. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –

Ms. Sutton said her website was suttonforwcsd.com

Edwin Lynar said it's important to get more shooting ranges. With congestion and where you can shoot, this is an important issue. Check out my website.

Wanda Wright said when you call 911 for fire or emergency out here and receive a bill for it. She said she got a \$2,000 bill. She asked the fire representative about the bill.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:51 p.m.

Kelly Nevills