**Amador Calaveras Consensus Group**

**Draft Meeting Notes – August 20, 2014, 0930 – 1200, GSA Building, Jackson CA**

**Meeting Facilitator: Reuben Childress**

**Action Items in Yellow**

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| 1. **Call to Order** | The meeting was called to order by facilitator Reuben Childress at 0935 hours. |
| 1. **Introductions** |  |
| 1. **Modifications and/or approval of Agenda** | Agenda accepted |
| 1. **Approval of Previous meeting notes** | Accepted |
| 1. **Previous Action Items Review** | 1. J Heissenbuttel - Contractor meeting scheduled for this evening, 1800 hours, Health and Human Services Building  2. R Hopson – Vance Russell is available to speak on Moke river benefits in September; check Oct and Nov. Call for applications for NFF capacity building grant RFP September/fund Nov/Dec  3. Admin Work Group – discussed ACCG administration alternatives.  4. S Wilensky – communicating with SCALE on admin alternatives  5. Amador Ranger District can make one-time micropurchase via Pay Pal.  6. Will Calaveras FSC apply for NFF capacity building grant in place of AFSC – T Tate – will address at meeting this week.  7. SCALE Washington Office meeting – no ACCG representation |
| 1. **Workgroup Reports** | **Administrative Work Group** – J Heissenbuttel – presented a document he developed reflecting full and partial funding options. CKB to send to group.[done] Bottom line: no funding, DIY.  S Wilensky: disparities in the 3 CFLR admin function approach. For instance, Dinkey receives $400,000 allocation of CFLR funds for administration; Barney Gantt stated that if we have an administrative need, that we should put in to the local forest(s). Recognizing a time crunch, SCALE is willing to bridge one month.  Andrew Spaeth: The Dinkey example highlights the importance of professional support and facilitation services. 40+ Dinkey members turned out for the Washington Office visit; at Burney, only a handful. SCALE dollars may be used to help provide some consistency, but it is not the intended purpose of SCALE>  SW: this is a thread common with Quincy Library Group, Burney, etc to maintain participation of stakeholders and “should-be” stakeholders, such as Motherlode Jobs; we need to follow up to sustain our balance.  AS: Dinkey hired the Center for Collaboratives Studies to perform some duties such as follow-up contact, communications.  R Hopson: USFS thinks they can bridge a month, as well.  **AS:** Sierra Institute will circulate Administration briefing paper Done  **J Hoffman to B Sanders**: Can Brandon take over while the legislature is on break?  **B Sanders**: not possible; delegated as SNC rep to ACCG, nothing beyond that.  **J Heissenbuttel:** $75 an hour for a professional facilitator is cheap  **SW**: The Washington Delegation stated that the collaborative(s) should drive the allocations of the CFLR; we are responsible for making the request; think of as part of the CFLR process; we have 7-8 years left and need a plan to get proper administration till the end of the CFLR program. |
| 1. **Presentation** | **Sheri Elliot and Pierce Tucker, USFS Region 5 Office – Flexibility in Establishing Definition of Local.**  **Discussion, handout packet**  **R Hopson** – gave a brief history of the problem, which occurred when the Amador RD awarded contract to not-local contractor for a CFLR project.  **S Elliot** – reviewed past meetings and connection to SCALE and SNFSI. Key is defining local and defining the work. IDIQ authority; R6 process. Community involvement, work with them to support this business activity; working with agency managers and AQM to understand authority; identify and support that social/economic need within this suite of authorities.  **P Tucker** – packet is on website. Define local by how? Zip code, acreage, county? Define, then develop method to qualify and track. What is the scope of work (collaborative must define). Maybe by first quarter of FY15 Dec/Jan have better definition or get something out on street. Blanket purchase agreement, or agreement with local collaborative or university to hire. IDIQ would be a multiple award; FS put out one RFP; IDIQ = indefinite delivery indefinite quantity. Need to define scope of work; Inception to award 90-100 days; cumbersome administrative process; then 15 days later they can start work.  **Katherine Evatt** – IDIQ takes contractor pool and goes through RFQ process to qualify; how does this build capacity if you are not in at the get-go?  **P Tucker** –multiple approaches: develop under umbrella of contract with a threshold to give ability to qualify at lower level; looking at partnering with SBA to help small businesses develop; committed to move from talk to action. Maybe if they can’t qualify one way, they can get on a list – x # tractors, etc.  **Heissenbuttel** – importance of inventorying contractors/equipment/abilities  **S Elliot** – You have a commitment from us to facilitate this process, but it is up to the collaborative on your goals that will answer the question of which path(s) we follow? Goals of the collaborative will drive. We need that information from you (ACCG) to make successful. ACCG is pilot for us.  **T Tate** – if IDIQ put out, may help hand-to-mouth uncertainty.  **PT** – not an employment or jobs agency; looking at perspective of how can we do it, not why can’t we do it. End of the day – auditors.  **SE** – scale of projects – another role that the collaborative plays; do landscapes provide the opportunities? You have a guaranteed 8 more years of funding; not many districts have that.  **KKE** – concern of local ownership, not just a business located somewhere else that hires locally.  **SW** – challenges – workforce readiness; prospects for long term capability; job training funds need laser-like focus to be successful;  **TT** – there is assistance to help contractors with documentation |
| **Work Group Reports, continued** | **Planning Work Group** – Kendal Young – ACCG invited Amador RD to discussion to low to no herbicide letter.  J Hofmann – divided units into bear clover, deer brush, white thorn units to see alternatives to herbicide applications.  KY – monitoring – Sept 11 and 18 in Jackson. Focus social/economic monitoring. |
|  | Operations Work Group – J Heissenbuttel –   1. Sponsoring today’s speakers and the evening meeting 2. Will have expanded discussion of definition of “local” |
| 1. SCALE/   Wilseyville updates | S Wilensky - **Wilseyville/SCALE** updates –developing local funding, crowd funding to put together majority equity. Negotiated with Phoenix Energy for equity CHIPS can bring to table; bidding on PGE process to determine energy payment will start 1st quarter next year. All studies required underway, i.e. sourcing reflecting and without screens ACCG recommended and mile radius to procure fuel. Commissioned study for hook-up to attach to existing PG&E infrastructure. Need completion by December; raised enough funds to pay for studies.  Next public meeting – quarterly with community - trucks/school walkers issue raised at last mtg – 9/17 at 630 p.m. Wilseyville Community Hall – Hwy 26. |
| 1. **CA Dept F&W** | Eric Kleinfelter – Develop questions for Stacy Stannish presentation regarding requirements on private forest land timber harvest program and agency enforcement. Send your questions to Eric no later than **Stacy Stannish** questions – with a cut off 9/9. |
| 1. **Susan Skalski** | Stanislaus National Forest Supervisor Susan Skalski gave a farewell address to the group prior to her retirement. She reflected on being part of the founding of ACCG and the many difficult social and environmental questions we face. |
| 1. **Partner reports** | * KKE – Foothill Conservancy – Wild Scenic bill killed last week. A wake for the bill will be held at the Hotel Leger Friday night 4-7. Annual river clean up 9/20. * Teresa McClung – has been on a detail as the Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Shasta/Trinity; working with the collaboratives there, as well; should be back end of October. * Tim Tate, SPI – still salvaging fee timber land on rim fire. Transitioning to roadside hazard, then cable ops will extend into fall. Site prepping for planting next March, 1.5 million seedlings this coming season; following year 1.2 million on fee lands then be regenerated completely. * J Hofmann – 9/4 Moke Benefits Group meeting – looking at jobs in the lower Moke watershed that would be compatible with our local contractors. * B Haigh – BLM – NEPA work funding for fuels projects to get projects shovel ready, including some variances in Calaveras; adding one more small project on Buckhorn Ridge across from park – make a demo project, eventually may convert to a Lily Gap-type operation. Informal shooting area near West Point – “the shooting tree” – working with local law enforcement to develop a creative way to handle; Reminder Stage 2 fire restrictions. * K Young – annual reporting time around the corner. Keep track of hours, record. * R Hopson –Amador Ranger District - reminder shifting focus on funds received for Power Fire; CFLR dollars require a dollar for dollar match. Can use Power Fire dollars as match. * S Wilensky– CHIPS still hiring, prevailing wage pay. CUSD proposed to close all 3 upcountry schools – serving community 150 years. 9/23 Calaveras BOS pass resolution commending CIMP for contributions to community. * Lawrence Crabtree, Eldorado National Forest Supervisor – new project on Eldorado to start a collaborative effort stating on the south fork American River for a more resilient forest on a landscape level. * A Spaeth – SCALE mtg 9/16 9 – 3 in Sac. For all 3 CFLR groups. Dinkey contracted them to conduct socio econ report – out in Sept – will share. * T Tate - Calaveras FSC has CEMA grant from PG&E * C Koos Breazeal, AFSC – waiting on CEMA grants from PGE ; USFS Grant from CAFSC; passed first several gates for the Western States WUI Grant * B Sanders - SNC – water bond $25million for SNC - Santa Monica getting much larger with no watershed contribution, $10 million to Baldwin Hills; identifying other agencies getting funds for restoration work, i.e. FWS to connect folks with the funding opps. Ongoing efforts with CPUC for SB 1122 , and cap and trade funds. $13 million for mountain counties IRWP; LA River got $30 million for contributions to drinking water. “SNC represents 0.3% of total bond funds and the SNC region provides 65% of state water supply.” * C Loffland – Mattley and Foster design done, walk through 1 month, $25,000 contribution to CFLR match. * Amy – NRCS - recently duties in the valley; their field office obligated 50 contracts - $2 million+ on private lands,$ ½ million on Rim Fire reforest; $¼ million on forestry; huge amount on rangeland drought initiative money. +$20 million still to obligate by Sept 15. Late signing of Farm Bill shifted timeframes. Site visit for emergency watershed program off Sand Fire possible; 4 inspections for fish friendly farming on some vineyards. Put in for SNC area application for a regional conservation partnership program but didn’t make first cut; hoping CA RCDs is in running. * P Zaragoza, CIMP – thanks to all; important we reflect on today’s progress and energy. CIMP 36th year; * Tim Bordges – spent 2 weeks on Bald Fire; previously treated ground – low mortality; extreme behavior 2 days of 10,000 acre runs. * Jan Bray – working with Sand Ridge FSC – Sand Fire – 400 acres in Amador; started El Dorado County – jumped to Amador;, 3800 acres in El Dorado with 20 homes lost due to preheating and 80-100 feet flame lengths; got PGE CEMA grant as well; fuels driven, somewhat slope driven, but no wind. |
| 1. **Action Item Review** | See highlighted within text |
| 1. **Adjourn** | Next Meeting in9/17, GSA Building, Jackson. |

**ATTENDEES:** Bill Haigh, Bob Carroll, Chuck Loffland, Kendal Young, Teresa McClung; Amy Rocha, Cathy Koos Breazeal, Kimberly Grisson, Peter Zaragoza, John Heissenbuttel, John Hofmann, Katherine Evatt, Reuben Childress, Jan Bray, Steve Wilensky, Tim Tate, Eric Kleinfelter, Brandon Sanders, Andrew Spaeth, Susan Skalski, Tim Bordges, Laurence Crabtree, Rick Hopson