Location: 12200 Airport Rd, Jackson, CA

Meeting Facilitator: Robin Wall Minutes Taken By: Kimberly Grissom

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order
2. Participant Introductions

Amanda Platt, Bill Haigh, Cathy Koos-Breazeal, Dennis Bowker, Eric Kleinfelter, Gerald Schwartz, Gwen Starrett, Jan Bray, John Heissenbuttel, John Hofmann, Julia Stephens, Kendal Young, Kevin Zeman, Katherine Evatt, Kimberly Grissom, Pat McGreevy, Richard Yarnell, Reuben Childress, Rick Hopson, Robin Wall, Steve Wilensky, Teresa McClung, Terry Woodrow, Tim Tate, Michael Pickard, Jennifer DeWoody, Karen Quidachay, Megan Fiske, Anne Heissenbutel, Lynn Morgan, Sergio Campos, Robert Zellers, Mary Sketch, Jeff Crovitz, Jeanne Higgins, Annie Dean, Don Hittenmiller.

1. Modification and/or Approval of Agenda
   * Jeff Crovitz, Calaveras County Public Works Director, replaced Chris Swann of EBMUD for item #6. Mr. Swann is unable to attend.
   * Agenda approved as modified.
2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
   * Approved with corrections to misspelled John Hofmann.
3. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items (Item are from August, because the

September meeting was cancelled due to the Butte Fire.)

* Item Completed
* New website log in information will be shared. (done – Julia Stephens)
* ACCG Letter of Recommendation for Cal Am Team’s Prop 1 Grant (done)
* Schedule Tree Mortality WG meeting (in process)
* Post article regarding historic range of beaver (done)
* Item Update on this Agenda
* Hemlock comments letter update.
* CFLR Annual Report update.
* Tree Mortality WG update.
* Item Update – Future/TBD
* Operations will update in November or January.
* Potential Beaver Meadow Identification Project Update.
* MOA renewal WG update.

1. Presentation: Butte Fire Response by Jeff Crovitz, Calaveras Public Works Director

* Mr. Crovitz provided an overview of the impacts of the Butte Fire to infrastructure within the burn area. More repercussions will follow with the coming winter rain. He pointed out that 3 inches of silt laden flow will move a 1 ton truck.
* Funding is slim or none from Cal OES and FEMA. He is working on this problem. ACCG can help by providing documentation of in-kind donations, and work done on private lands.
* Mr. Crovitz is working to establish priority lands on which to focus limited funds for erosion control. Another challenge is that agencies tend to work as silos, that is, without extensive coordination with other agencies.
* One longer term goal Mr. Crovitz mentioned is that within the next 5 years, large land owners would have the ability to burn their land.
* Currently there is a company in San Andreas making wattles from green waste – CA Pine Products, 209-502-4108. The Red Hills transfer station, when reopened, could use its tub grinder, which takes root balls, and its linear grinder, to make mulch.
* Suggestions include: help with longer term coordination and facilitation through an SNC grant, deployed June 2016; Dennis Bowker can help with more immediate coordination and facilitation; Foothill Conservancy can share the results of their survey of which agencies are doing what projects, and if they are interested in coordinating.

1. Presentation: BLM Butte Fire Response by Bill Haigh

* Of the burned area, 12,000 acres are BLM. Timber loss is 1.5 million board feet. They do not have the opportunity to coordinate. Possibly one million dollars will be available mid November for restoration.
* BLM contributed to burn severity and erosion prediction maps. For erosion, 20-60% slope is the sweet spot. Probably 500-800 acres can be mulched. Rice straw is useful on less steep slopes, wood mulch on steeper.
* Variances allow landowners adjacent to BLM plantations to do fuel reduction work some distance (about 100 feet) into BLM land.

1. CHIPS Update

ACCG is in a uniquely good position to coordinate Butte Fire restoration efforts. CHIPS work has been interrupted by differing goals between agencies. Because of the need for coordination of agencies, the high level of need because of the socio-economic impacts of the Butte Fire, and the imminent winter rains, an ad hoc Butte Fire Work Group will form to investigate the possibilities. The following volunteers will gather after this meeting: Amanda Platt, Bill Haigh, Steve Wilensky, Mary Sketch, Rueben Childress, and Tim Tate.

1. Website Update

Volunteers needed to be trained for website maintenance. Robin Wall, Kimberly Grissom, and Gwen Starrett will be trained. All ACCG participants can send events and other items to go up on the website.

1. Administration Work Group
   * Year End Reporting – Please everyone send in match information.
   * Consensus is achieved, and three new people become signators on the MOA: Gwen Starrett, as a local resident stakeholder; Don Hitteniller and Annie Dean, both of the Alpine Biomass Committee. Others interested in signing can review the MOA, available online.
2. Planning Work Group
   * Because the USFS Foresters have made their decisions on both the Foster Firs and Hemlock projects, the only ways to interact with these projects now is to object, or to ask to be involved in future discussion. Objections address a particular point and offer an alternative. Because ACCG was able to reach consensus on Hemlock, but not on Foster Firs, the Planning WG will work on clarifying the issues.
   * At possible future USFS meetings on these projects, Rueben Childress will represent ACCG on Hemlock, and Gwen Starrett on Foster Firs, with guidelines on what ACCG will comment on. One goal is to make a positive offer of help making the best decisions.
3. Operations Work Group
   * Work is in process involving the USFS 5 year plan for projects, and the definition of local. The next update will likely be November 2015 or January 2016.
4. Wilseyville Biomass Plant Update
   * We are second in the queue for the PG & E auction to set the price for energy. Once the price is set, investors can be approached.
5. Agency/Organization Updates
6. Action Item Review

* Tree Mortality WG will meet directly after the October 2015 meeting.
* ACCG sign in sheets will be provided to Jeff Crovitz at Amador County Public Works to help with grant applications.
* Pat McGreevy will share his work prioritizing erosion areas in the Butte Fire zone with Jeff Crovitz.
* Jan Bray will send information on legal support for burning on private land to Jeff Crovitz.
* Butte Fire Response ad hoc WG will gather after this meeting, and will include Amanda Platt, Bill Haigh, Steve Wilensky, Mary Sketch, Reuben Childress, and Tim Tate.
* Check that the October 28th meeting sponsored by the UC Cooperative Extension is on the website.
* Provide MOU links to Sierra Fellows to read.
* Gwen Starrett will be the ACCG representative for the Foster Firs project, and Reuben Childress will be the ACCG representative for the Hemlock project. John Hofmann will finalize the current letter going to Foster Firs.
* Planning Work Group will review ACCG consensus process for comment letters.
* CHIPS will provide description of the Wilseyville product yard, and a link to their documentation, for the ACCG website.

16. Next Meeting Topics – No changes.

17. Adjourn

* Next meeting November 18, 2015. Veterans Hall, Hwy 26 and Pine Street, West Point, CA. No meeting in December.