

Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2016 9:30am – 12:00pm

Location: Highway 26 and Pine Street, West Point CA

Meeting Facilitator: Steve Wilensky Minutes Taken By: Kimberly Grissom

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order

2. Participant Introductions

Kendal Young, Don Hittenmiller, Annie Dean, Kevin Zeman, David Griffith, Jay Francis, Tim Tate, Gwen Starrett, Susan McMorris, Pat McGreevy, John Hofmann, Gerald Schwartz, Robin Wall, John Garcia, Steve Wilensky, Randy Moore, Teresa McClung, Barnie Gyant, Ray Mooney, Reuben Childress, Jeff Blewett, Rachel Smith, Roseanna Wary, Eric Kleinfelter, Michael Pickard, Megan Fiske, Sue Holper, Jan Bray, Kirk Smith, Donna Vial, Marti Crane, Bill Haigh, Rick Hopson, John Heissenbuttel, Kent Lambert, Belinda Gutierrez, Kimberly Grissom, Mary Sketch, Terry Strange,

3. Approval and/or Modification of Agenda – approved.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Approved with correction to acres on Last Chance project to 400+.

5. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items

6. Administration Work Group

- The MOA update group's goal is to have something to review at the June meeting.
- Disclaimer language will be crafted for website

7. Planning Work Group

- Field trips organized by Pat McGreevy have been attended by approximately 15 people. Justin Mynk of EBMUD attended, and was helpful providing information.
- Monitoring WG is reviewing USFS Region 5's socio-economic work, and found little overlap with ACCG socio-economic draft objectives and questions. The framework is nearing completion, and we will probably not have to let out a contract to finish it.
- For the next field trip, additional people will be invited beyond the regular ACCG participants, including Jack Garamendi, Mr. Blankensheim from West Point Calfire, and the Mountain Oaks School Forest Club.

8. Alpine/Washoe Update

- CHIPS has hired 10 Alpine county residents in a training effort. The trained people would bring their skills to the Alpine program similar to CHIPS when that program is ready. The employees include tribal members and the first female member of the CHIPS field crew. Work areas include BLM land, and BLM is pleased with quality of work. Yosemite Park has inquired as to the crews availability to do archeological restoration work in the Park, in the future.
- This training effort requires transportation, housing, and food for the crew.

9. Tree Mortality Update

- The Tree Mortality WG has been incorporated in the Counties' efforts. Individuals who participate in the Counties' processes will provide periodic updates to ACCG.
- Placer, Eldorado, Amador, and Calaveras are classified by the state tree mortality group as counties in transition. After the next aerial survey, likely in July, those counties are expected to be classified as disaster areas. Then the counties have to develop a response plan. Jay Francis, Tim Tate, John Heissenbuttel, John Hofmann, and Jan Bray are participating. Challenges include ways to coordinate with PG & E and other agencies, and the need for GIS in this work.
- Focus of the California Disaster Assistance Act for Tree Mortality (CDAA) funds is removal of hazard trees near public infrastructure. So far there is no mechanism to provide for tree

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mortality on private lands. CDAA requires a percent match. One challenge is lack of infrastructure in this area. Other forest products could be considered, including wood fiber insulating board, and cross laminated timber panel that replaces precast cement.

- PG & E is removing trees along their right of way, and if the right of entry form signed by homeowners indicate the felled trees are the property of the homeowner, then the CDAA funds can be used to remove them.

10. Willseville Biomass Plant Project Update

- The biological survey is complete, and the Wilseyville site is “unremarkable” which means no biological impediments to progressing.
- Calaveras County Planning has visited the site. Instead of notification letters to neighbors, meetings are being held inviting the neighbors to discuss the biomass plant.

11. Collaborative Restoration Workshop Report – Presentations

- Teresa McClung, Kimberly Grissom, Reuben Childress, and Mary Sketch presented their key take home points from attending the workshop in Denver. The biomass industry in California was a topic mentioned by many, and a key identified was getting avoided cost accepted in calculations, in order to separate forest products (12 cents/kw) from solar and wind (3 cents/kw).

12. Master Stewardship Agreement Preview

- With extra time in the agenda, and in advance of the Master Stewardship Agreement signing following this meeting, the Master Stewardship Agreement was discussed. Teresa McClung and Kevin Zeman provided history and description, Randy Moore and Bernie Gyant offer perspective from the USFS Regional level. Also discussed were other methods to increase the number of acres treated with fuel reduction projects, including changing how fire suppression is budgeted, use of collaboratives to address project concerns before litigation, and how to use the increasing volume of forest material from tree mortality, including using it to create local jobs.

13. Agency Updates

12. Action Items Review

- The MOA revision group will work to have a draft for the ACCG to review by the next meeting.
- The disclaimer language will be incorporated into the website.
- Invitations to attend ACCG field trips will be extended to Jack Garamendi, Mr. Blankensheim from West Point Calfire, and the Mountain Oaks School Forest Club
- Letter thanking Justin Mynk of EBMUD for the positive experience with him on the Butte Fire field trip will be written by Pat McGreevy.
- NFF Workshop attendees will present recommendations of possible actions ACCG could take, based on information presented there.
- Ask SCALE group to come together with recommendations from all members from State who went to Denver
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- BLM Community Forest update should be ready for the next meeting.

16. Next Meeting Topics

17. Adjourn 12:00 pm.

- Next meeting June 15, 2016, 12200 B Airport Rd, Jackson CA, CA.