YWP&FSC Minutes: 1-8-2020

Plumas NF (Feather River RD) – Erik Apland
• Erik is back from assignment.
• FMO, Steve Murphy, retired.
• Pile burning currently near Cottage Creek trail – conditions excellent.
• Working on two big timber sales – Strawberry & Mooretown Ridge.

Tahoe NF (Yuba River RD) – Gabe Foster
• Gabe Foster has been hired as Fuels Specialist.
• The District has hired a new NEPA Director. Will be big assist to planning.
• Continue working on Trapper Project planning.
• Working on the North Yuba Watershed Project collaborative effort.

Cal Fire – No one able to attend
• Shared news that Sean Griffis has retired after approximately 40 year career.

Yuba County Resource Conservation District (RCD) – Gary Fildes
• Now has four members, and still looking for fifth, and final member.
• Still working on funding.

Yuba Public Works – Steve Cameron
• Twin Cities completed the contracted roadside clearing work on Rice’s Crossing and Rice’s Texas Hill Roads.
• Current grant is now 87% complete.
• Public Works has purchased a new Case mower with goal of mowing Scotch Broom and ditch cleaning. Expect contracted follow-up herbicide spray, where appropriate.
• Did not apply for additional grant funds in recent cycle.

Yuba County OES – No one able to attend.

Outreach-Education Committee – Beverly Cameron-Fildes
• The calendars were picked up from the printers and are now being distributed. Very pleased with results and appreciate the photo participation of local residents. Distribution will continue. Contact Steve or Beverly if you have a group looking for calendars.
• Results of the “No Sparks” trailer chain sleeves project were discussed. Over $900 were raised. Checks will be going out to the local Fire Districts (two distributed at the meeting). Thank you to all who gave their time to work on this project and to Lynn for providing her spacious workshop. (I understand that production has not been curtailed)

Old Business:
• Bioenergy Business Center – No new report.
• PG&E Defensible Space Assistance Program – Cathy has submitted the final report to PG&E. 19 residences were treated (Camptonville-1; Brownsville-4; Oregon House-9; Smartsville-1; Dobbins-4). Great job by Camptonville Community Partnership working
through difficulties to successfully complete this project. We hope to provide this service again in 2020.

- Data Platform Grant – Steve Andrews reported that there was a project planning meeting this past month to line out schedules/assignments. This project is already proving to be beneficial, as 34 North provided helpful data for the recent CCI grant submissions. Data is being assembled and compiled by Fire District.

- The two CCI Grants were submitted in December. Maps were circulated for review. Fire Prevention Grant – Four fuelbreaks located on 14 landowners over 2252 acres. Forest Health Grant – Various fuel reduction treatments on 9 landowners over 5375 acres. Huge thanks to many who helped prepare these applications; Yuba Water Agency, applicant for each grant and funding source for the project planning, JoAnna Lessard with Cramer Fish Sciences, who played a major role in the grant preparation and submission, Ryan McKillip with Soper Wheeler, who provided the GIS support and mapping expertise.

*** We just received word that our Forest Health Grant HAS BEEN AWARDED!

- Gary Fieldes and Pam Cook shared some of their “take-aways” from the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County provided Defensible Space Advisory training. It included one day of inside presentations and field inspection of 2-3 residences. Stay tuned – YWP&FSC plans to provide our first Advisor Training in the near future. We are currently looking to identify those of you who are interested in volunteering as an advisor.

New Business/Discussion:

- Steve met with Art Pauly, an attorney who will be helping the Council file proper papers to become a 501C3. We currently have Articles of Incorporation with CA as a Public Benefit Non-Profit Corporation. We will be working soon on filing 501C# papers with IRS.

- We discussed potentially having a community meeting to show Radu’s film “Not If, But When” along with another Jack Cohen video on home hardening. We will work on a date.

- We discussed future guest presenters. Andrew Lee, with NRCS will joins us in March. We will contact Alan Thompson regarding his communication/radio presentation.

Next meeting – February 12, 2020
9:30-noon
Alcoufe Center

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