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PLUMASFIRESAFE.ORG

Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 8th, 2026

418 North Mill Creek Rd, Quincy

Click here to join Zoom Meeting

Board of Directors				
☐ **Chair** Sally McGowan Firewise (27)	☐ **Vice Chair** Jake Blaufuss AFRC (27)	☑ **Secretary** Mikki Battaglia NSAQMD (26)	☑ **Treasurer** Mike Flanigan *Finance Committee* Insurance (27)	☑ Kathy Kogge Retired Publishing Industry, Firewise (27)
☐ Johnny Mansell *Finance Committee* Realtor (27)	☑ Lori Pini Office of Emergency Services (27)	☑ John Reynolds *Finance Committee* Firewise (27)	☐ Marty Senter PNF Fire Mgmt. Officer (27)	☐ Ryan Bauer Retired PNF Fuels Manager (26)
☐ Trina Cunningham (26)	☐ Don Gasser *Finance Committee* RPF (26)	☐ Michael Hall Feather River RCD (26)	☐ Ron Heinbockel Retired Wildfire Battalion Chief (26)	☑ Terri Simon Jackson Retired District Ranger (26)

Mission Statement:

To reduce the loss of natural resources and human values caused by wildfire through Firewise community programs and pre-fire activities.

Five-Year Strategic Plan (2022-2027)

Program Strategy: Expand existing programs and establish additional projects:

1. Leverage and expand partnerships
2. Sustainably increase staffing
3. Establish robust monitoring systems & metrics
4. Increase public engagement
5. Develop County-wide community fuels and threat mapping assessment

Funding Strategy: Target sustainable annual budget increase of 20%:

1. Continue to produce competitive grant proposals that are based on the funder's objectives.
2. Pursue approaches for non-competitive funding which reduce administration while increasing long term benefits.
3. Leverage charitable donations to increase public outreach, education, and participation.
4. Continue to pursue potential revenue-generating activities utilizing woody material.

Leadership Strategy: Ensure strong and functional systems are in place to facilitate ongoing organizational capacity:

1. Maintain a Board of Directors with strategically recruited membership.
2. Continue partnership with Plumas Corporation as fiscal agent.

9:00am Membership Meeting

1. Welcome & Introductions – Reynolds
2. Review Agenda – Reynolds
3. Approve Membership Minutes (09/10) ***Action Item*** - Reynolds- **motion to approve by Mike Flanigan, seconded by Kathy Kogge, all in favor, none opposed**.
4. Certificate of Recognition - presented to Barbara MacArthur
5. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per person) - Marty Walters made public comments requesting timely agenda postings to our website and adding her email to the membership list.
6. Board Comment - none

New Business

1. United Policy Holders Update - Annie Barbour - slide show presentation. They are a nonprofit focusing on advocacy and preparedness. If a homeowner is nonrenewed, they should ask about their risk score and try to correct any errors, ask questions and keep good notes in the process. Insurance is opening up to more policies, however, they may be selecting lower risk regions over others so Plumas County may or may not notice more insurance opportunities. Barbara discussed the four types of insurers; admitted/licensed, surplus/non-admitted, and lender placed policy. Barbara also discussed affordability strategies like mitigating risk, deductibles, and avoiding filing small claims.

Old Business

1. None

Updates

1. Status of PCFSC Programs
   - Katie Quinn – Private Lands HFR- East Shore project on track to begin next week. Eastern Plumas's Wolf's Meadow Ranch and East Quincy are both ongoing.
   - Darrell Webster – **Biomass –** Darrell attended the BioEconomic Symposium in Humboldt County for two days. The symposium included tours of several biomass utilization businesses and project sites. One of the companies visited was a wood chip export operation using a deep-water loading facility. According to the presentation, a single export vessel can hold the equivalent of roughly 2,000 chip vans of material for shipment to Japan. Darrell also noted that biomass economics in California appear to be becoming more challenging due to current market conditions, including fuel costs, inflation, and other operating expenses. Another key takeaway was the increasing emphasis from state fund managers on involving local Indigenous communities earlier in project planning and program development, rather than engaging them later in the process.
   - Amber Hughes – County Coordinator
     - Firewise Annual Renewal Deadline Nov 23rd
     - FSCHV Train-the-Trainer opportunities
     - Calfire Grant Funding Meeting (w/ Glen Schall & Wes Gunselman)
     - Advancement of the CWPP (I think)

    - Field Tour w/Senator Schiff's Office
    - Recognition
    - New Firewise Community - C-Road
- Dale Ready – Community Risk Reduction Coordinator - Plumas County Fire Chiefs' Association bylaws have been updated. Looking to get more AEDs in public outdoor spaces. They are costly and funding is limited. AFP FEMA grant was not received for turnouts, but will try again next grant cycle. BPFPD did get awarded a Fire Safety Trailer from a different grant. Sound theAlarm program is active, next Chiefs meeting is Thursday, 11/19. Also working on Firewise home visits. First aid class dates Fri-Sun Nov 13-15th, sign up with Dale Ready dale@plumasfiresafe.org.
- Johnnie Bruce – Plumas Underburn Cooperative - September PUC Meeting had 18 people. We are currently at 172 PUC members in total. Johnnie is coordinating with Terra Fuego on an 85 acre burn in Quincy. The next PUC meeting will be in Butterfly Valley next Thursday.
- Matthew West – PCFSC Updates - Senator Adam Schiff sent a representative to our area to see the work that Plumas Corp and PCFSC have done. The tour showed Plumas Corp's project in Tasmom Koyom, and the recently completed PCFSC project on the Peninsula.

2. Standing Reports and Discussion:

- CAL FIRE - Joe Walton showed great appreciation for Firewise Communities, Amber, and Dale's work in our area. The LMU remains fully staffed. General Permits will likely not open to the public until more wetting rain comes, but they will consider special LE-5 and LE-7 permits should the conditions be right. Permits also get passed to the Forest Service for approval as most of Plumas County is in their direct protection area.
- Feather River College (FRC) - received a CALFIRE Workforce Development Grant for their HEFT Fire Training Program. There is a Basic 32 coming up and a S-219 fire training coming up in November taught by Don Fregulia.
- Feather River Resource Conservation District (FR RCD) - no report
- Firewise Communities - Meadow valley home visits, Oct 19th FWC meeting at MVFD. Amber invites board members to attend.
- Industry-Timber - no report
- Industry-Insurance - no report
- Northern Sierra AQMD - no report
- NRCS - no report
- PG&E - no report
- Plumas Corp - Scott- repair work at Mckenzie and Mountain Meadows. Meeting with Cal Fire on project priorities, more HFR than home hardening, for example. Tribs and Sequoia Grants were declined. Rep from Senator Schiff went and looked at projects near Almanor. Large burn scar area but also new growth that looks healthy and about 3ft tall due to planting and herbicide application.

- Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (OES) - preparing for future Super El Nino effects. Great Shake Out Drill 10/16 at 10:15. Recommended folks download the MyShake Earthquake Alerts App.
- Plumas Wood Fiber - no report
- Sierra Institute - no report
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy - no report
- Terra Fuego - Worked lined up in Butte and Nevada County.
- Tribal Representatives - no report
- UC Cooperative Extension - Amber and Johnnie presented during UCCE's most recent Forestry Workshop Training.
- USFS- 62-fires to date for 2026. Still in fire season, but ramping up for open burning season.
- Volunteer Organization Active in Disaster (VOAD) - Disaster Summit in Sacramento next Tuesday registration is still open for those interested.
- Watershed Research and Training Center - no report
- Other Organizations - no report

3. Updates & Upcoming Events

Adjourn - Next meeting – November 12th, 2026 adjourned 10:53 motion by Kathy Kogge, second by Kevin Danaher, all in favor, none opposed.