

Tuolumne County
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*Clerk of the Board
of Supervisors*

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

David Goldemberg, *First District*
Kathleen Haff, *Fourth District*

Ryan Campbell, *Second District*

Anaiah Kirk, *Third District*
Jaron Brandon, *Fifth District*

Fire Safety Advisory Committee – December 20, 2023, at 3:00 pm Board Chambers, 2 South Green Street, Sonora CA 95370

1. Meeting is called to order by Supervisor Goldemberg at 3:04 PM. Roll call taken. Quorum Established
 - a. Committee Members present
 - i. District 1 Supervisor – David Goldemberg
 - ii. District 2 Supervisor – Ryan Campbell
 - iii. Tuolumne County Fire – Chief Andy Murphy
 - iv. Tuolumne Fire Safe Council – Mike Olenchack
 - v. District 1 Rep – Scott Fremd
 - vi. District 2 Rep – Betsy Hurst
 - vii. District 4 Rep – Chuck Sloan
 - viii. Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office – Bill Pooley
 - b. Committee Members absent
 - i. District 5 – vacant
 - ii. Chicken Ranch Band of Me Wuk Indians
 - iii. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians
 - iv. Tuolumne Fire Chiefs Association
 - v. District 3 Rep
 - c. Others present
 - i. Dore Bietz – OES Staff
 - ii. Public – Various
2. Public Comment
 - a. Kevin Anderson, representative with Columbia College Greater Forestry Program, wanted to update the Fire Safety Advisory on the recent first graduates of the program. Curious about where they can fit in with the work that the fire safety advisory committee is working on.
3. Approval of minutes 10/25/2023:
 - a. Motion was made by Andy Murphy to approve 2nd by Supervisor Campbell. All in favor, no nays, no abstentions. The motion was approved unanimously.

No Public Comment.

4. Old Business – None

5. Reports/Presentation

a. Staff Report – OES gave report out on 2023 accomplishments

Discussion of creating a county wide fuels work crew that could focus on roadside brushing. How do we do that to get the best bang for dollar. Is there contractors code issue? Committee members asked about Cal Fire seasonals and is there a way to pool those resources. Possible development with Columbia College training and how that could work.

Public comment

- Kevin from Columbia College spoke about current program and how it is focused on Fire but that some want to work on fuels and defensible space.
- Public commented on community service, is it possible to assign those needing to comply with community service.

6. New Business

a. Review of 2023 Priorities. Prep for Dec 20th workshop for committee

Committee reviewed the existing 2023 goals and discussed shortening them, eliminating some and trying to focus on a few achievable goals. Committee worked through developing the following 8 goals:

- **Support advocacy to address fire insurance rate impacts for Tuolumne County residents and businesses.**
- **Support development of roadside brushing crew program partners.**
- **Recommend hazardous veg ordinance inspectors to be included in Fire Budget**
- **Support at least 3 Community Evacuation Exercises in key communities**
- **Support red flag parking ordinance for key areas**
- **Support preparedness education including increase outreach to residents and visitors**
- **Support recommendations for sustainable funding for fire**
- **Support recommendations to the BOS for fees for service, efforts to offset costs and reduce non-emergency call volumes (Fire and Law)**

b. Motion by Chief New to approve the above recommended goals for 2024, Seconded by Betsy Hurst. All approved. Motion carries.

Public Comment

Public member concerned about unimproved lots and wants something stronger language.

7. Working group updates: Will update group with dates of meetings.

- a. Communication and Education Outreach workgroup –
- b. Governance workgroup –
- c. Emergency Planning workgroup –

Public Comments – none

8. Member Reports & Discussion – general updates/reports from committee members

- a. Betsy Hurst had homeowners' insurance dropped but did achieve it and rates went down.

- b. Mike updated on CWPP schedule and timeline of next steps. Public comments accepted until January 23, 2024. Final Review January 31, 2024. Final issue then after and will come to the Board of Supervisors.
- c. Committee would like to commend Karen Caldwell for the work she is doing on the update of the CWPP.
- d. Chief Murphy spoke of the winter staffing updates and Amador plan contract. State has 3 year-round state funded engines (1 in Groveland) for winter. Short term rental ordinance passed at recent Board mtg. Updated on commercial alarms and Standard of Coverage is almost complete, will bring to Fire safety prior to bringing it to the board. It is a general evaluation of Tuolumne County Fire and station location evaluations.
- e. Sheriff spoke about winter preparedness updates.

Public comments: none

9. Next Meeting and Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 4:55 pm
- b. **Next Fire Safety Advisory Committee Meeting – January 24th meeting will be cancelled and special meeting created.**