



New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 2016

New Mexico State Forestry- Socorro Office

Present: Don Kearney, Doug Boykin, Ed Singleton, Mary Stuever, Zander Evans, Dominic Otero, Krista Bonfantine; on phone: Kenny Rogers, Tim Kirkpatrick, Lisa Bye, Doug Cram.

Minutes

10:00 Welcome, facility briefing, introductions - Chairman Don Kearney

1. NM Rx Fire Council business

- a. Treasurer's report *Kent Reid was not able to make it, Boykin read the treasure's report, we have \$639.99 in Council funds, \$17,000 in the RX Trailer Account for a total of \$17,639.99. Side note- the CFRP support account has \$1,283.84 as a balance to be used in support or outreach and education.*
- b. Liability Insurance for Board Members *Rick Merrick has done some research on liability insurance for the executive board, estimated cost is from \$600 to \$800 a year, general feeling is we need to determine a consistent funding source (year to year) so that we can adequately budget, all agreed that this is needed. Hi-County Agency in Ruidoso is the contact. Additional options for liability insurance thru the Society of American Foresters (Mary) or thru the NM Association of Counties (Zander) or else individual polices (Ed).*
- c. Logo and web site for Rx council merchandise *Kenny Rodger - The web site for ordering NM Rx Fire Council merchandise is almost up and ready, should go live this week (week of 4-11-16). Kenny will send to executive board for us to review before we go live. Kenny will work with Doug Cram to make a link somehow the Rx council website.*

2. Old Business

- a. Website update *Doug Cram - nothing new to report. Zander asked if we can determine usage/hits. Doug C. will follow up.*
- b. CFRP grant status/update *Mike Caggilano*
 - *Rx Trailer Status: Should be available by mid-April. Don will work with Kenny Rodgers to get the decals put on the trailer. An idea was brought up that maybe we can get TNC, Forest Guild, Adelante Consulting, Arid Lands Ideas, etc. to either help with the cost of putting decals on the trailer or donate to the Council and we would put the decals on the trailer as a source of partnership sponsoring. If you are interested, please contact Boykin so he can arrange with Kenny Rodgers to secure your logo and be able to build it into the design. Cost will be a minimum of \$200 each. Developing decals to put on the various items in the trailer was also discussed as a way to keep a running inventory of the items in the trailer.*
 - *Draft rental agreement, check out form, etc: The drafts that Boykin has been working on are a good start, need some edits still, discussion on daily rates (Dry rate, Wet Rate, purging fuels, you break it, you fix it, etc.). The example we have referenced \$50 for the first day, we are thinking it needs to be more like \$110 for the first day and then a pro-rate after that. Will continue to work on the language as we get the trailer set up. We can also visit with SWCD's to see what rates they have established for various equipment they loan rent out. Boykin will also work with the Santa Fe office to determine what is needed to park the trailer at State Forestry district offices.*

3. New Business

- a. Next workshop *Tentative date set is for May 23rd in the Chama area. Mary will be part of a Chama Peaks Landowner Alliance (prime local sponsor) meeting – conference call on April 25th (1:30 PM) where they will discuss the agenda items they would like to get covered - ditch burning and pile burning is a key in Rio Arriba County, the county does issue permits. Rx Council members will be invited to be on this call, but Mary will provide the information as soon as possible. A back up date is May 19th or May 26th. Field trip may be an option and we will discuss on 4/25. Being close to the Colorado line, and being that Colorado has a certified burner program, we may be able to partner link with them.*
- b. Partnership with TNC, SLO for Catron County TREX events. *Tabled for now...*
- c. Rx fire and cultural resources *Zander Evans from the Forest Stewards Guild talked about project called ArcBurn (<http://www.forestguild.org/ArcBurn/>) which is focused on integrating cultural resources information into fire management decision processes. He asked the group about how protection of cultural resources impacts efforts to expand prescribed burning in New Mexico. The discussion that followed touched on a range of issues. For example, programmatic agreements between agencies and the State Historic Preservation Office help streamline burning in and around heritage sites. In many cases, the level of archaeological survey required can be a hurdle for getting projects done on federal land or with federal money. Individual archaeologists may differ on the level of survey required and the appropriate mitigation measures. Zander will share the outcomes of the project with the Rx Fire Council when they are complete.*

4. Action Item Capture

- a. *Review WX Fire Graphics web site for completion and link RX site to WX site after review.*
- b. *Continue working on trailer issues (rental agreements, liability release, logos and equipment)*
- c. *Web site, see if we can determine hits/interest.*
- d. *Look for other options for liability insurance and how we pay for it.*
- e. *April 25th conference call with Chama Peak Landowners Alliance*

12:00 Dismissal

Next meeting 5/3/16 State Forestry Office – Socorro; Time to be determined...