

New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2016

New Mexico State Forestry – Socorro Office

Present: Doug Boykin, Don Kearney, Tim Kirkpatrick, Pam Bostwick, Mark Mercer, Dominic Otero, Will Bassey, Cliff Russell, Monte Topmiller, Rick Merrick, Kent Reid, Mark Meyers, Jeremy Bailey, Kenny Rodgers

Minutes

10:00 Welcome, facility briefing, introductions

1. NM Rx Fire Council business

- a. bank account, 501c3 status: *Balance of \$27,773.99 (\$20,000 is for the Rx trailer account and \$773.99 is Rx fire council account). There is still \$1,283.84 in the CFRP Grant Outreach and support account being managed by the SCM RC&D. Rick made a motion to accept the financial report, Tim seconded, approved. Rick made a motion to approve the following purchases: 1) down payment for the RX Fire Trailer (\$3,000) and reimburse Don for 2015 (full year) and 2016 (½ year) for PO box rent \$134.00). Tim seconded, motion approved.*
- b. Logo: Kenny Rodgers – *Kenny called in to discuss the web site link for Rx Fire Council items for purchase. Would initially start with 6-8 items that can be purchased directly from Wx Fire Graphics (credit cards accepted) and 15% of proceeds would go to the Rx Council. The online store would be linked to the NM Rx Council website. Will offer all cotton items as well as other styles and fabrics. Kenny will complete development of the online store and let Doug know when it is ready to go live, who will send link to Council members and partners. Initially 6-8 items will be available, t-shirts, caps, hoodies, decals, bumper stickers, etc.*

2. Old Business

- a. Website update: Doug Cram – *Doug was unable to call in.*
- b. CFRP grant status/update: Mike Caggilano – *Rx Trailer Status...trailer has been ordered, check for down payment for trailer has been issued, a list of supplies is complete and as soon the trailer is delivered, will start buying required items. Jeremy will look for templates for rental agreements, standards for use, etc. that we can work off of to develop our own policies and procedures that will need to be completed before the trailer can be used by cooperators, landowners, etc. Turkey Federation and Pheasants Forever have trailers so maybe a source for a template. Will also need to license the unit as well as find a place to park it in between use.*
- c. Rx Council display at 2016 NM Legislature – *May not have been the best day, but maybe with a longer session next year, it will be more open, maybe able to dovetail with Ag Day in future; overall, very successful, plenty of bodies to staff the display which was great, Doug made a motion that we should leave this on our agenda for 2017, Tim seconded it, approved. Thank you to Cliff, Julie Anna and Bill Armstrong for all the help setting up the display and everyone who staffed the display. Jeremy stated that the Santa Fe mayor may be helpful.*
- d. Workshop with Malpai Borderlands Group, AZ Rx Council in SW NM (February 18th, 2016) *went well; attendance not as high as compared to first two workshops (36 registered of which 11 were private land owners). Good coordination with the AZ Council. Faculty and food was good, can look for more opportunities to partner with AZ on future work items. AZ Smoke discussion was via cell phone speaker phone, worked ok, but not great.*
- e. Update/ Finalize language for Legislative memorial – *Was read during the session, sponsored by Rep. Candy Spence Ezzell. The actual memorial has been posted on the RX Council Website.*

3. New Business

- a. Next workshop – *Next location may be in the Chama area, Boykin will contact District Forester Mary Stuever to discuss target date in May. Other areas that have shown interest are the Datil/Horse Mountain and East Central NM.*
- b. Partnership with TNC, SLO for Catron County TREX events. *To be held in spring 2017. Stay tuned.*

4. Action Item Capture

- a. *Trailer usage policies and procedures*
- b. *Review online store for Rx Council items for sale*
- c. *Work to develop relationships with key legislators for 2017 session and work to develop specific language that could be used as the basis for a Rx fire support legislation package, maybe something dealing with liability issues*
- d. *Boykin will contact District Forester Mary Stuever to discuss target date in May?*

General Discussion –

Rick mentioned the Ruidoso Wood summit on May 30 – 31; also looking into liability insurance for the Rx council (he will follow up).

Silver City WUI Summit was mentioned, there is request that the Rx Council has a booth, but would cost \$250 - decided not to officially participate.

Don will talk with other Rx Councils on how the deal with LLC status.

Jeremy mentioned that Kris Nortstom of the NWSA (National Wildland Suppression Association) is working on the IQS (individual qualification system for non- federal qualifications) which lead to a discussion on Rx qualification standards for individuals in burn associations. 22 states have certified burner programs...which is something that NM might look into; Colorado is an example to look at.

Next Meeting will be April 6, 10:00 am in Socorro. Conference call line will be available.

12:00 Dismissal