



New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council Meeting Minutes



November 1st, 2016

Socorro County Annex Conference Room

Present: Doug Boykin, Fred Hollis, Rick Merrick, Andy Lopez, William Basye, Abby Lewis, Tim Kirkpatrick, Krista Bonfantine, Krys Nystrom, Kris Salisbury, Matt Piccarello, Don Kearny, Lisa Bye

- A. Welcome & introductions – Chairman Kearny arrived late; Vice-Chair Merrick called the meeting to order
- B. Rx Fire Council Business –
 - a. Treasurer’s Report – \$1,994: Council Funds, \$13,196:RX Trailer Account, \$941: CFRP support and outreach funds. Total balance = \$15,191
 - b. Liability Insurance for Board Members –Tabled but not forgotten
 - c. Logo and Website for Rx Council Merchandise – Boykin for Kenny Rodgers: showed example of Rx Graphic on black t-shirt; and bumper sticker. Council approved stickers for \$5, 10, 15 and 20. Approved products; support idea to go live on the website for merchandise
 - d. Board Elections – unanimous decision to stay with current executive board, chair, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer for the next year
- C. General Announcements
 - a) Matt Piccarello – *The Forest Stewards Guild is hosting Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Director Northern California Rx Fire Council for 3 days in February 2017 to learn from her experience in NorCal Rx Fire Council. Guild also working with Marie Rodriguez, formerly of Valles Caldera National Preserve, now representing Promise PCES to develop white paper on strategies for increasing use of Rx fire on private lands in NM. Guild successfully burned 500 acres in Black Lake, NM first two weeks in October and participated in a broadcast burn with Nature Conservancy and the Chama Peak Land Alliance near Chama in November*
 - b) Krys Nystrom – *Working to create transparent way of training, guiding training plans and maintaining qualifications for people not affiliated with fire agencies who do not understand the qualification process, to build capacity for Rx burning. Also way of keeping retired agency folk up to date on quals for teaching purposes and participation on Rx fires. Major issue is finding instructors for classes (must have at least 5 years’ experience plus required training)*
 - c) Krista Bonfantine – *Partnering with Wildfire Network to monitor fuel loads at the Sulphur Canyon Restoration Project using the fuel load app: Fuels Measure. Fuel load data from effort can be viewed at data.fuelsmeasure.org. App is in beta testing and will be available for Android and iOS devices soon. Group discussed potential Rx fire workshop at Cottonwood Gulch; Krista suggested NM Rx Fire Council might consider co-hosting a field trip to Cottonwood Gulch or another burn location during the national Society of American Foresters convention next November*
 - d) Tim Kirkpatrick – *EMIFPA, East Mountain Interagency Fire Protection Association now has us as a member with Tim listed as representative; no costs currently. Did get positive feedback for our goals. Also understandable trepidation for use of Rx burns in the East Mountains, beyond state and federal lands*
 - e) Abby Lewis –
 - f) William Basye –
 - g) Andy Lopez –
 - h) Rick Merrick –
- D. Old Business
 - a. Website update – Doug Cram continues to keep website up to date: <http://aces.nmsu.edu/nmrxfire>
 - b. CFRP Grant Status – Rick to see if we can use outreach funds to purchase handout items for 2017 Legislative work
 - c. RX Trailer Status – Toured trailer at break, Boykin working on developing accounts to purchase needed supplies
 - o Draft Rental Agreement – check out form approved; edits may be needed; will finalize inventory sheet once all items are purchased and storage is built in trailer; Bosque del Apache donated items which will save money; Tim mentioned we need to add language to agreement saying if fire shelter’s outer packaging is opened the renter will be responsible for replacement
- E. New Business
 - a. Next Workshop Planning – Kris Salisbury from Cottonwood Gulch attended meeting and discussed their activities; 500 acre property with recently completed Rx burn of 250 acres; Kearny wrote burn plan; idea of “review burn plan and

- then go look at end product” was discussed; April date possibility; participants agreed to work on this; Fred Hollis-Socorro County would like some Rx Council participation at State EMO meeting in Hobbs in spring 2017*
- b. Partnership for Firefighter Qualification Program – *Krys Nystrom is working on this; very challenging working with Federal agencies to get red card approval for non-agency personnel; prime cooperater is the National Wildfire Suppression Association*
 - c. NMSU Rx Training Workshop – *nothing new to report*
 - d. Planning for 2017 Legislative Session –
 - a. Report from sub-committee – *Tim, Rick and Abby met to discuss; action items include developing 3” by 5” card with contact information on one side and 3 bullet points on other; short information packet to hand out to legislative staffers; maybe refrigerator magnet; and snack pack for staffers*
 - b. Legislative Day Status – *Boykin will contact Julie Anne and Cliff Russell for contact assistance; Rick will talk with CFRP grantees to discuss use of CFRP outreach funds for material purchases; will also plan a conference call outside of our next meeting to be sure pieces are being put in place*
 - e. Luera TRES Event – *Limited discussion; conference call scheduled for follow next week; Rx council members are assisting the planning team in logistical needs*
 - F. Action Item Capture
 - a. Everyone with an individual report (Item C above) needs to send Boykin a quick overview
 - b. Continue to follow up on workshop ideas with Cottonwood Gulch
 - c. Work on Rx trailer equipment
 - d. Contact Julie Anne and Cliff for legislative dates, check on display, photos
 - e. Notify Wx Fire Graphics we are happy with items; please flesh out online store ASAP so we can get operational

3:00 p.m. Dismissal

Due to Sierra Blanca Wildfire Academy next meeting Tuesday, December 13, 2016 @ 1:30 p.m. Socorro County Annex (198 Neal Street)