



## New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council Meeting Minutes January 15, 2020



Attendance - Emily Homan, Doug Boykin, Russ Thrun, Tim Kirkpatrick, Rick Smith, Danny Lusk, Jacob Davidson, Lisa Bye, Mary Stuever, Doug Cram, Eytan Krasilovsky, Don Kearney, Mike Caggiano

- A. Welcome and introductions: Emily Hohman
- B. Rx Fire Council business:
  - a. Approve last meeting's minutes; *Jacob moved to approve; Eytan second; Approved*
  - b. Treasurer's Report – Tim Kirkpatrick \$215.11 in bank account
- C. General announcements and topics for items not on the agenda: *Tim mentioned that he has been contacted by Rick Kingston who has property near Mountainair; has a bunch of piles to burn and would like assistance; Tim will visit with him and get more info; Emily suggested that we move this down the agenda*
- D. Action items from November meeting
  - a. Stay in touch with Julia Faith Rivera on CFRP grant status; will set up a face to face at the CFRP meeting; *Boykin and Caggiano visited with Julia Faith at the CFRP meeting; just waiting for Gila NF to send us a schedule for future Rx events so that the Council can start making plans to assist.*
  - b. Rx Coordinator scope of work for CFRP grant; Boykin and Dave will work on this, Boykin sent Dave a rough draft of an agreement for the coordinator position; Tim, Dave, Mike, and/or Boykin will represent the Council at the CFRP workshop in ABQ on Dec. 17/18; actual grant implementation should get strong next spring (2020), probably on the Black Range Ranger District. *Scope of work is in draft phase with Dave; not time sensitive until we know when they were going to start burning; need in place when Gila starts burning or sooner; Black Range is the target.*
  - c. CFRP Presentation recap from Tim, Dave, Mike or Boykin: *Mike C – asked to give a presentation to CFRP workshop on cooperative burning efforts outside this specific CFRP project. On a previous project through South Central MT RC&D, had multiple Rx efforts happening across the state; led and assisted with Rx to the tune of 38,000 acres; this CFRP treated more land than any other CRFP in 20 year history. Presentation was well received. NMPFC was not required to present on this CRFP but was required to have someone in attendance – Boykin and Mike in attendance so met requirement, heard an update on procedures and requirements; no issues with updated procedures and requirements that we need to be concerned about*
  - d. NM Prescribed Fire HM 42: Work is progressing; see Laura's report; *next work group meeting on 1/22/2020; have another conference call one week from today; Laura has had some additional meetings on insurance and smoke stuff; Tim also volunteered to be on steering committee*
  - e. Rx opportunities: Update from relevant person; discussion on role of PFC in this work
    - Armandaris Ranch piles south of Socorro: *lots of discussion on this; centered around Ranch wants to pay someone to burn dead salt cedar and cottonwood piles created by another contractor; to limit liability for all, it would be best if ranch contracted a contractor that has ability and insurance to do this; then they could do a temp hire for Rx Council members to help with the burn; Don will get back with the ranch to follow up as well as talk to some contractors to see if they are interested*
    - Ladder Ranch Apache Plum Burns: *FYI, both the Ladder and Armandaris Ranch are owned by the same person; Don and Russ visited the ranch and Don stated that is sounds like the ranch will try to do the work in house; they have also contacted the BLM and SLO as there is multiple ownership areas in the burn units; ranch has a burn plan in place; ranch may want to rent the Rx trailer for any burns they do*
    - Bluewater Village Piles near Bluewater: *limited discussion*
    - Kingston Property ...
    - Timberlake; *connection was bad; had a hard time hearing discussion*

- *Eytan related that Zuni MT CFRP has spring burns planned and can support volunteers with lodging and food needs; will have more info at February meeting*
- f. Dave is in contract with Katie Meiklejohn about a 3rd year landowner workshop in the Mora area, possibly in conjunction with the Rio Mora Wildlife Refuge and partner with NM F&W and NMSU; Rio Mora has a burn plan being completed and it could be a good fit. *Table as Dave Lasky was not present*
  - g. Follow up; AFF Grant; possibility that the grant could be extended to allow the NM Tree Farm Committee to utilize \$5,000 on a landowner workshop or a summit; Florida State Forester has shown interest in coming to NM to talk to us about how Florida has been able to implement an aggressive Rx program thru the years; we could see if a representative from a western state would also be interested; *have since talked to Kendal with FSG and grant extension was made and funds are in the NM Tree Farm Committee account; she thinks Oregon could be that western state.; Need to follow up with FL State Forester; Rx Council will work with NM TFC to set up workshops, sometime in the spring. Boykin – workshop with FL state forester and landowners, March/April/May timeframe; Tree Farm committee will have a meeting in March; spend funds by Sept (travel costs for participants or speakers); Tree Farm got the grant but partnership between PFC and Tree Farm*
  - h. Tim tie in with Bianca for follow-up to Rio Mora Burn plan status; progress update; *table*
- E. Action Items from Annual Meeting
- a. Strategic goals and improved business practices for PFC:
    - i. Have an open discussion on “who are we and where are we going in 2020”; set strategic goals for the PFC to include discussion on the following:
      1. How would a partnership with PFW and QUWF meet PFC goals?
      2. What new insurance would be required if the PFC entered into these agreements and what is the cost?
      3. Focus on increasing diversity of representation on the Council and the Steering Committee (tribal, federal, private landowner)
      4. On call – brainstorm new members for steering committee and assign individual to make invitation
      5. Creating and adopting an anti-harassment statement and diversity, equity, and inclusion policy
    - ii. For discussion: Invite Lenya Quinn-Davidson (University of California Cooperative Extension, Director, Northern California Prescribed Fire Council, and member of Coalition for Prescribed Fire Councils) to speak from her experience managing the evolution and development of a western prescribed fire council

Emily will send out a doodle pool link so we can schedule not only the strategic goal setting as well as talking with Lenya on the evolution and development of prescribed fire councils.

- F. D. Cram will report on how NM Cooperative Extension could support certification process for landowners to become certified burn operators (to support HM 42 Working Group); *Cram will have a draft by the next Rx Memorial working group meeting on 1/22/2020*
- G. All partners will research fundraising options for the council before the January PFC meeting. *Cram has a line on some funds to help in the short term...*
- H. Tim and Dave to form a “Development Committee” to organize and lead fundraising ideas, including creating a “Statement of Values” that would be used to solicit funds from partners/donors.
  - Progress update from Development Committee *no product to date*
  - Discuss support from NM Dept. Game and Fish – Jacob Davidson: *doing a PSA agreement with NM G&F would need to be clearly spelled out as well as full deliverables to get it approved; question is how would funds for administrative needs be clearly articulated in this PSA???*
- I. Ask D. Cram to change email list sign-up directions on website to direct people to Emily: *done*
- J. Emily to ensure emails of all present at annual meeting are on the main email list: *done*

Project Reports:

1. TREX Events – *see RX opportunities above*
2. 2018 CFRP Grant - *see discussion above*
3. NM Prescribed Fire Memorial – *work is progressing, most of the hard questions have been asked with the basic answers in place, next will be the actual write-up and recommendations in the report*

New Business: *no new business*

Adjourn

Next Meeting: February 19, 2020, 1:30 p.m. via conference call