



California Wildfire Mitigation Program Authority Board Meeting



Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 16, 2026
Location: CAL FIRE Aviation Management Unit, Placer
Conference Room, 5411 Luce Ave, McClellan, CA 95652

Board Members Present

Frank Bigelow, Board Chair, Deputy Director, Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation and Fire Engineering & Investigations, CAL FIRE
Robert Troy, Vice-Chair, Assistant Director, Interagency Recovery Coordination, Cal OES
Abby Browning, Board Member, Chief, Private Sector / Non-Governmental Organization Coordination, Cal OES
Daniel Berlant, Board Member, State Fire Marshal, CAL FIRE

CWMPA Staff Present

J. Lopez, Executive Director
Jordon Boyer, Staff Manager
Sarah Glenn, Program Coordinator
Kenneth Jacobs-DeLeon, Program Coordinator

Cal OES Staff Present

Ron Miller, Branch Chief, Hazard Mitigation Assistance (Virtual)
Ryan Massello, Division Chief, Hazard Mitigation
Matthew Delgado, Supervisor I, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects
Angelica Quezada, Sr. Grants Management Analyst, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects
Brandon Gresham, Sr. Grants Management Analyst, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects
Will Watson Sr. Grants Management Analyst, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects
Colby Quilling, Sr. Grants Management Analyst, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects (Virtual)
Ryan Conway, Research Data Specialist II, Mitigation Assessment Unit (Virtual)
Ryan Marth, Sr. Emergency Services Coordinator, State Hazard Mitigation Planning Unit (Virtual)
Jessica Sodhi, Program Manager I, Hazard Mitigation (Virtual)

CAL FIRE Staff Present

Christine McMorrow, Deputy Director, Strategic Communications
John Morgan, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Wildfire Planning and Risk Reduction
Mike Wink, Staff Chief, Wildfire Risk Reduction
Heather McCulley, Deputy Chief of Wildfire Preparedness
Randy Northup, Assistant Chief, Home Hardening Program
Justine Grafton, Analyst II, Home Hardening
Kara Garrett, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (Specialist) (Virtual)
Carrie Lewis, Analyst II, OSFM Support Services
Danh Dao, Analyst I, OSFM Support Services

CDI Staff Present

Peter Streit, Investment Officer, California Organized Investment Network

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME – 10:00 AM

- a. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM and welcome remarks provided by Board Chair F. Bigelow.

II. ROLL CALL/QUORUM ESTABLISHED

- a. Roll call and quorum established with the following Board Members present.
 - F. Bigelow – Present
 - R. Troy – Present
 - D. Berlant – Present
 - A. Browning – Present
 - D. Halberstadt - Absent

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2026. No public comments received.

Motion: A. Browning moved to approve the Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2026.

R. Troy seconded the motion.

Action: All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Receive CWMP Pilot Program update (Information item)
 - Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Special Projects Unit (SPU) Update
 - Matthew Delgado, Staff Services Manager I, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects
 - i. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Expenditures as of April 30, 2026
 - 1. Update on Total Project Costs per Sub-Applicant as of April 30, 2026
 - ii. There are no updates from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the requests for time extensions and Scope of Work (SOW) Modifications
 - CAL FIRE Update – Assistant Chief Randy Northup
 - i. International Code Council (ICC)
 - 1. Planning a tour for the ICC to visit the CWMP Kelseyville Riviera Project area, to see the Part 7 Appendix G Voluntary Home Hardening Recommendations
 - 2. Focused discussion on building codes influence wildfire-resilient construction nationwide and why strengthening these standards is essential to reducing structure loss in fast-moving fire environments
 - ii. Conducted the HIZ/DSA Training for CWMP assessors
 - iii. Presentation of before and after drone footage of the work being

done in Siskiyou County

- California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) Pilot Program Update –
 - i. San Diego County/San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD)
 - Program Coordinator, Sarah Glenn
 - 1. Site-Work Updates –
 - a. 26 homes complete
 - b. Three in active construction
 - c. Six homes in Tri-Party agreement
 - d. Four Job-walks scheduled for June 16
 - e. 12 homes ready for assessment
 - 2. General Updates -
 - a. Border 6 Fire in Dulzura
 - i. 3 applicants were impacted
 - ii. Fire came within 1.3 miles from one applicant and within 2 miles of two applicants
 - ii. Siskiyou County/Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD)
 - Sarah Glenn
 - 1. Site Work Updates
 - a. Batches One through– Four are complete
 - b. Batch Five is in Progress, two sites pending
 - c. Batches Six and Seven are being scheduled
 - d. Batches Eight and Nine are being prepped, flagging has begun
 - 2. Total 39 Homes complete, 4 in progress
 - a. Work Progress and Spending pace are on track
 - iii. Shasta County/Shasta County Fire Safe Council (SCFSC) – Program Coordinator Kenneth Jacobs-DeLeon
 - 1. Site Work
 - a. 34 Homes have been completed
 - b. 4 Homes in active construction, expected to be completed next month
 - 2. Closeout
 - a. POP End Date: 8/28/2026
 - b. Site work has been allowed to continue through 8/28/2026
 - 3. Project Area
 - a. All No-issue homes in the project area that applied currently are or have been worked on
 - i. Plan to complete the final 4 No-Issue homes and continue assessments through the POP end date before transferring to State Only Funds.
 - ii. Currently have 80 homes assessed and expect 12 additional assessments by the end of the month.
 - Ongoing assessments will continue to provide educational value to homeowners for those who may not be selected for home hardening.
 - iv. Lake County/North Coast Opportunities (NCO) – Kenneth Jacobs-

DeLeon

1. Site Work
 - a. 66 Homes have been completed
 - b. 13 homes in active construction
 - c. 3 going out to bid
2. Project Area
 - a. International Code Council site visit held June 11, 2026
 - b. Approximately 30 attendees participated, including representatives from ICC, CAL FIRE, CWMPA, CBIA, the Hawaii State Fire Marshal, and other state and local fire officials.
 - c. In the morning, we toured two complete homes and two homes that are currently under construction to gain firsthand perspective on the work that goes into the retrofit process.
 - d. The afternoon included multiple presentations and discussions from CAL FIRE, NCO, CBIA and the CWMPA.
- v. Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services – Program Coordinator Kenneth Jacobs-DeLeon on behalf of Shawn Oberbruner
 1. Project Updates
 - a. The county is actively working on property assessments and developing their scopes of work
 - b. 45 assessments have been completed
 - c. Three SOW's have been approved from prior CAL FIRE review
 - d. CWMP and CAL FIRE continue oversight of the published assessments, ensuring satisfactory implementation, and are reviewing their SOW's
 2. Staff
 - a. One part time Assessor and Project/Construction Manager
 - b. Looking to fill an additional part-time analyst to assist with assessments
 3. Outreach/Applications
 - a. Three rounds of mail advertising the program have gone out to the community, which in turn has increased the number of applicants interested
 4. The county is preparing to create their first RFQ for contractors
- vi. El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience– Kenneth Jacobs-DeLeon on behalf of Shawn Oberbruner
 1. Project Updates
 - a. The county is actively working on property assessments and developing their scopes of work
 - b. 27 assessments have been completed.
 - c. Three assessments approved from prior CAL FIRE review
 - d. CWMP and CAL FIRE continue oversight of the published assessments, ensuring satisfactory implementation, and

- are reviewing their scopes of work
- 2. Staff
 - a. One full-time construction manager
 - b. Four county assessors
- 3. Outreach
 - a. Three sets of mailers have gone out inviting homeowners to apply with resulting applications. Additionally, door-to-door outreach began recently
 - b. RFP for contractors resulted in 22 contractors under master services agreement
- b. Executive Director Update – J. Lopez
 - Monthly CWMP Report
 - i. Report has been reformatted and now incorporates automated updates directly from the Portal, potentially reduce reporting errors
 - Insurance for Good
 - Submitted to FEMA the CWMP wildfire-retrofit allowable activities for inclusion in the OES–SHPO–FEMA Programmatic Agreement
 - Builder's Guide to Construction in Wildfire Zones FEMA P-737 12/2025
 - i. Incorporates CWMP retrofits and defensible space requirements
 - CWMPA Logo
 - 1. Presented an updated logo with a larger size bear
 - 2. The Board requests that the logo be used in conjunction with the full name, California Wildfire Mitigation Program
 - a. If the logo includes CWMPA rather than CWMP, the Board requests that it spell out Joint Powers Authority along with the full name, California Wildfire Mitigation Program Joint Powers Authority
 - Legislative Monitoring Update
 - i. AB 441, as introduced, Hadwick. Wildfire Prevention: Wildfire mitigation program
 - 1. *Existing* law, upon appropriation of the Legislature, requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a joint power's agreement with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program. Existing law requires the department to delegate its duties and responsibilities for this program to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with other officials, to identify measures eligible for financial assistance under the wildfire mitigation program that are both cost effective and provide for appropriate site or structure fire risk reduction, as specified. Existing law requires the joint powers authority to develop eligibility criteria for property owners, community organizations, and local governments who may receive financial assistance under the wildfire mitigation program. Existing law requires the joint powers authority to submit a report to the Legislature regarding the implementation of the wildfire mitigation financial assistance program that

includes, among other things, an evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the wildfire mitigation program compared to other structure hardening, defensible space, vegetation management, and fuel reduction incentive programs and an evaluation of the overall wildfire risk reduction achieved statewide through awards of financial assistance under the wildfire mitigation program. Existing law repeals these provisions on July 1, 2029.

2. This bill would extend the repeal date of the above provisions to *January 1, 2030*.

ii. SB 894, as amended, Allen. Wildfire resiliency: financial assistance

1. Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a joint power's agreement, as specified, with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program, that, among other things, encourages cost-effective structure hardening and retrofitting that creates fire-resistant homes, businesses, and public buildings.
2. Existing law establishes the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority to provide alternative methods of financing in providing and promoting the establishment of facilities using alternative methods and sources of energy and facilities needed for the development and commercialization of advanced transportation technologies, as provided.
3. This bill would establish the California Wildfire Resilience Loan Program and would require the *authority, upon appropriation by the Legislature*, to administer the program to provide financial assistance for projects and activities to reduce wildfire-related risks and losses, including home hardening and defensible space improvements, as provided, and would make related changes.
4. 06/04/2026 Referred to Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Assembly Committee on Emergency Management

- CWMP Pilot Program Projects (Pending)

i. State Funding \$13 Million

1. ~\$6 Million Committed to Siskiyou County for HMGP Grant ~\$24 million
 - a. Received RFI from FEMA regarding project alternatives, met with Cal OES Technical Assistance, SPU, and Sub-recipient, and submitted a response
2. ~\$7 Million Committed to Riverside County for HMGP Grant ~\$26 million
 - a. Cal OES Technical Assistance Branch reached out to FEMA for an update
3. Both Projects submitted to FEMA on 11/21/2024 utilizing funding

opportunity DR-4699-CA (California Severe Winter Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides) FEMA Review will take ~7-12 months.

4. Update: 13 million reverted per 2025-26 State budget
- SB-946, Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: exclusions: wildfire mitigation payments (2023-2024)
 - State Income Limits Update
 - i. On May 29, 2026, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released the [2026 State Income Limits](#).
 - ii. CWMP uses these income limits to determine applicant household income brackets relative to each county's Area Median Income (AMI).
 - iii. HCD updates and publishes State Income Limits annually based on income data released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
 - iv. Annual AMI updates may affect applicant household income bracket determinations.
 - v. Notes:
 1. Shasta County had the largest increase from 2024-2026, 13.4%
 2. Tuolumne County had the smallest increase from 2024-2026, 4.6%
 3. 2024-2025 average increase of project area counties was 7.8%. 2025-2026 is 1.7%
 4. For 2026, the highest CWMP County AMI was San Diego at \$130,900, while the lowest was Lake/Siskiyou at \$97,100, a difference of \$33,800, or approximately 34.8%.
 - CWMPA Operating Budget (OES)
 - i. For Fiscal Year 2025/2026, (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) the CWMP operating budget was allotted \$1,479,000.00.
 - ii. The two main categories for allotments are Payroll, and Operating Expenses and Equipment (OE&E)
 - iii. For the Fiscal Year, each month is broken up into reporting periods, P1(July 2025) through P12 (June 2026).
 - iv. Each period, CWMPA staff meets with the Cal OES Program Analysis Unit (PAU) to review previous periods and discuss anticipated program costs. The most recent meeting had expenses through P10 (July 2025 through April 2026)
 - v. Notes:
 1. The CWMPA Operating Budget is General Fund, and does not impact the total dollars available to harden homes or support Subrecipients
 2. PAU projects a Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Balance of approximately \$327,558.00
 3. Per PAU, CWMP's relatively new budget is not currently expected to face a reduction in next fiscal year's allotment due to unspent funds. However, future allocations may be subject

to Cal OES Executive direction and statewide budget considerations.

- c. Review and Consider Revisions to the CWMP Meeting Schedule
 - This item was moved to the next meeting

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. F. Bigelow, Wildfires to date have been slowly ticking up, now at 2,323 fires, burning just under 65,000 acres, compared to last year we were at 2,600 fires for 89,000 acres. We are below 2025 and far below the five-year average for number of fires. With the looming Super El Nino, 50% chance of it being really wet and 50% chance of it being super dry. Looking forward to the updates today.
- b. R. Troy, disaster activity remains consistent and we continue to support disaster impacted communities, state and Federal.
- c. D. Berlant, spent some time last week in Lake County with some of our partners at the International Code Council, we were able to see the continued work that Deanna and her team have completed. We were able to highlight how we are implementing retrofitting from a code perspective into actual on the ground home hardening efforts.
- d. A. Browning, have been working with counterparts in sister states along the west coast, discussing fire season and preparedness. California is already starting at 100, it reiterated the work that the CWMP is doing with our local communities and the importance of the work being done as we enter the summer months.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Gary Stephen, commented on the work he does with helicopter dip tanks and the potential benefits of added protection they could provide along with the home hardening of communities.
- b. Bill Ward, manufactures helicopter dip tanks, wants to reiterate the low cost and the ability to be on the ground super-fast.

VII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT – 11:43 AM

The Next CWMPA meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., 715 P Street, Conference Room 2-221 (A-C), Sacramento, CA 95814.