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# CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM BOARD MEETING

## Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 20, 2023

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### **Board Members Present**

Robert Troy, Board Chair, Assistant Director, Recovery, Cal OES (*Virtual*)

Daniel Berlant, Board Vice-Chair, Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation, CAL FIRE

Frank Bigelow, Board Member, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation and Fire Engineering & Investigations, CAL FIRE (*Virtual*)

Abby Browning, Board Member, Chief, Private Sector NGO Coordination, Cal OES

### **Cal OES Staff Present**

J. Lopez, Executive Director, CWMP

Jordon Boyer, SSM I, CWMP

Matthew Delgado, AGPA, CWMP

Sarah Glenn, AGPA, CWMP

Jordan Woods, AGPA, CWMP

Ron Miller, Branch Chief, Hazard Mitigation

Lisa Long, SSM I, Hazard Mitigation (*Virtual*)

David Neill, Assistant Chief Counsel (*Virtual*)

Brian Doss, AGPA, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects

Cole Finup, AGPA, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects (*Virtual*)

Angelica Quezada, AGPA, Hazard Mitigation Special Projects

Makeda Johnson, AGPA, Recovery (*Virtual*)

Liston Conrad, Consultant (*Virtual*)

Lisa Rice, Consultant (*Virtual*)

### **CAL FIRE Staff Present**

John Morgan, Deputy Chief

Dennis O'Neil, Assistant Chief

Kara Garrett, AGPA

Justine Grafton, AGPA

**I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME – 10:00 AM**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM; welcome remarks provided by Board Chair R. Troy.

**II. ROLL CALL/QUORUM ESTABLISHED**

- a. Roll call and quorum established with all Board Members present.
  - R. Troy – Present (Virtual)
  - D. Berlant – Present
  - F. Bigelow – Present (Virtual)
  - A. Browning – Present

**III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- a. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2023. No public comments received.

**Motion:** D. Berlant moved to approve Meeting Minutes from May 16, 2023.

F. Bigelow seconded the motion.

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

**IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

- a. Review and approval of Meeting Agenda. No public comments received.

**Motion:** A. Browning moved to approve Agenda for June 20, 2023.

F. Bigelow seconded the motion.

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

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Branch Chief Ron Miller and Assistant Chief Dennis O'Neil provided an update on the Home Hardening Pilot Program and the status of projects within the CWMP Demonstration Communities. Ron Miller also provided an update on the CWMP Budget.
- b. San Diego County
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accepted Phase I deliverables
    - i. Working on updating program documents with FEMA for San Diego

Record of Environmental Consideration (REC)

- Two completed Scopes of Work (SOW) signed off by San Diego/CAL FIRE/Cal OES
    - i. After minor edits, SOWs will be ready for local Environmental Historical Preservation (EHP) Subject Matter Expert (SME) for review
  - San Diego re-opening Request for Statement of Qualification's (RFSQ)
    - i. San Diego is seeking to add more Ignition Resistant Construction (IRC) contractors to qualified list
- c. Shasta County / Shasta County Fire Safe Council
- FEMA requested minor edits to Phase I deliverables
    - i. Revision submitted to FEMA on 6/14/2023
    - ii. Updates to the documents that are part of San Diego's REC will be leveraged for Shasta's REC
  - Seven home assessments completed under the new version of the app and were marked final through Quality Assurance (QA)
  - First SOW reviewed by CAL FIRE and Cal OES on 6/15/23
    - i. Minor edits before finalized and submitted to SME for review
  - Contractor RFSQ published
  - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption (NOE) posted 6/5/2023
- d. Lake County/North Coast Opportunities (NCO)
- CAL FIRE provided on-site Home Assessment training with NCO and Cal OES staff on 5/25/2023
  - Four assessments have undergone QA and require minor edits to finalize
  - Next step will be to develop First SOW on a finalized assessment
  - FEMA has accepted 0ft-5ft Scope
    - i. FEMA is reviewing award documents including the REC to confirm alignment with the 0ft-5ft SOW
  - Finalizing Master Agreement adding MQS for Contractors that responded to RFSQ
  - Re-opening RFSQ
- e. Tuolumne County Phased Projects
- FEMA processing Phase I award documents
    - i. EHP review of all properties in project area
      - a. SME producing No-Issue Parcel List for Phase II award
- f. El Dorado County Phased Projects
- FEMA processing Phase I award documents
    - i. EHP review of all properties in project area
      - 1. SME producing No-Issue Parcel List for Phase II award
- g. Siskiyou County/Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District
- \$3,598,000 funds are encumbered (100% State Funded)
  - Next steps include project Kickoff

- h. Budget Update
  - SB 85 –
    - i. As of 06/14/2023 all but \$176 is encumbered
  - SB 179 –
    - i. \$13 Million must be encumbered by 06/30/2027 and liquidated by 06/30/2029
- i. CAL FIRE Update
  - Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Safety Building Standards Compliance Training Update
  - NIST Outdoor Structure Separation Experiments (NOSSE) with Wind Research Paper
  - Lake County Assessor Training
- j. Media Strategy – J. Lopez discussed the proposed media strategy
  - Development of Media Strategy will continue with J. Lopez and CWMP staff
  - Media Strategy will need approval of the Board, potentially at the next board meeting
- k. CWMP Characterization – M. Delgado presented to Board Members the proposed logo and developing a brand identity for the CWMP
  - Presentation of proposed CWMP Logo and alternate versions
  - CWMP staff will revise and present more versions based on Board Member feedback
- l. Potential Tax Implications (update) – J. Lopez provided the Board Members with an update on the potential tax implications.
  - J. Lopez working with counsel to identify issues and develop FAQ
  - Discussion on the Disaster Mitigation and Tax Parity Act
    - i. This potential legislation introduced to United States Senate and House of Representatives calls for amending Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code regarding gross income. This legislation has good bipartisan support

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Selection of Board Officers – Board Chair and Vice Chair.

**Motion:** B. Troy moved to nominate D. Berlant to take over as Board Chair from 07/2023 to 07/2024

A. Browning seconded the motion.

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

**Motion:** F. Bigelow moved to nominate A. Browning to take over as Vice Chair from 07/2023 to 07/2024

D. Berlant seconded the motion.

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

b. Staff Recommendations and Next Steps for the Home Hardening Demonstration Community Pilot Program (*Informational Only*)

- CWMP Staff will work on creating a project visual timeline
- J. Lopez will reach out to outside organizations to explore media strategies
- J. Lopez and CWMP staff will work on press release elements for upcoming counties projects
- J. Lopez and CWMP staff will coordinate steps for CWMP Board site visits

**VII. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

a. Third Tuesday of each month starting at 10:00 AM and ending at 12:00 PM.

b. Next CWMP Board Meeting will take place on July 18, 2023.

- Board Meeting will be held at the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Building, Second Floor Conference Room 2-221 located at 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

a. F. Bigelow commented on the accomplishment of the FEMA approval for the Zone 0.

b. D. Berlant mentioned the impending fire season and the necessity to continue to spread the message about home hardening.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

a. No public comments received.

**X. MEETING ADJOURNMENT – 11:20 AM**

**Motion:** A. Browning moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:20AM.

R. Troy seconded the motion.

**Action:** All in Favor, none opposed, motion carried.