

MINUTES

Elk Springs HOA Fire Mitigation Committee Meeting 5:30 pm, September 1, 2021 Zoom Conferencing

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

II. Record attendance

A quorum was verified, committee members in attendance were Ed Holub, Rob Fisher, Tom Dunlop, Jeanne Johnson, and Scott Fitzwilliams.

Community members present were Mary Beth Minion, Barbara Neal, Greg Boecker, Gregg Plummer, Ron and Abbie Kroesen, Susan Lewis, Willy Lynch, Brian Moriarty, Amanda Poindexter, Patti Watson, and Dru Kuperman.

Also in attendance was Sam Engen with IMM, Mike Uncapher with Western Vegetation Management and Kamie Long with Colorado State Forest Service.

III. Approval of prior meeting minutes

Ed made a motion to approve the 08/09/2021 meeting minutes. Scott seconded, and all were in favor

IV. Discussion and Action Items

- a. **Develop comprehensive fire mitigation policy:** Removal of dead and diseased trees is the most effective way to improve the health of the forest as well as to create defensible space around homes. The FMC will be looking into creating a policy on this. Further discussion is needed. Kamie long spoke in depth about how to identify trees infected with ips beetle, pitch mass beetle and twig beetle. She will share some information links and videos to put on the HOA website.
- b. **Discuss and propose fire mitigation projects for Fall of 2021 and Winter of 2022:** Per feedback from the membership, the FMC is suggesting some of the grant funds go towards HOA financial assistance for fire mitigation on individual lots. Ed motioned to recommend to the Board a tree removal project with the following guidelines: owners will need to cut and stack material near their driveway or the roadway; HOA will provide 2 hours of chipping and log removal for materials staged. Rob seconded and all were in favor. IMM will send out a communication to gauge interest from the membership prior to the 9/16 Board Meeting.

Ed motioned to recommend to the Board a bid from Western Vegetation Management for \$7,750 to cut and remove dead and diseased trees on HOA lands within 100' of the pavement edge near the north side of Elk Springs Drive across from the Cedar Cove intersection and the west side of County Rd 114, north of entrance to Elk Springs. Tom seconded, and all were in favor.

Ed motioned to also recommend to the Board a bid from Western Vegetation Management for \$4,400 to remove vegetation and ladder fuels from along County Rd

114 edge to help prevent a fire from getting established along the road edge and spreading uphill towards Elk Springs residences. Rob seconded, and all were in favor.

- c. **Signs for fire exits:** Results from the survey showed that more education for owners about the fire exits is needed. It was also suggested that the FMC have meetings on-site so owners can learn more about the fire exits and their locations. The FMC wants to add a break away gate sign to the gates on these exits and will also make a spot near the mailboxes to put maps.
- d. **Maintenance for fire exits:** It was suggested that signage beyond the gates is needed. This will require communication and agreements with adjacent lot owners. Further discussion is needed.
- e. **Develop long term fire mitigation goals, including potential partners:** A current long-term plan for the committee is to work towards partnering with neighboring land owners such as Garfield County and CMC, to join forces on future fire mitigation projects.

V. Additional Business

To remain a designated firewise community, the HOA must renew their application annually. Jeanne volunteered to work on the application.

VI. Open Forum

VII. Adjourn

A motion was made, and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.