

Huntington Lake Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2021

Doug Bibb, President, opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. He welcomed all who were in attendance and led the flag salute.

Doug Bibb asked for each Tract to share those who were lost during the past two years. He also read names of those who lost their cabins in the Creek Fire.

Minutes: Ned Fox moved; Lou Hall seconded the motion to approve the August 6, 2019, annual meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Election of Directors: Linda Ballentine moved; Jim Bailey seconded the motion to elect the slate of Glenn Johnson, Phil Musson and Mike Thielen. The motion passed.

Budget and financial Statements: Kelly Blocker, Treasurer presented the proposed budget for November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022, and the October 31, 2020, financial statements. The biggest part of the budget is for garbage. Rates are set by the County. The insurance expense is for general liability and Directors & Officers insurance. Lou Hall moved; Bob Dack seconded the motion to approve the 2021-2022 budget and accept the October 31, 2020, financial statements. The motion passed.

National Forest Homeowners (NFH): Linda Ballentine, Treasurer of NFH reported that NFH was giving Huntington Lake Association \$8,000 from the NFH Fire Relief Fund. The funds are to be used for infrastructure projects. Linda Ballentine also indicated that NFH needs volunteers for various committees, including awards, communications, elections, membership, and finance. If you have any interest in serving on any committee please contact Linda Ballentine (lhballentine@yahoo.com). NFH sends monthly emails to cabin owners if you are not on the email list contact Linda Ballentine.

Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department (HLVFD): Brother Chris offered a big Thank You to the cabin owners, friends and relatives. The Fire Department has collected about 1/3 of the funds needed for rebuilding the lost fire house. They served 550 at the pancake breakfast on July 4, 2021.

There were 74 cabins lost in the Creek Fire. The goal of the Fire Department was to get everyone out safely. There were no lives lost. The Fire Department has developed good working relationships with USFS and Cal Fire. They had a plan and they followed the plan. HLVFD had 13 volunteers of 2,000 persons on the fire. It is dryer this year than it was last year and there is still a lot of fuel on the ground in the forest. Brother Chris said, if you see any smoke call 911.

Brother Chris is going off the Board after this summer. Lisa Coleman will also be going off the Board and Peter Allbright is a new member on the Board. Brother Chris will be at Huntington for a couple of months in the summer to work on construction projects for the

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Fire Department. A big round of applause was given to Brother Chris for all of his work and efforts over the years.

Southern California Edison (SCE): Don Dukleth (the tree guy) said they have been given permission to clear around foundations of lost cabins and that work is almost completed. There are several types of cleanup efforts in progress – the Creek Fire Clean-up and the Other Stuff Clean-up. He is hoping to get a lot of the log decks that were put down by SCE (pre-Creek Fire) removed before winter. The trees that were put down as a result of the Creek Fire (Debris Management Plan) he is hoping to be get removed in the Fall of 2021. Trees marked with a white X are scheduled for removal. Trees marked with a white dot are to be trimmed. Trees with a yellow X are considered hazards and are to be removed.

There is also a Re-conducting Project in process. Power lines that are connected to trees are being replaced with poles. SCE will be cleaning up as they go on this project. They will only be removing trees to make the power lines safe. There is also a Heavy Tree Program ongoing. Trees marked with yellow or orange ribbons with white tags are trees identified to be within reach of a power line. Cabin owners are asked to mark their septic tank locations and leach fields. SCE does not want to damage personal property of cabin owners.

Dead Tree Program: Every Spring dead trees are identified for removal.

USFS: Tiffany Bigaye, Permit Administrator for Residential Recreation, said the USFS is working very closely with those who lost their cabin in the Creek Fire. Cabin sites where cabins are not being rebuilt are put into an “in lieu lot reserve pool”. There is a process to go through to be able to rebuild. The lot needs to be cleared of all debris, the soil must be tested, an archeologist must inspect, and the USFS needs to sign off before plans can be submitted to the County for a permit.

Fresno County: Nathan Magsig, Fresno County Supervisor, said there are multiple steps involved in the County process, but the County is prioritizing Creek Fire permits. While they can be more involved with private property owners in the process, cabin owners must go through the USFS process first. Cabin owners expressed their thanks to Nathan Magsig for the communication he provided both during and after the fire.

USFS: Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor, there was no loss of life in the Creek Fire. The USFS issued their final report of the investigation into the cause of the fire. The cause has been undetermined; however, a probable cause could be lightning, arson or a discarded cigarette. The USFS considers the case closed, unless additional credible information is brought to their attention.

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USFS was the first responder on the Creek Fire. The fire was on USFS land. As the fire grew additional agencies were called in. Within 24 hours there were 900 personnel onsite on or their way.

The USFS Forest Plan outdated and a revision has been in the works for several years. It is due to be published and signed in the Spring of 2022. The USFS will continue to support recreational residences in their efforts to rebuild.

Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER): This program provides suppression erosion and sediment control. There is still about 25% to do.

There is also suppression repair, road repair work and repair work to government structures. These repair projects are grant funded.

All burned trees standing or down will be removed over the next two years on or near lots, which includes soil disruption from dozers.

Tree Mortality Task Force: Monthly meetings are held in Clovis. Dean Gould is also putting together a Creek Fire Recovery Task Force to work collectively with multiple agencies to solve ongoing problems/issues.

Dean Gould has a Power Point presentation on the USFS website.

A team of specialist worked for three weeks to identify burn severity of soil and vegetation. They now have a map that identifies, by intensity, the damage to soil and vegetation. There are plans to re-plant the burn areas.

USFS: Kim Sorini Wilson, District Ranger, said Tiffany Begaye has maps available electronically. Log deck sales – the Line Creek deck and the Cedar Crest deck were sold and will be removed in the next couple of weeks. The Camp Silver Fir deck will be next.

Log decks in Dowville West are currently being built. Dowville owners wanted to know what route will be used to remove them as pending road work is on hold until they know. Kim Sorini Wilson did not have that information on hand but can get it for them.

Huntington Salvage: They are focusing on high severity areas (Marked in red). They will begin meetings in September. The process should be solidified in September and logging should begin in June 2022.

Slash piles will be burned or removed.

USFS: Elaine Locke, District Special Uses Officer, said Lakeshore Resort and Cedar Crest both have internal and external conditions that need to be met. The hope is to have both areas opened by next year. Cabin owners asked if permanent barriers could be

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placed on the road to Cedar Crest as people are moving the temporary barriers and going into the area to camp. Elaine Locke said she would look into the issue.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Karen Kamimoto, Secretary