

**FIRE SAFE
COUNCIL**



Board of Directors' Meeting

August 28, 2025



Fire Safe Council
P.O. Box 1112
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Phone (530) 446-1224
www.areyoufiresafe.com

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday August 28, 2025

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**FIRE SAFE COUNCIL OF NEVADA COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
PUBLIC NOTICE & AGENDA**

Notice is now given that a regular meeting of the Board of Directors has been called and will be held on **Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** Meeting will be at Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Nevada County Library.

MISSION

The Fire Safe Council is a local non-profit organization dedicated to making Nevada County safer from destructive wildfires through fire safety projects, partnerships, and education.

Board of Directors:

(PW) Pete Williams, Chair
(SE) Steve Eubanks, Vice-Chair
(SW) Susan Williams, Interim Treasurer
(SE) Steve Eubanks, Secretary
(EDJ) Jamie Jones, Executive Director
(AD) Alan Doerr, Director
(JM) Jeff McEvoy, Director

Staff:

(OCW) Chris Wackerly, Director of Operations
(SB) Shannon Banks, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
2. AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS:
 - a. Approval of Agenda and Order of Business **Action**
3. MEETING MINUTES:
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 2025 Board Meeting **Action**
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: This time is set aside for people wishing to address the Board on any matter of interest that is not on the agenda. The Board invites comments from the agenda items after discussion by the Board Members. Speakers will be limited to five (5) minutes, unless extended by the Board chair. The Board chair reserves the right to further limit or exclude repetitious or irrelevant presentations. If written material is included, 20 copies of all information to be distributed to Board members should be given to the Secretary prior to the meeting. Action will not be taken at this meeting on citizen comments. The Board, however, after hearing from interested citizens, may place items under new business on a future agenda so proper notice may be given to all interested parties. If no one wishes to comment, the next scheduled agenda item will be considered.
5. AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS – (Please limit to 3-5 minutes)
6. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – Treasurer Williams

- a. ERC Update/IRS
- b. EDD Tax Payments Update
- c. Audit Updates

Next Exec/Finance Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 pm

7. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD – Pete Williams

- a. CWDG Grant Update – Steve Eubanks
- b. DSAV Update
- c. Alta Sierra Green Waste Event: September 2-3

Next Executive/Finance Committee Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 pm

8. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Jamie Jones

- a. Organizational Update
- b. Grants Update
- c. Funding/Membership Update
- d. Partnership Update
- e. District Attorney Investigation and Return of Property Update
- f. Firewise USA Regional Coordinator
 - i. Duplicate Firewise USA communities
 - ii. Unauthorized use of FSC mapping and intellectual property
 - iii. Centralization of Firewise Community maps on FSC website
 - iv. Discontinuation of duplicate Firewise USA mapping sites
 - v. Streamlining the program to minimize public confusion and promote collaboration
- g. Staffing & Operations Update
- h. Programs Update
- i. Project Update

9. DIRECTORS COMMENTS – Information

10. **ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION (If necessary)**

11. **ADJOURN (OUT OF CLOSED SESSION)**

12. **Adjournment**

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Nevada County Library

Times stated are approximate and subject to change. The agenda order is tentative and may be changed by Board action without prior notice. Agenda discussions and report items are subject to action being taken on them during the meeting by the Board at its discretion. The Board provides the public with the opportunity at meetings to address each agenda item during the Board's discussion or consideration of the item. Total time allocated for public comment on particular issues is limited. The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs disability-related accommodations or modifications to participate in the meeting shall make a request no later than five (5) working days before the meeting to the Board to (530) 446-1224 or by email to info@areyoufiresafe.com.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89239809501?pwd=c0UyOVUvWThrQVpWODliUkpta1grQT09>

Meeting Notice/Agenda of this Fire Safe Council of Nevada County Board Meeting was posted at the following locations: Fire Safe Council Administrative Office, 590 Searls Ave. Ste.4, Nevada City, CA www.areyoufiresafe.com



**Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Fire Safe Council
Thursday, June 26, 2025, 1:00 PM**

In Attendance:

Directors:

(PW) Pete Williams, Chair
(SE) Steve Eubanks, Vice-Chair
(SW) Susan Williams, Interim Treasurer
(SE) Steve Eubanks, Secretary
(EDJ) Jamie Jones, Executive Director
(AD) Alan Doerr, Director
(JM) Jeff McEvoy, Director

Staff:

(OCW) Chris Wackerly, Director of Operations
(SB) Shannon Banks, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

- PW called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM

2. ROLL CALL

- As indicated above.

3. AGENDA & ORDER OF BUSINESS

- PW moved to accept of the agenda. Seconded by SE and approved unanimously.

4. MEETING MINUTES

- PW asked for a motion to approve the May minutes; SE moved to approve, seconded by SW and approved unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Janet Shimnoski voiced public support for the FSC and to make the public and Board know that her reason for leaving was personal finances. She still believes in the FSC's mission.

6. AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS.

- None at this time

7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE – Susan Williams

- Audit update - SW reported that we are still waiting for the District Attorney Office to return our documents to us so that we can complete audits.
- We received some ERC payments, but we haven't received all of them yet.,
- We are currently with IRS payments.

8. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD - Pete Williams

- PW stated that one of the grants we applied for is the CWDG grant that will provide funds for projects within FireWise Communities. SE stated that we should hear a decision in late summer.
- PW reported at the last meeting that the group of our most experienced advisors are updating the DSAV form and process and has developed a new form with the purpose of making it easy for new advisors to walk through a visit and easier for the homeowner to understand. They are still testing out a version of it before we get it out to our larger group of advisors. The group also will update the informational packet that is given to homeowners.
- PW asked EDJ for an update on the Firewise USA Regional Coordinator and she stated that we have communicated with Cal-Fire and the program manager of Firewise USA. We continue to provide

those services. Pat Leach continues to submit new applications for new communities daily through email. We currently have 127 FireWise communities and more are being submitted daily. 4 or 5 were approved last month. SE stated that with all the work involved, including all the GIS mapping adjustments that need to be made, we have basically two full-time people working as volunteers.

9. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Jamie Jones

- EDJ reported that we are working with one staff person in administration, Shannon, who is our only paid employee, everyone else is still working in a volunteer capacity at this time.
- EDJ stated that we were able to close out the Forest Health Grant, the Cal-Fire team was very helpful and allowed us to make last-minute modifications to the grant. We are still in a holding pattern, and we cannot close out our chipping and Green Waste grant or the South County partnership grant with the County of Nevada since the District Attorney hasn't returned the documents. necessary documents that we need to close.
FEMA projects are now on a monthly invoice cycle. Cal-OES is not currently processing any reimbursements right now due to the end of the fiscal year and we are still waiting for reimbursement dating back from September 2024. Cal-OES told us they should be resuming reimbursement requests in July. We also have a scheduled site visit on July 7th with our Cal-OES representatives. The Home Hardening Retrofit Program one year extension was approved. We also have lifted income restrictions. For the Deer Creek project we submitted for a timeline extension and a full budget modification. We sent out requests for proposals from Foresters, received some bids, and we are now looking to hire a Forester. for the project.
- EDJ reported that all of our fleet has been returned to our lenders, and after they were auctioned off, we will update our liability balances. We are still waiting for updated balances from Tri Counties vehicles.
- EDJ reported that we have received some ERC, but we are still waiting for Q3 2020 and Q3 2021 to be approved by the IRS, with the help of our contact in Congressmen Kiley's office. With most of the ERC payments now processed, we paid our IRS tax liability in full. We are working with EDD to pay our state tax liability through a payment plan. The Board has approved us submitting a claim for our legal fees under the director and officers' policy back in January. We are filing that claim with our insurance company.
- EDJ is continuing to apply for grant funding. Cal-Fire is replenishing their grant funding pool for wildfire prevention and forest health-- funds that we typically apply for. Cal-Fire has announced their 2025 fiscal year programs including the wildfire prevention program and we will be applying for the Deer Creek expansion or the phase 2 project. A Fuels and Community assistance grant through BLM will focus on treating BLM parcels in Alta Sierra.
- EDJ Reported that we are still waiting for the District Attorney's office to return all of our documents to us.

10. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS – Chris Wackerly

- EDJ reported for OCW that he is trying to finalize the proposals from foresters for the Deer Creek project. We're waiting for clarification from Cal-OES and FEMA on the reimbursement schedule so that we can create an appropriate document that spells out terms and timely reimbursements.
- EDJ stated that OCW has accepted a full-time position with another organization doing similar work but will still be working with FSC in a volunteer capacity doing the inspections for our current projects after hours and on weekends.

11. DIRECTORS COMMENTS –

- SE stated that we have received advice from a legal source that the DA's office went about the whole investigation wrong. They should have come to the Board of Directors with any potential allegations or requests for information. And if there was any substance to the allegations that were made upon which they were basing their investigation on. That would have saved the taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars because we could have addressed the issues with the Grand Jury earlier. Everything was orchestrated to be a political attack on Jamie and Chris and the FSC rather than an

actual investigation. It seems to be more political than it is legal and it's unethical in SE opinion.

- PW reiterated that without receiving our documents back we can't perform our jobs at the level that we are used to and, secondly since the investigation started 8 months ago, the public has opinions without all the facts. SE agreed that the DA has found nothing.
- JM stated that he is disappointed that the DA has taken the path that they have and also wanted to state his concerns about the public's view. How do we switch gears to shine the light back on to the fact that this is an incredible organization that does incredible things for the community. The chipping program is essential to the potential impact on the environment to reduce the risk of fires.
- Ann Westling wanted to say that she is compiling a PR plan to publicly address all the necessities of the programs that the FSC provides. She also wants to express that we are continuing to work and are continuing to be dedicated, and mission focused. She wanted to get a good word out to the public.

12. CLOSED SESSION-

- PW moved to go to closed session to discuss a few additional items, AD moved and motion, seconded by SE. Approved by voice vote at 2:28 pm.

13. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

14. ADJOURNMENT:

- PW moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by SW. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

I declare that these meeting minutes accurately reflect the actions of the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County's Board meeting held on August 28, 2025, at 10:00 am and were approved by the Board of Directors.

Steve Eubanks (Secretary)

Date

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL OF NEVADA COUNTY BOARD
ROSTER As of 01/01/2025
REPRESENTING/AFFILIATIONS

Chairman	Williams	Pete	Nevada City	pwill4436@gmail.com	Member at Large
Vice-Chair	Eubanks	Steve	Rough & Ready	steubanks@gmail.com	Member at Large
Treasurer	Susan	Williams	Nevada City	Susanh.williams@gmail.com	Member at Large
Secretary	Eubanks	Steve	Rough & Ready	steubanks@gmail.com	Member at Large
Director	Doerr	Alan	Nevada City	avdoerr@gmail.com	GIS Specialist
Director	McEvoy	Jeff	Grass Valley	jeff@mcevoyelectric.com	Member at Large
Partner	Mason	Patrick	Nevada City	patrickmason@nccfire.com	Nevada County Fire Chiefs
Partner	Pacheco	Jorge	El Dorado Hills	jpacheco@blm.gov	Bureau of Land Management
Partner	Schroeder	Jason	El Dorado Hills	jschroeder@blm.gov	Bureau of Land Management
Partner	Haack	Landon	Nevada City	landon.haack@fire.ca.gov	CALFIRE

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County P.O. Box 1112 Grass Valley CA 95945 (530) 446-1224 www.areyoufiresafe.com

FSCNC 2025 Calendar

JANUARY

01/01/2025 – New Year’s Day FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday
01/20/2025 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday
01/31/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

FEBRUARY

02/13/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
02/17/2025 – President’s Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday
02/27/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

MARCH

03/13/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
03/27/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

APRIL

04/10/2025 – FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
04/24/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

MAY

05/08/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
05/22/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting
05/26/2025 - Memorial Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

JUNE

06/12/2024 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
06/19/2025 – Juneteenth, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday
06/26/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

JULY

07/04/2024 – Independence Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

AUGUST

08/14/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
08/28/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

SEPTEMBER

09/01/2025 – Labor Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday
09/11/2025 – FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting
09/25/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

OCTOBER

10/09/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting

10/13/2025 – Columbus Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

10/23/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

NOVEMBER

11/11/2025 – Veteran's Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

11/13/2025 - FSCNC Executive Finance Committee Meeting

11/20/2025 - FSCNC Board of Directors Meeting

11/27/2025 – Thanksgiving Day, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

DECEMBER

12/25/2025 - Christmas Day Observed, FSCNC offices closed in observance of the Holiday

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County Acronym List

<u>ACE</u>	American Conservation Experience FSCNC	<u>MBTA</u>	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
<u>AC</u>	AmeriCorps NCCC	<u>MJMHMP</u>	Multi-Jurisdiction, Multi-Hazard
<u>ACI</u>	Air Curtain Incinerator		Migration Plan
<u>AFN</u>	Access and Functional Needs	<u>MOA</u>	Memorandum of Agreement
<u>BLM</u>	Bureau of Land Management	<u>MOU</u>	Memorandum of Understanding
<u>CABY</u>	Cosumnes, American, Bear and Yuba Rivers	<u>MUTCD</u>	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control
<u>BRIC</u>	Building Resilient Infrastructure and		Devices for Streets & Highways
	Communities	<u>NEPA</u>	National Environmental Policy Act
<u>CCC</u>	California Conservation Corp	<u>NFPA</u>	National Fire Protection Association
<u>CAL FIRE</u>	California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Prot.	<u>NHPA</u>	National Historic Preservation Act
<u>CEQA</u>	California Environmental Quality Act	<u>NRCS</u>	Natural Resource Conservation Service
<u>CFSC</u>	California Fire Safe Council	<u>NSAQMD</u>	Northern Sierra Air Quality
<u>CFIP</u>	California Forest Improvement Program		Management District
<u>CIP</u>	Capital Improvement Program	<u>OES</u>	Office of Emergency Services
<u>CNPS</u>	California Native Plant Society	<u>PAL</u>	Project Activity Levels
<u>CPRC</u>	California Public Resources Code	<u>PHI</u>	Pre-Harvest Inspection
<u>CSBG</u>	Community Service Block Grant	<u>PICP</u>	Partners in Community Program
<u>CWDG</u>	Community Wildfire Defense Grant	<u>RAC</u>	Resource Advisory Committee
<u>CWPP</u>	Community Wildfire Protection Plan	<u>RCD</u>	Resource Conservation District
<u>DBH</u>	Diameter at Breast Height	<u>RFQ/RFP</u>	Request for Quote/ Proposal
<u>DOTS</u>	Department of Transportation &	<u>RPF</u>	Registered Professional Forester
	Sanitation (Nevada County)	<u>SAF</u>	Society of American Foresters
<u>DSAV</u>	Defensible Space Advisory Visit	<u>SEDD</u>	Sierra Economic Development District
<u>DSCS</u>	Defensible Space Clearing Services	<u>SIP</u>	Shelter in Place
<u>DMA</u>	Disaster Mitigation Act	<u>SOA</u>	Solicitation Offer Award
<u>EDD</u>	Employment Development Department	<u>SPCC</u>	Spill Prev. & Counter Measures Plan
<u>EIR</u>	Environmental Impact Report	<u>SPI</u>	Sierra Pacific Industries
<u>EPA</u>	Environmental Protection Agency	<u>SRCC</u>	Sacramento Regional Cons. Corps.
<u>EPIC</u>	Electric Program Investment Charge	<u>SYRCL</u>	South Yuba River Citizens League
<u>EQIP</u>	Environmental Quality Incentive Program	<u>THP</u>	Timber Harvest Plan
<u>ERC</u>	Economic Resource Council	<u>TNF</u>	Tahoe National Forest (USFS)
<u>ESA</u>	Endangered Species Act	<u>TRPA</u>	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
<u>FEMA</u>	Federal Emergency Management Agency	<u>TTCF</u>	Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation
<u>FHSZ</u>	Fire Hazard Severity Zone TRPA	<u>USDA</u>	United States Department of Agriculture
<u>FIRST</u>	Forest Integrated Resource Safety Taskforce	<u>USFS</u>	United States Forest Service (USDA)
<u>FMAG</u>	Fire Management Assistance Grant	<u>VMP</u>	Vegetation Management Program
<u>FREED</u>	Foundation of Resources for Equality &	<u>WLPZ</u>	Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone
	Employment for the Disabled	<u>WUI</u>	Wildland Urban Interface
<u>FRAP</u>	Fire and Resource Assessment Program	<u>YWI</u>	Yuba Watershed Institute
<u>FSCA</u>	Fire Safe Communities Association	<u>YFN</u>	Yuba Forest Network
<u>FSCNC</u>	Fire Safe Council of Nevada County		
<u>GIS</u>	Geographic Information Systems		
<u>HMA</u>	Hazard Mitigation Assistance		
<u>HMGP</u>	Hazard Mitigation Grant Project		
<u>IRWMP</u>	Integrated Regional Water Mgmt. Plan		
<u>LHMP</u>	Local Hazard Mitigation Plan		