



Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Advisory Committee  
Regular meeting: **April 18, 2013**



Committee members in attendance:

Robert Sieben, Chair (District 1)  
Barbara Goldenberg, Vice Chair (District 4)  
Don Mitchell, Treasurer (District 7)  
Barry Pilger (District 1), Recording Secretary  
Lar Bryer, (District 6)  
Katherine Moore, (District 6)  
Dinah Benson (District 7)

Nick Luby (Mayor)

Committee members not in attendance

Ken Thames (Mayor)  
Diane Hill (District 4)

Vacant seats:

*At large*

Staff present:

Fire Chief Theresa Deloach Reed  
Acting Assistant Fire Marshal Kim Catano  
Accountant Pauline Feng

Called to order 7:00 p.m., R. Sieben presiding

Staff Financial Report

P. Feng presented financials March 15 through April 12.

As requested, it was reported that assessment delinquencies have been obtained in raw data for 2004-2012 for both privately owned parcels and public entities. Raw data shows total delinquencies for public entities \$380,000 and for private properties \$105,000. A detailed breakdown will be provided next month.

Minutes

Corrections : Bowes not Bose. Special presentation section revised to say "First year not to exceed \$85,000 and second year not to exceed \$20,000."

Special presentation from Cheryl Miller of Diablo Fire Safe Council

Ms. Miller discussed how DFSC handled its recent homeowner grant program. Three objectives: Awareness, education beyond defensible space and getting the community to actually do something.

She described how DFSC worked with a number of homeowner groups, a high school, a retirement housing community To accomplish this, DFSC set forth some guidelines to promote longer term fuel reduction.

DSFC would be happy to consider managing a similar grant program using WPAD funds. She projected a 25-33% overhead factor for the management of the program.

### Review of committee members' terms ending in June 2013

#### Staff Report -- K. Catano – Acting Assistant Fire Marshal

Electric fire danger signage: Public Works is working on determining if it can build a comparable sign with remote programming. Clear Channel has not returned staff calls. Staff will continue to try to reach them.

New no smoking/high fire hazard danger signs, larger ones, have been ordered to be placed throughout the district.

Inspection forms are ready, training has begun. Goats will be commencing. One outstanding goats issue: three unpaid EBMUD water bills for the goats. Committee consensus was that this should be paid from the vegetation management account.

FEMA EIS is scheduled for release in mid May for 45 day comment period. There will be two public hearings.

The committee asked the status of the performance audit by the city auditor. Staff's understanding is that the audit was suspended. The committee asked that staff determine the official status of the audit.

#### Ad Hoc Public Education/Outreach Committee

Committee members who had volunteered to send monthly email messages about the WPAD were reminded to send this month's emails to their respective listservs. Ad hoc committee member Sue Piper has prepared messaging for district residents to remind them of important wildfire prevention issues and tasks. The ad hoc committee was tasked to identify a new possible consultant for communications, messaging, branding, direct mail and outreach programs as the consultant previously identified was disqualified by the city attorney's office.

#### Broombuster Project Proposal

R. Sieben described the proposed broom project. The problematic nature of broom management was discussed. It was pointed out that we don't have a scientifically based protocol for managing broom. Chief Reed expressed concern that staff does not have the resources to support the district in managing existing programs, let alone a new one. It was moved and seconded that \$85,000 be moved from reserves to designated reserves to fund the Skyline Broom Busters project. The motion passed with 7 ayes and one abstention. Chief Reed said that she would be working with the committee to identify an appropriate program management staff budget allocation for next fiscal year.