LRFB Public Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2024 at 4:30 pm

Lockett Ranches Fire District Board Meetings are public and held virtually via the Go

To Meeting online meeting platform. Members of the public wishing to attend these meetings can do so using the following meeting credentials: <https://meet.goto.com/525579565>

You can also dial in using your phone: United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code:

525-579-565.

1. **Member Roll Call / Establish Quorum/ Call Meeting to Order**

Minutes prepared by the Board Chairperson J. Noll.

Meeting called to order at 4:32 pm AZ time.

**Fire Board Members:**

P A

X John Noll - Chairperson

X Jim Schmelzle – member

A David Weeks – clerk

X Steve Vargas – member

X Lottie Herkenhoff

1. **Call to Public**

None present

1. **Review Meeting Minutes**

Review and approve the regular meeting minutes of July 18, 2024.

No changes to the minutes were offered. Jim moved to approve as presented; 2nd from Steve; minutes were approved unanimously.

1. **Old Business.**

* Review progress scheduling Lot Review meetings for Board members.

Board members were polled about scheduling a lot review: Noll – done; Vargas still trying to schedule; Schmelzle – done; Herkenhoffs – still trying to schedule one that will include their home plus their new lot across the street.

1. **New Business**

* Lot Review and Forest Treatment Tracking System (progress to date).

Lottie has sent an email to Mark Adams but has not received a reply. Noll will follow up with Mark to get this moving forward, hopefully to have something to share with owners at the annual meeting on September 6.

* We have 3 Board Seats expiring at the end of 2024. We will talk about how those will be filled. FYI - No Fire District Elections are currently scheduled for November 5 2024. These election determinations (to hold one or not) are now made 6 months in advance of the election date.

The 3 board members whose terms expire at the end of 2024 (Lottie Herkenhoff, Jim Schmelzle, and David Weeks) have indicated an interest in returning for another term.

(This paragraph contains an error learned after the meeting concluded: in 2024 there are only two seats expiring – those of Lottie Herkenhoff and David Weeks.  This reflects a mistake in Fire District records that occurred because of several resignations and reappointments where a board member’s name got attached to the wrong seat. This has now been fixed.

Lindsay Daley (CC Board of Supervisors Clerk) provided the following summary about how this is usually done: the Fire District is in charge of who fills those positions and can reappoint incumbents via a vote in executive session. The member being voted on needs to recuse themselves from the vote on their reappointment and provided there is a remaining quorum available, that position can be filled by majority vote. Each member returning will need to fill out paperwork provided by the Coconino County Election Department and once provided with minutes confirming the appointments, they will issue the election certificate. John Noll will confirm procedure this by contacting the CC Attorney’s Office for a legal opinion on this plan.

* What Fire District topics should be discussed at the LROA Annual Meeting on September 6 @ 6 pm?

Suggested topics for the Annual meeting:

1. Tax rate for FY 2025;
2. Fire District Board Members whose terms are expiring and have agreed to continue to serve on the Board;
3. The status of lot reviews and forest treatment activity with the Fire District with a map of where those are located and areas of the District with tree densities greater than treated public lands in adjacent areas;
4. Homeowners insurance trends and what can be done to impact the insurability of properties within the Fire District.
5. **Open Forum**

J. Noll mentioned the status of the request from the Mount Elden Estates HOA (MEE) to establish an emergency access route from their area into Lockett Ranches via Ryans Trail. This proposal would establish a short passage from Mule Crossing in MEE to Ryans Trail that would be closed with signage and a rope of chain except in the event of an emergency that closed Mt Elden Lookout Road. David McDonnell (owner on Ryans Trail) is talking with other owners and may have something to share with the Owners Association at the Annual Meeting in September.

Egress for Lockett Ranches in an emergency situation was also discussed. J. Noll looked at Chickadee – North San Francisco and Quintana – Mt Elden Lookout Road and didn’t think either was practical given circumstances on the ground. The Board felt that something however should be done to define an evacuation procure to deal with the possibility that Hwy 180 at Quintana might be closed in an emergency fire situation.

1. **Adjournment**

Steve Vargas moved to adjourn; Jim seconded; all were in favor and the meeting ended at 5:15 pm

1. **The next meeting will be September 19, 2024 via Go To Meeting.**