

LAKE COUNTY RISK REDUCTION AUTHORITY

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Moke Simon, County of Lake  
Jessica Pyska, Lake County Watershed Protection District  
Dan Grebil, Lakeport Fire Protection District  
Mike Ciancio, Northshore Fire Protection District  
Mike Wink, South Lake Fire Protection District  
Joe Huggins, Kelseyville Fire Protection District  
Willie Sapeta, Lake County Fire Protection District  
Paul Duncan, Cal Fire  
Dianna Mann, Representative County Water Districts  
Kevin Ingram, City of Lakeport  
Russ Cremer, City of Clearlake  
Joseph Franklin Velarde, Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Terre Logsdon, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians  
TBD, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake  
TBD, Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians

**Meeting Date:** Monday October 17, 2022, @ 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Attendees:**

Susan Parker-County of Lake  
Jonathan Portney-County of Lake  
Mireya Turner-County of Lake  
Will Evans-CLERC (Clear Lake Environmental Center)  
Frank Aebly- USFS (United States Forest Service)  
Scott Harter-County of Lake  
John Hackett-CalTrans  
Marcus Beltramo-Lake County Code Enforcement  
Magdalena Valderrama-SSCRA (Seigler Springs Community Redevelopment Center)  
Nehoa Brad Chatten-Lake County Resident  
Bart Levenson-Lake County Resident  
Betsy Cawn-EPI (The Essential Public Information Center)  
Miranda Mockrin-USFS (United States Forest Service)  
Sherri Binder-Independent Researcher  
Patricia Franklin-SVBPI (Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians)  
Daniella Santana-County of Lake  
Tammy Alakszay-NCO (North Coast Opportunities, Inc.)  
Brook Mulligan-NCO (North Coast Opportunities, Inc.)  
Miranda Guardino-NCO (North Coast Opportunities, Inc.)  
Deanna Fernweh- NCO (North Coast Opportunities, Inc.)  
Kali Mulligan-NCO (North Coast Opportunities, Inc.)

## Meeting Minutes

**1. Call to order:**

Meeting called to order by Director Moke Simon at 3:09

**2. Roll Call:**

By Tammy Alakszay

**Quorum Confirmed with the following board members in attendance:**

Director Moke Simon, Director Jessica Pyska, Director Willie Sapeta, Director Paul Duncan, Director Diann Mann, Director Kevin Ingram, Director, Joseph Franklin Velarde, Director Terre Logsdon.

**3. Moment of Silence:**

For Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians tribal elder Iggy Elliot.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance:**

By Director Logsdon

**5. Public Input:**

**Betsy Cawn:**

- Lakeport Fire Protection District has announced a new fire chief. He will need to be added to the LCRRA email list.

**Miranda Mockrin:**

- Conducting a research study in Lake County with collaborating partner Sherri Binder.
- Study of housing recovery after wildfire-  
<https://hps.unt.edu/emds/place-attachment-mitigation-and-recovery>
- Please share the enrollment link with anyone who might be interested, and who unfortunately lost a home or sustained damage due to wildfire.  
[https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1TSY3ND2DX5gx5Y](https://albany.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1TSY3ND2DX5gx5Y)
- Or feel free to contact the researchers running it, Alex Greer [agreer@albany.edu](mailto:agreer@albany.edu); Miranda Mockrin [Miranda.h.mockrin@usda.gov](mailto:Miranda.h.mockrin@usda.gov); and Ronnie Schumann [Ronald.Schumann@unt.edu](mailto:Ronald.Schumann@unt.edu)

**Sherri Binder:**

- Part of a research team that has been working on a study throughout Lake County regarding rebuilding and recovery after disaster.
- Using a technique called ‘photo voice’ which is a technique that puts cameras in the hands of research participants to take pictures of places or things that are of significance to them regarding the recovery and rebuilding process after disaster.
- The goal is to take the data and study it to help improve the recovery process in the future.
- If anyone is interested, they can use the links provided by Miranda Mockrin to learn more.

**Betsy Cawn:**

- Asked that Miranda Mockrin and Sherri Binder identify the university or agency they work for.
- She will be reaching out to share resources and exchange information with them.

**Miranda Mockrin:**

- A federal research scientist with the USFS.
- The lead investigator is from the University of Albany, Ronnie Schumann is from the University of North Texas.
- The study is funded by the National Science Foundation and Sherri Binder is an independent researcher.

**6. Consideration of Minutes:**

- Director Simon entertained a motion to consider the Lake County Risk Reduction Authority meeting minutes from September 19, 2022.

**Motioned:** Director Duncan

**Second:** Director Sapeta

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor

**Motion passed**

**7. AB 361 Brown Act and Virtual Meetings:**

- a. Consideration of the Findings Required by AB 361 to allow teleconference meetings by this body to continue.

**Motioned:** Director Mann

**Second:** Director Logsdon

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Passed**

**8. Action Items:**

**a. Letter of support for the High Glade Lookout.**

**Director Duncan:**

- In support of the rebuilding of the fire lookout. Lookouts provide many benefits regarding spotting fires and looking into the forest.

**Director Sapeta:**

- Agrees with the need for the lookout rebuild and agrees with Director Duncan's comments.

**Public Comment:**

**Frank Aebly:**

- They have already received reports from several fire chiefs of the area.
- Unsure if the LCRRA must sign the letter of support with the local fire chiefs.

**Chief Sapeta:**

- Recommends that the letter of support go through the LCRRA to show diverse representation.

**Director Pyska:**

- Who is funding the rebuilding of the High Glade Fire lookout?

**Frank Aebly:**

- With permission, a significant amount of money would come from disaster funding, although it would not be enough for the total rebuild requiring additional funding.

**Director Logsdon:**

- Once rebuilt, will the lookout have a fire detecting camera in the alert network?

**Frank Aebly:**

- The desire is to have both a camera and staff operating the lookout.

**Director Simon entertained a motion to approve the High Glade Lookout letter of support.**

**Motioned:** Director Logsdon

**Second:** Director Duncan

**Roll Call Vote:** All in Favor

**Motioned Passed**

**b. Letter of support for the Tukman Geospatial Lidar Mapping Project**

**Director Pyska:**

- Discussed submitting the application to the USGS (United States Geological Survey).
- Tukman Geospatial will be submitting the application on behalf of Lake County.

**Public Comment:** None

**Director Simon entertained a motion for the LCRRA to sign the letter of support for the Tukman Geospatial Lidar mapping project.**

**Motioned:** Director Pyska

**Second:** Director Sapeta

**Roll Call Vote:** All in Favor

**Motion Passed**

**Director Simon:**

- Will follow up regarding how to get the letters of support signed and returned to the correct party.

**c. Discussion regarding the removal of the Tree Mortality and Forest Health Committee from the LCRRA.**

**Director Pyska:**

- It has been suggested the TM&FH committee be moved from the LCRRA to the County as an agency-to-agency and interdepartmental meeting.
- This will allow for the coordination and planning of work to be done.
- Moving the meeting to the County will release NCO from having to staff that committee.

**Director Logsdon:**

- Who will be facilitating these meetings moving forward?

**Director Pyska:**

- The county admin office will be holding a meeting with departments and other agencies.
- The invite list will stay the same.
- Will be working closely with Public Works to get the work underway.

**Public Comment:**

**Bart Levenson:**

- Will the meeting continue to be Brown Act Compliant?
- How can concerned residents keep up with the information discussed at these committee meetings?

**Director Pyska:**

- It will no longer be a public meeting, instead it will be an agency-to-agency and interdepartmental meeting.
- Reports will continue to be given during the LCRRA meeting as well as the Board of Supervisors meetings, constituents with concerns can contact Director Pyska directly.

**Director Simon entertained a motion to move the Tree Mortality and Forest Health committee from the LCRRA to the County.**

**Motioned:** Director Pyska

**Second:** Director Duncan

**Roll Call Vote:** All in favor

**Motion Passed**

**9. Presentation by The American Red Cross**

Will be rescheduled at a later date.

**10. LC RRA Financials:**

- a.** General budget discussion (non-NCO related items)

This item will be rescheduled for a later date. Any questions regarding the budget can be submitted to Susan Parker and she will get the response to the Board.

- b.** General budget discussion (NCO related items)

This item will be rescheduled for a later date.

- c.** Directors budget workshop/discussion

**Director Simon:**

- Would like to see a yearly LCRRA community meeting or workshop.
- Originally planning an in-person workshop in May.
- Could utilize Middletown Rancheria as a host for the yearly workshop.
- Would like to see volunteer workforce developed through the LCRRA to assist elders and underprivileged community members with property cleanup
- Neighbors helping neighbors

**Director Pyska:**

- One thing identified in the Fire Safe Lake Workshops was the need for a quarterly newsletter.

**Director Ingram:**

- Inquired about having a special meeting or a dedicated budget workshop to evaluate resources available for upcoming projects for the year.

**Director Simon:**

- In favor of a budget workshop.

**Director Pyska:**

- There is a six-month contract already in place and the clock is ticking so there is a definite need for a complete budget to understand what the members' contributions would be.

**Director Sapeta:**

- Would prefer an in-person meeting to brainstorm and collaborate with members.

**Director Ingram:**

- Suggested a meeting date of November 4, 2022, at 1-3 p.m.

**Director Simon:**

- Has set a 2-hour Directors Budget Workshop meeting scheduled for November 4, 2022, from 1-3 p.m.
- Asked that the second 'Public Input' section be removed from all future agendas. Will move forward with Public Input at the beginning of the agenda only and allow for public comment after each item.

**Chief Duncan:**

- Brought up the issue of the cannabis task force and the request by Supervisor Sabatier to build some drying structures.
- The cannabis grows are kept out of reach and are causing some stress on local fire agencies.
- The road standards are not being kept up.
- People on early activation are not meeting requirements.
- Funding through mitigation fees are available for Fire agencies to purchase equipment.
- Mitigation fees are supposed to be placed on new structures at \$1 per square foot, and changes to that are causing concerns for local fire agencies.
- Having structures out in the wildland areas that are less permitted and less inspected are a safety hazard to all residents.

**Director Sapeta:**

- Submitted a request to be on the cannabis task force to help guide through the process.

**11. New reporting process:**

**Packet review:** Comments/Questions on reporting packet updates.

**a. SVBPI (Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians)**

**Director Logsdon:**

- The link provided in the SVBPI report is no longer working. A new link has been updated: <https://www.scottsvally-nsn.gov/tribal-enterprises/scotts-valley-energy-corporation/bioenergy-feasibility-assessment>
- b. TERA:** None
- c. NCO:** None

**Tammy Alakszay:**

- Reminded the group that all reports are due by the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month and the reporting template can be found in the packet or can be sent via email.

**12. Consideration of subcommittee reports and updates:**

**a. Tree Mortality and Forest Health Task Force Update:**

**Director Pyska:**

- This committee has been dissolved and will be moved to a county ran committee beginning October 21, 2022.
- Agencies continue to report progress on countywide projects.
- Most of the focus has been on the number of trees that have been felled/removed around the county as well as looking at the mortality rate outside of the Cobb area and the wood removal from that area.

**b. CMAT Reporting Committee update:**

**Director Pyska:**

- The CMAT (Community Mitigation Action Team) Committee has been meeting at 1:30 p.m. before the LCRRA meeting for most of this year.
- We have been looking at the recommendations outlined in the CMAT Report.
- The CMAT meeting has been put on hold while we wait to hear the outcome of the Climate Safe Lake Grant that was submitted earlier this month.



**c. CWPP Committee Update:**

**Director Simon:**

- Two community meetings that we currently have the gov to gov and public meetings
- Future meeting agendas that will come back to the board of supervisors with the CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan)
- 30-day submission period for any additions or edits to the content within the CWPP
- Anyone wanting to submit feedback regarding the CWPP can email Matthew Rothstein at [matthew.rothstein@lakecounty.ca.gov](mailto:matthew.rothstein@lakecounty.ca.gov)
- Hoping to have the CWPP updated and finalized before the end of the year.

**Public Comment:**

**Betsy Cawn:**

- Asked for clarification regarding the final editing of the CWPP.
- The information does not match the assumptions that we have been working with all this time.
- Who will complete the draft adopted by the Board of Supervisors?

**Director Pyska:**

- Reviewed Matthew Rothstein's response to Betsy Cawn's email.
- After adoption, the CWPP committee will track the work and recommend updates. Those recommendations will come to the LCRRA and be voted on and then go to the board of supervisors for final adoption.
- Matthew Rothstein and Harry Lyons will be working on completing the final draft of the CWPP. After completion it will be adopted by the County, the fire Chiefs and CalFire.

**Magdalena Valderrama:**

- Stated that Dr. Harry Lyons made mention to her that he will not have much involvement in the CWPP as it moves forward.

**Tammy Alakszay:**

- Recommending that the Tree Mortality, CMAT and CWPP items remain on the agenda moving forward to allow time for updates.

**Director Simon:**

- Stated that the Tree Mortality, CMAT and CWPP updates shall remain on the agenda as a placeholder for any updates.

**Public Comment:**

**Bart Levenson:**

- Is there a desire for the public to continue bringing their concerns to these committees' attention?
- Is there a desire for the public to bring these issues to town hall meetings?
- Feeling as if the public is being left out of important informational meetings and updates.

**Director Pyska:**

- The time to address issues should take place at local town hall meetings or contact your district supervisor.
- Updates are issued at board meetings, town hall meetings, committee meetings and the LCRRA.

**Betsy Cawn:**

- The HOA in the Kelseyville Riviera is nonresponsive to these questions or concerns.
- It is unclear that the concerns expressed by Bart Levenson is not being received or addressed by these committees.

**Director Pyska:**

- The Konocti Fire Safe Council is working closely with Public Works, The County of Lake, CLERC and the evacuation grant to address these issues.
- Encouraged Bart Levenson to reach out to the Konocti Fire Safe Council.

**13. Agenda items to discuss next month:**

- Bio Char/Biomass energy presentation by SVBPI
- The American Red Cross ARC presentation

**14. Brief community announcements and events:**

**Director Sapeta:**

- Potential upcoming weather event coming up this weekend. Asking everyone to have situational awareness of the high fire danger.

**Frank Aebly:**

- After the 2018 Ranch Fire the USFS started a Northshore Fire Restoration Project in the footprint of the ranch fire 40k acres above the North Shore of Clearlake in the Bartlett springs area. After several delays, the decision was signed on the environmental assessment as of Friday October 14, 2022, and work will begin with various local partners and contractors to begin implementing fuels reduction, reforestation, and restoration projects in that area.

**Director Simon:**

- TERA (Tribal Eco Restoration Alliance) held a 2-day event for recertification for their TREX training in Middletown.
- Preparing for a future that includes prescribed burning.
- 60 participants-people of all ages were in attendance.

**Betsy Cawn:**

- A new shortwave radio group has been formed
- Very inexpensive and easy to obtain
- New network that covers the Clearlake basin
- They conduct a weekly check in
- People who are involved in emergency management or emergency radio may wish to join.

**Tammy Alakszay:**

- Catholic Charities was awarded an AmeriCorps team and they will arrive on October 31, 2022.
- Looking for projects to put on the books. Will have access to the AmeriCorps team 1-2 days per week.
- Still in need of housing. Preferably along the central or Northshore region of the lake.

15. **Next LC RRA meeting:** November 21, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

16. **Adjournment:**

**Director Simon entertained a motion to adjourn.**

**Motioned:** Director Duncan

**Second:** Director Logsdon

**All in Favor**

**Motion Passed**

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:23 p.m.**