

**Fire Safe Marin  
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board  
Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

**Board of Directors Member Attendance:**

Jim Chayka	FSM Admin – President + Large Landowners
Eva Denegri Baker	FSM Admin – Secretary + OES, retired
Jordan Reeser	Fire Agencies – County Fire
Quinn Gardner	Fire Agencies - Operations
Jason Weber	Fire Agencies – Fire Chiefs
Larry Pasero	Fire Agencies – Fire Prevention Officers
Shaun Horne	Large Landowners – Water District
John Hansen	HOAs – Marin Valley Mobile Country Club
Jerry Meral	At Large – Inverness Assn & FDN, Firewise
Adriana Rabkin	Marin VOAD
Romeo Arrieta	Marin Association of Realtors
Andrew Johnson	Calif Landscape Contractors Assn

**Excused:**

Todd Lando	FSM Admin – Vice-President + Fire Agencies
Roger Meagor	FSM Admin – Treasurer + Fire Chief, retired
Catherine Way	Elected Officials – Cities / Towns
Stephen Quarles	At Large – Home Hardening Expert, retired

**Honorary:**

Supervisor Katie Rice	FSM Chair & Board of Supervisors
Pete Martin	Director Emeritus - Founding Member & MCFD, retired

1. **Call to Order:** 0900 hours by the Vice-President, **Jim Chayka**, via the web conferencing software, *Zoom*. A quorum was present. Note that the public was made part of this Zoom call, and the meeting was recorded.
2. **Review and Approve Agenda (CHAYKA):** no changes  
*M/S Chayka / Hansen*  
**AYES: ALL**
3. **Review and Approve Minutes from the June 26, 2024 Regular Board Meeting (CHAYKA):** one correction to the roll call on page 1 – Romeo Arrieta was present at the meeting.  
*M/S Hansen / Way*  
**AYES: ALL**

4. **Treasurer's Report with Handouts for August 28, 2024 Board Meeting (CHAYKA)**  
Vice-President Chayka shared Roger Meagor's Treasurer's Report for the meeting of August 28, 2024, containing attachments for the Balance Sheet, Income Statement, MWPA Budget vs. Actuals, Expenditure Report, and Bank Reconciliation.

Total Equity - \$363,834  
Cash Balance - \$383,643

The Board acknowledged and filed the Treasurer's Report and Financials. *This Report in its entirety is available by request to **Eva D. Baker** at [evadbaker@outlook.com](mailto:evadbaker@outlook.com).*

5. **Updates (with Handouts)**

✦ **MWPA 2023-24 Projects (MCCABE / GAUNA)**

Co-director of Operations, **Jen Gauna** and Co-director of Development, **Meg McCabe**, presented the July 2024 Activity Report to the FSM Board, which had been delivered to the MWPA at their August 23, 2024 board meeting. ***The twenty-two-page report is incredibly detailed and will not be summarized here. However, this July 2024 report is available to the public on Fire Safe Marin's website ([firesafemarin.org/about/reports/](https://firesafemarin.org/about/reports/)) under the tab, "Project Updates". Alternatively, the public may request a full copy by emailing Secretary **Eva D. Baker** at [evadbaker@outlook.com](mailto:evadbaker@outlook.com).***

**Some Highlights from the Report:**

FSM's *Wildfire Education and Outreach Activities* from July 1 - 31, 2024.

- Very high reach & engagement continues. Reach was 312,200 (+41%) and engagement was 8.2% (+10%). To give some context, Reach was only at 60,000 in early spring of this year.
- New video in production as part of Mark Brown's Wildfire Behavior Series, entitled, "Could it Happen Here."
- Ad Campaign called, *Open Your Wildfire Risk Report* has concluded. This was a multi-media marketing effort aimed at encouraging residents to open their reports from the home inspectors.
- Collaboration with North Marin Community Services and Novato Fire Department to reimagine a *Red Flag Warning* flier and a *How to Create a Fire Smart Yard* brochure co-branded in Spanish and English.
- In time for *Ember Stomp*, FSM initiated a *Retrofitting a Home for Wildfire Resistance* brochure, which will be a companion piece to the *Fire Smart Yard* brochure.
- FSM is collaborating with the Northern California Landscape Contractors Association to create a course, [Fire Smart Landscaping 101](#). **President Todd**



**Final Minutes Approved by Fire Safe Marin Board of Directors on October 23, 2024**

**Lando and Director Andrew Johnson** will lead the two-hour training at Marin Builders with potential dates of September 17, 24, and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

✦ **Ember Stomp Update (MCCABE / GAUNA)**

The Third Annual Ember Stomp Wildfire Prevention Festival will take place on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 11am until 5pm at the Marin Civic Center. This year there are twenty major financial donors to the event, including Marin County Fire, The Insurance Institute for Home Safety (IBHS), Marin Board of Realtors, and Marin Master Gardeners, to name a few. For the first time, IBHS will be there with an upgraded live Wildfire Prepared Home side-by-side burn demonstration. **MCFD Chief Jason Weber** will once again do a fire demonstration using a Weber grill (hence, the name, "Weber's Weber"). And, the company, Vulcan Vents, will conduct an ember simulation for the attendees. Full media coverage is expected with the hopes of attracting national coverage. In addition there will be experiential learning experiences for attendees to participate in. And, Marin Wildfire will be placed prominently at the front of the event to showcase all of the JPA's accomplishments and initiatives. Many thanks to both **Treasurer Meagor and Rich Shortall** for spending much of their July building life-size exhibits (e.g., soffits, stucco, etc.) in San Geronimo. Finally, a video on Marin County's Fire History will be shown at *Ember Stomp*.

**6. Call for Future Agenda Items (CHAYKA):**

1. Clarification of Treasurer's Report at 10/23/24 FSM board meeting
2. FSM Annual Report presentation at 10/23/24 board meeting

Please send agenda requests to **President Lando** or to FSM staff for the next regular meeting of the Board, to be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

**7. ADJOURN:**

Next meeting will be held on *Wednesday, October 23, 2024*. Being no further business, the President called for a motion to adjourn this meeting at 0947 hours.

**M/S Denegri Baker / Hansen**

AYES: ALL

**8. SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE:**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of Fire Safe Marin's Regular Board of Director's meeting, held on August 28, 2024.

  
Eva Denegri Baker, Secretary, Fire Safe Marin

October 23, 2024  
Date