



# Wildfire Prevention District Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, February 24, 2005, 7:00 P.M.  
City Hall, Hearing Room 3  
One Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612

## MEETING MINUTES

I. **Call to Order** – Ken Benson, Committee Chair  
Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

II. **Roll Call** – Ken Benson, Committee Chair

**Present:** Ken Benson, Allene Warren, Carl Hackney, Carol Bernau, Gordon Piper, Bob Sieben, Ernest Robinson, Tamia Marg, Camille Rodgers, Leroy Griffin

**Absent:** Susan Burnett, Ben Fay, Jill Broadhurst

III. **Approval of January Minutes**

At the request of the Board the, approval of the January and February meeting minutes would be carried over until March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

IV. **Approval of Criteria for a 10 Year Goal to Establish and Implement a fuel Management Plan that is Strategic, Cost-effective, Sustainable, and Environmentally Sensitive** – Bob Sieben

Board members approve the following changes to the Strategic Plan;

1. **Reduce the sources of ignition** – The Board voted in favor of the committee's recommendation.  
Vote: 8 for, 0 against.
2. **Maintain Access (Fire Suppression and Egress (Evacuation) Routes**  
The Board voted in favor of the committee's recommendation.  
Vote: 8 for, 0 against.
3. **Develop Fire Prevention Friendly Policies**  
The Board voted in favor of the recommendations with the following amendments to the Plan.  
Remove item "F" Provide for selected, enforced tree removal from private properties in high risk situations.  
Keep item "G" Allow appropriate prescribed burns.  
Vote: 8 for, 0 against.
4. **Reduce the Spread of Fires from Wildlands**  
The Board voted in favor of the recommendations with the following amendments to the Plan.  
Change heading to "Recommend all public safe policy with the within the Urban Wildlands Interface".

Remove item "F" Give special consideration to identified fire chimneys.  
Add Recommend fire safe development standards in high hazard areas which may include fire safe windows.

Vote: 8 for, 0 against.

**5. Support/Leverage Effort by Home/Property Owners.**

Change item "A" from Provide dumpsters for removal of debris to Support continued provision of dumpsters for removal of cut vegetation.

Change item "B" from Provide chipping services for targeted high risk areas to Provide chipping services to assist property owners in high risk areas.

Add item "C" Support community vegetation removal efforts.

Vote: 8 for, 0 against.

**6. Develop a year round seasonal strategy –**

The Board voted in favor of the committee's recommendation.

Vote: 8 for, 0 against.

**7. Education Program –**

The committee passed a motion that the Education Program recommendations would be discussed at the retreat.

**Financial /Budget Report – Ken Benson**

The Board voted to accept the report submitted by the Budget committee with the opportunity to make changes. Several Board members proposed adjustments in the budget. A motion was made to defer additional comment until the March 24<sup>th</sup> Retreat.

There was one public speaker. Comment: Speaker expressed concern on the recommendation to reduce the funding for roving fire patrols and the Public Education position. The Board approved the motion to continue the budget discussion until the retreat.

**V. March 10<sup>th</sup> Retreat**

Retreat will be held at the EOC (Fire Station #1) from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Marilyn Snider of Snider and Associates has been contracted to facilitate the retreat.

**VI. Presentation**

- Mike Petouhoff Shepard Canyon Homeowners Association was scheduled to make a presentation on the vegetation management activities of the Shepard Canyon Homeowners Association. However due to the length of the strategic plan and budget discussions.

A request was made by the board to invite Mr. Petouhoff to make his presentation at the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**VII. Old Business –**

- **Herbicide Update**  
Chairperson Benson briefed the board on the resolution amending the City of Oakland policy on the use of herbicides on City of Oakland property that was presented to the Public Works Committee by Councilmember Jean Quan. Board members were informed that at the request of the Public Works Committee that the resolution be revised to address the concerns expressed by the public at the meeting. The revised resolution was scheduled for the March 8<sup>th</sup> Public Works Committee meeting.
- **Personnel Posting from January Meeting**  
Staff provided an update on the recruitment process for the hiring of the Public Education Coordinator. Staff reported that the personnel requisition had been completed and that staff was meeting with Personnel to start the recruitment announcement. Chairperson Benson requested that staff provide regular updates to the Board on the recruitment process.

**VIII. Public Comments –**

- **Mary Nielsen –** Expressed concerns regarding the use and the risk to human in use of herbicides a tool for vegetation in addition. The speaker requested that the Board not propose any cuts in the roving patrols budget.

**X. Adjournment – 10:00 p.m.**

The meeting is held in a wheelchair accessible facility. Please contact the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, or call (510) 238-3611 (voice) or (510) 839-6451 (TTY) if you need to arrange for the following services: (1) Sign Interpreters or phone hearing device for hearing impaired; (2) large print, Braille, or cassette tape text for the visually impaired.

The City of Oakland complies with applicable City, State and Federal disability related laws and regulations protecting the civil rights of persons with environmental illness/multiple chemical sensitivities (EI/MCS). In compliance with Oakland's policy for people with chemical allergies, please refrain from wearing strongly scented products to meetings.

To offer Public Comment or to participate in the Open Forum during the WPD meeting, please sign a speaker card at the beginning of the meeting. There will be time for Public Comment before the Board makes any formal decisions.