



Firewise Committee Report
August 8, 2022
Bobby Clevenger, Committee Chairman
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Charter: The Firewise Committee works in support of the community in helping to develop fire mitigation strategies for the community, as well as each individual homeowner in Big Elk Meadows. – **Needs approval**

Members: Bobby Clevenger – Chair, Collin Isenhardt, Cynthia Ray, Elaine Murphey and Jim Murphey

Firewise Committee Meeting

A regular meeting was held on Sunday, August 7, 2022, to discuss the action items facing the group for upcoming fire season. Items on the agenda were:

- COSWAP Program
- Chipper Program
- Home Mitigation Program
- Common Area Mitigation/ LTP Committee involvement

COSWAP Program - We met with Dennis Delong from COSWAP on Wednesday August 3rd at the firehouse. We discussed their approach to working in communities like ours. They usually come in for two weeks at the encampment and then rotate to another location throughout the fire season. They are on call for most wildfire emergencies, so our mitigation could be interrupted Dennis did indicate that they are committing to have their part of the project completed by the end of 2023. They will get back to us and confirm start dates, but we expect it to be April 2023 at the earliest. Dennis also indicated that they would work on members lots in that area if requested. The committee will develop a sign-up sheet for the program. Nelson Renouf and Glenn Christensen have volunteered to be the point of contact through the weeks they are on site. Port-a-potties was their only request, but we will be looking into providing some type of shower facilities. The committee will plan a Q&A session or two for the membership to answer any questions about the COSWAP Program and the SWIFT Teams starting at the Labor Day picnic at the Firehouse.

Chipper Program - The liability waiver was approved by the Board, and we can now start the program. We have a log sheet, a waiver sign-off form, proper PPE to operate the equipment and we will provide full training on the equipment before it is released to the member. Training is expected to start almost immediately.

Home Mitigation Program – In the last Board meeting the Board acknowledged that homeowners have permission to remove trees and slash up to 200 feet of common land directly behind their property. The removal must follow Firewise guidelines. The homeowners must properly notify Operations of the area they will be working.

Common Area Mitigation/LTP Involvement - Need to kick this off with LTP or Common Area. Part of this program should include the burn scar recovery up near the horse pasture.

New item:

Insurance companies are contesting liability. We need to make sure we are protected as to what we request and enforce related to fire mitigation. Defensible Space Packet. **Needs Board Discussion.**

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 4th at 9:00 am. Our next workday is August 27th at 8:45 am.