

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
CHINOOK PASS CABIN OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
FALL MEETING - SATURDAY, OCT. 6, 2007
NILE COMMUNITY BUILDING

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Berriochoa at 1:00 p.m. with a welcome and introduction of officers. There were approximately 66 in attendance. A moment of silence to honor those who are no longer with us.

Ken Armstrong from Pacific Power was present to speak on vegetation management. Three people, Jim, Don, and Dan, were present from Trees, Inc., which contracts with Pacific Power. Funding is available for hazard trees. They are presently working 2-3 miles upstream from the road that goes to Bumping Lake. Power lines are also on forest land, so Pacific Power has some guidelines also to follow just as we do, restrictions dealing with wildlife, number of trees they can cut, etc. Limit is 30 trees per mile per year. Remove – cut down to the ground leaving a 6-9 foot stub. For brush disposal they now have a new chipper. Old one didn't take old stuff. Looking primarily at lines on the top of the pole. Wires from pole to cabins not too concerned with.

Jack Selby questioned the mess left 1.4 years ago in the middle of the road in American River. Marvinna McDonald asked to be informed when they will be in her area. Dave Leinweber asked Ken to inform him of their schedule and Dave could post it on our website. Ken agreed. Ken gave us his phone number (509) 575-3191 and website is www.Pacificcorps.com.

Jim Bailey – U.S. Forest Service Fuels Planner – Naches Ranger District spoke on vegetation management as it relates to forest fires. Showed pages from www.firewise.org website showing hints you can use regarding protecting your cabin from fires. Best thing to do is to get into that website. Look at it from the firefighters point of view. Your cabin is going to be assessed by a firefighter---whether to stand and fight or cut and run. Cabin most defensible is the one that is going to get most protection. Value of the cabin has nothing to do with it.

Mike Rowan – Offered the statement, “Be prepared to leave.” Had a copy of the new guidelines for tree removal but did not pass it out. There are major changes in it, like you can only cut down dead trees under 20 feet tall without getting permission. All other trees require permission. To view these guidelines, go to www.cpcoa.com, click on links, click on Naches Ranger District Summer Home Information, then go to Hazard Tree Information Guide.

Clear roads is something to consider for the fire trucks. Cabins inside a draw probably won't get the protection.

Mike Berriochoa – Think like a fire. Think about the fuel load down close to the ground. Pruning? One-third of the tree and anything to the ground. If it's green, not necessary. If dead and down, ok to cut. Big logs leave alone. Needles and leaves are what you want to

deal with. Less than 3 ft. in diameter are what you want to deal with. The forest service – call in for mutual aid. Can't respond if in a fire district. Don't do structural protection just resource protection. Check the FS website under "Naches Cabins" for more information.

Dave Leinweber – has request for tree removal. Has been delayed. How long does it take? Goal is 3 weeks per Mike Rowan. FS has to get trees to the ground. If not getting answers to questions, maybe someone is out of the office (would explain delay).

Dan – from Trees, Inc. in charge of burning down piles of debris. They apologized for leaving prior "messes".

Kelsey Collins – Dept. of Ecology spoke on status of water bank. Her last email to us most up to date information she has. Working to file a revised solution. Reversal auction – method being used now. 1) To secure water rights. One senior water rights holder responded. Did not have a valid water right. 2) Hiring a water broker. 3) Going to people individually that we know have sold water in the past. 4) Have another type of auction. Waiting for final settlement document to be signed with the Bureau of Reclamation. DOE will be hiring a full-time person to work on this. (Kelsey has put her name in for this position.) Working with cabin owners who may be senior right down below who may want to put some acreage into fallow for us to purchase. Irrigation Districts – If someone has share in an irrigation district can they transfer their shares to the cabins? Kelsey says some restrictions apply on this. They are in the business of getting water rights not giving them away.

Ted Filer spoke on CUFFA – He is our representative on the national board of NFH. He and his wife own a cabin in White Pass area. Right now there are 303 cabins in the White Pass area and 267 in the Chinook Pass area. Members are vital to our organizations. Cabin owners have passion for their cabins.

CUFFA ongoing for some time. It is flawed. Thrown back to Congress for review. Sen. Craig wrote it. Last month NFHA decided that source would be a consortium of people. Nethercutt, Cattlemen's Assn., commercial people, and utility people (ones who have the power lines). Wenatchee – a year from now fall 2008. New permits 2009. 2010 – 10-yr cycle. New permit will be for 20 yrs. Typical lot will be appraised in every tract. Will be appraised as bare land, no improvements considered. Keep your appt. with the appraiser. Bring information. Copy of the information that you have on file. Read it. Mike will get you a copy of your permit if you need. Let the FS know if it needs to be present. Update it. What can we do as owners to get ready for the appraisal? 1) Need to do your homework. Free copies are available through NFS. 1) Review your typical lots that forestry has selected. If you feel you have some changes you can request a change but you need to justify why. 3) List of amenities you paid for. If you paid for those, they will not be a part of the appraisal. 4) Look at comparable lots. Ted referenced getting a copy of "The Updated Cabin Owner's Guide to Setting Cabin Fees as Revised by C.U.F.F.A.). First, area appraisers come through will be Sawtooth. There will be a phase-in period.

Fire protection

Chipper - There is a meeting Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Naches Fire Station. Grant monies are available. Carl Buchholz urged everyone to attend this meeting if they can. Find out what's going on. Re the chipper - questions to ask are: Who would maintain it? Where will it be kept? Are we even eligible to receive monies to purchase one?

Ted Filer - We need to develop a fire district. White Pass is in the process of developing one. Bill Fromier is contact person.

Financial Report - Jim Lundeen

Balace in checking account - \$3,652.00

2008 dues in March - \$50.00 (We keep \$15.00, \$35.00 goes to national.) \$30.00 for associate members (we keep \$10.00, \$20.00 goes to national.).

Dave Leinweber questioned whether we want Forum back on the website. Classifieds are now on our website. Contact Dave if you have anything cabin related you wish to sell. It will cost nothing to advertise on our website, www.cpcoa.com.

Communications - Jack Selby

1) Would like to get everyone's email.

Mike Berriochoa - Asked for input re a hospitality committee to help with meetings, etc. Kelly Crabb volunteered to head up this committee.

Summer meeting - picnic in late June.

Mike suggested everyone do a memory book of their cabin, include pictures, events, etc. that they can share with the rest of us at the picnic.

Field trips - Carl Buchholz

The following were all suggested. Carl to follow up.

- 1) Copper City
- 2) Geology
- 3) Naches Pass Trail - will get John Thompson to do if agreeable.
- 4) History
- 5) Trout
- 6) Mushrooms

Election of officers was held. All incumbents re-elected for next two years except Reva Bunnell, who will serve until a replacement is found.

Wilma Harp won the door prize (a gift certificate from Gold Creek).

Meeting adjourned at around 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Reva Bunnell,
Secretary - CPCOA

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