

## **GERLE CREEK SUMMER HOME TRACT ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2013**

Bill Dillon, Gerle Creek Summer Home Tract President, called the meeting to order with a roll call. We had a quorum.

The Forest Service presentation was given by our new District Ranger, Richard Thornburgh. He appreciated the invitation to speak and meet the Gerle Creek cabin owners. Captain Lucas Birch and his crew from Engine 353 gave the fire presentation.

### **FOREST SERVICE PRESENTATION**

District Ranger Thornburgh spoke on the issue of hazard trees, the ability to identify, and take action. Cabin owners can send their hazard tree list to Bill Dillon, and he will make a master list. If there is an immediate issue of hazard trees, cabin owners may take an earlier action. Melanie Hornsby is our contact person. She is in charge of our tract and permits. Her supervisor is Debbie Gaynor.

Mr. Thornburgh discussed the options for the clean-up of lots. Needles and branches can be hauled to the dumps, taken home, burned (burn season is now closed) or a tract dumpster (we no longer have a grant for a dumpster). However, very small amounts of needles can be put into a campfire with a campfire permit. He also reminded cabin owners not to rake down to the mineral soil. Leave a layer of needles to keep dust down and prevent erosion. Do not pile needles and branches in/on logging debris piles.

Ranger Thornburgh gave the cabin owners a heads-up about forthcoming inspections. Melanie and crew will be checking. Cabin owners may/may not be getting a letter, depending on what they find. This is helpful for the tract. Cabin owners were asked to think about this in a positive light for uniformity, appearance, and cabin values.

The billings are finally in the mail. The new appraisals will drop a little for our tract when fully implemented. This is a good thing for our tract.

Mr. Thornburgh addressed the issue regarding the clearing of hazard fuels that are across from the lower road. This is not a big area, but every little bit helps in fire prevention. It concerns him that we have a defensible space.

He is looking into it with Don Herrington and his fuel reduction staff. Apparently, this area has been left out of the Forest Service Projects. He did not know why it had been left out of projects. There will be no clear cutting. This project will not start right away, and the forest service will work with the tract on this issue. He will try to incorporate this project with another forest service project.

It is up to the individual cabin owner to check daily what the cutting index/residential burning is for that day. This information changes from day to day. Because of liability, the forest service will not post on our bulletin board since forest service employees are not at Airport Flat everyday. Find cell phone service and make the call.

### **FIRE PRESENTATION**

Captain Lucas Birch's presentation covered 2 areas: campfire permits and residential burning permits.

Every Gerle Creek cabin owner must have a campfire permit. This permit is a CA state permit. It is free, and it's good for 1 calendar year. A campfire permit is a tool (rules/regulations) for education/guidance of campfire practices. The campfire permits were available at our meeting. They are also available at Crystal Basin Information Center, Fire Stations, Ranger Stations. The phone number for campfire information and wooding cutting is 530-644-6048.

Airport Flat campers need a campfire permit since there is no water and no camp host. Gerle Creek campgrounds have water and a camp host, therefore, these campers do not need a permit.

Campfire restrictions will be coming in the next few weeks depending on conditions. When an area goes into campfire restrictions, on/off switches only for the fuel source. A propane grill is okay. Exceptions are in developed recreation tracts(GCSHT). Follow the rules/regulations on the campfire permit.

Residential burning is closed for the season. However, for future use a cabin owner must have a residential burning permit to burn needles. Only certain personnel can issue these permits: CAL FIRE, Ken Comfy and crew, El Dorado Fire Stations, and the Pacific Ranger Station.

The residential burning permit is good for 3 years.

Phone number for residential burning information is: 530-621-5897.

Remember, if your fire spreads to another property, you are responsible.

The residential burn permit will list:

1. The permit number
2. Expiration date
3. Permittee name
4. His/her physical address
5. Location of burn
6. Permittee signature

There are important regulations that must be met:

1. Maximum pile size 4 foot diameter
2. 10 feet clearance, maintained free and clear of all flammable material and vegetation
3. Water supply, shovel, and bucket at burning site
4. Check to see if it is a burn day
5. Check latitude, no low hanging branches above burn pile
6. Permittee needs to be present and make sure fire is out.

Captain Birch stated that it will be a dry season. Please be careful. The areas of concern around cabins are roofs, decks, porches, and sides of cabins. Clean these areas of needles and branches. Watch out for embers. Call 911 in case of emergency. Find a cell site: Chipmunk Bluff, Robbs Saddle, or up by our water tanks. If using a cell phone identify your state (CA) and location of fire. A landline is better. There is a landline at Crystal Basin Information, with summer hours 8-4:30.

#### **APPROVAL OF 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

No questions were asked. It was moved/seconded by Holmes(33)/Boyd (21) and carried to approve 2012 meeting minutes as presented.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2013/2014**

Brad Dillon, Gerle Creek Summer Home Tract Treasurer, presented proposed budget for 2013/2014. No questions were asked at that time. It was moved/seconded by Boyd(21)/Holmes(33) and carried to accept 2013/2014 budget.

#### **REMINDERS**

Bill Dillon had a couple of reminders for the cabin owners. If a cabin owner has friends up at their cabin, whether owner is present or not, it is the cabin owner's responsibility for their guests actions. Guests of cabin owners need

to know our rules and regulations.

Also, there is NO SHOOTING within our tract. Cans with bullet holes were found on the well head. Someone has been shooting in direct line of the propane tank. This is a very dangerous situation. Again, NO SHOOTING.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

No additional speed bumps will be constructed this season. Please drive 5 miles an hour within our tract. This is for ALL types of vehicles. It is a common courtesy for everyone, and it keeps the dust down. There are adults, children, and dogs walking on our road, and we want to keep Gerle Creek a safe community.

Anti-siphon valves are a county/state requirement. Remember to take off the locking screw when you install the anti-siphon on your faucets. If you tighten the locking screw, it will break off. Then you won't be able to take the anti-siphon off the faucet when you close for the season. The anti-siphon valves need to be removed in order to drain your faucets completely for winterization.

Work party dates are July 13<sup>th</sup> and August 17<sup>th</sup>. The fire hoses will be tested on July 13<sup>th</sup>. We will work on the water system pipes on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **BOARD NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS**

Bill Boyd, Gina Busalacchi, and Wayne Fluke are up for re-election this year. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved/seconded by Mehr(32)/Lile(38) and carried to keep Bill, Gina, and Wayne in office.

Bill Dillon is running for president again. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved/seconded by Boyd(21)/Lile(38) and carried to re-elect Bill as president.

### **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

Rich Busalacchi passed out fire extinguishers to the cabin owners (those present) at no cost. These are dry chem extinguishers, charged, and good for 5 years. They are used on wood, paper, flammable liquids, and electrical fires. They will work on SMALL residential fires. Easy to use by getting within 10ft of fire, pulling the pin, and by starting at base of fire, use slow sweeping motions. These extinguishers smother the fire and exclude oxygen. That's what puts the fire out. Their duration is about 30 seconds.

They are portable and can be used in kitchens, on boats, jeeps, quads, or on your deck when barbequing. Remember, if a cabin/room is fully engulfed these extinguishers will not put out the fire. You will need to use the tract fire hoses. Cabin owners not attending the meeting need to contact Richard at lot #37, and he will provide you with an extinguisher.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved/seconded by Boyd(21)/Fluke(22) and carried to adjourn 2013 meeting.

Have a great summer!

Respectfully submitted by,

Gina Asaro Busalacchi, Secretary  
Gerle Creek Summer Home Tract Association