

**Presentation to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, February 26, 2019**  
**By Megan McCluer, Executive Director of the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council.**

Hello, Good morning, my name is Megan McCluer and I am speaking to you today as the Executive Director of the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council. ***The mission of the Fire Safe Council is to inform, empower, and mobilize county residents to survive and thrive in a wildfire-prone environment.*** We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides information, education, and advocacy for fire preparedness. We also apply to all types of grant opportunities to fund and implement fire-related projects throughout the County such as vegetation management, chipper days for defensible space, community workshops, and development and distribution of fire safety resources.

I'd like to acknowledge that the County has provided some base funding for the last several years to maintain the non-profit organization operations and former Supervisor Georgeanne Crosky and now Supervisor John McGowen have participated in numerous FSC meetings and events. Thank you.

Last March, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, also known as the RCD, formally picked up the organization to reestablish it back into a more active community service organization to address the devastating wildfires of 2017 and 2018. Since the recent fires, community demand for services from the FSC has been overwhelming, but still, the FSC supported the County in applying to six separate grant applications. They include a County-wide Community Chipper program, and specific vegetation management projects in Willits, Yorkville, and the Western Hills of Ukiah. The RCD has donated, and continues to donate, thousands of dollars in staff time to allow the FSC to operate, to apply to grants, ensure compliance with state and federal non-profit rules and regulations, update our website, educational literature, and expand services provided to the public. Thank you to RCD staff Mary Mayeda and Imil Ferrara, and County staff, Steve Dunncliff, Darcie Antle, and Xuyen Ung for helping build the FSC organization into an important partner for Mendocino County.

I'm excited to report that on January 15<sup>th</sup>, the FSC elected four new members to our Board of Directors. They are a diverse, well-qualified team of enthusiastic professionals that are starting off strong by requesting public participation in several FSC sub-committees. These subcommittees include Education/Outreach, Membership, Fundraising, and Grant Writing for community projects. These volunteer opportunities will be discussed at our monthly meeting at the Civic Center, Fire Dept training room tomorrow, Wed Feb 27 at 10:00am. I encourage any member of the public interested in participating to attend tomorrow's meeting to meet our Board of Directors and to learn how to make your neighborhood and Mendocino County a fire safe community.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the FSC will be formally presenting to you, the Board of Supervisors, a summary of accomplishments since being reactivated and we will request additional base funding from the County in order to operate independent of RCD funds. Our proposal will include development of a strategic business plan for the FSC to be less dependent on the RCD, or the County's direct funding, in the future.

I look forward to speaking with you again in April.

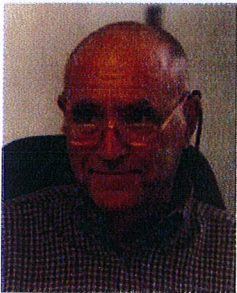
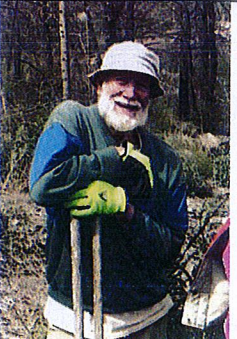
Thank you.

# MENDOCINO COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

*To inform, empower, and mobilize county residents to survive and thrive in wildfire prone environments.*

## 2019 Board of Directors

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council (MCFSC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission to inform, empower, and mobilize county residents to survive and thrive in a wildfire-prone environment. The MCFSC is led by a volunteer Board of Directors that serve a minimum of two years. The Board consists of at least five voting members and at least 2 non-voting Associate Directors, all of whom own land in Mendocino County. The MCFSC website is <http://firesafemendocino.org/>

	<p><b>Joe Zicherman, Chair</b> <a href="mailto:zicherman46@gmail.com">zicherman46@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Joe is a consulting fire scientist and for over 30 years worked to solve fire safety problems in the public and private sector. He became involved in fire science engineering while an employee of the UC Forest Products Lab in Richmond in 1973. He received a doctoral degree UC Berkeley in 1978. After consulting with Fire Cause Analysis in Berkeley, he affiliated with Berkeley Engineering and Research. In the past two decades he has become increasingly involved in problems involving wildland and wildland–urban Interface (WUI) situations. As a consultant to the Office of the State Fire Marshal he authored the technical and cost/benefit justifications for the fire safety building requirements which were approved by the California Building Standards Commission. These are now included in California Building Code Chapter 7a. He is currently working with groups who lost their homes in the recent Camp Fire in Butte County. He has been a landowner in Boonville for over 20 years, growing grapes while continuing his fire safety consulting work on a part-time basis.</p>
	<p><b>Amanda Reiman, Vice Chair</b> <a href="mailto:amanda@flowkana.com">amanda@flowkana.com</a></p> <p>Amanda Reiman is the Vice President of Community Relations for Flow Kana, a branded cannabis distribution company that works with small farmers in the Emerald Triangle. She is also Chairs the Board of the International Cannabis Farmers Alliance, a group that advocates for research and policies that favor sun grown cannabis cultivation through traditional farming methods and a Board member for the California Cannabis Tourism Association, the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance and The Initiative, the first incubator/accelerator for women owned cannabis businesses. Amanda currently lives in the West Hills of Ukiah.</p>
	<p><b>Charlie Kelly, Secretary</b> <a href="mailto:charliek@pacific.net">charliek@pacific.net</a></p> <p>Charlie grew up on a ranch in Southern California, under the tutelage of a true environmentalist and steward of the Earth, his Dad. Charlie further developed his love of Nature – and our World – becoming an Eagle Scout (1962). Charlie is a Rotarian (35 years or so), and has served in several positions up to being the District Governor (6 NW California counties). And, for the last 18 years, has driven a water tender on many, many, wildfires (now including 6 of the top 10). He is now a trainer for CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams). Charlie lives near Lake Mendocino in Ukiah, CA.</p>



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	<p><b>Lisa Bauer, Treasurer</b> <a href="mailto:recycqueen@gmail.com">recycqueen@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Lisa lives in Yorkville, CA, far off the grid, at the top of Anderson Valley, and owns a small winery, Yamakiri Wines. She manages several vineyards, where she dry-farms older vines using natural farming methods. She also co-manages the rural road on which her ranch sits, and volunteers on the Yorkville Community Benefits Association, a board which raises funds for local firefighting resources in Yorkville. In a previous life, Lisa ran the recycling and refuse programs at UC Berkeley, where she worked with students, taught several environmental sustainability classes and managed early sustainability efforts at the university.</p>
	<p><b>Mike Webster, Director</b> <a href="mailto:retsbeu@mcn.org">retsbeu@mcn.org</a></p> <p>Mike is a retired employee of the US Geological Survey where he served as Field Office Chief at the Ukiah, CA, Field Office for 18 years. He has a strong background in water resources and flow conditions in Mendocino County streams and rivers. Mike works as a private consultant assisting the Sonoma County Water Agency with some of their stream gauging needs. He received his bachelor's in biology from Sonoma State University. Mike lives in downtown Ukiah.</p>
	<p><b>Nancy Armstrong-Frost, Associate Director</b> <a href="mailto:nafmom@aol.com">nafmom@aol.com</a></p> <p>Nancy is a Yorkville, CA resident and rancher, a vineyard owner, Oat Valley Vineyards olive oil owner, Yorkville community volunteer, and mother to three adult children, three dogs, and six chickens. With Southern Mendocino and Northern Sonoma roots going back over a century, nancy is a firm advocate for the role of property holders in fire resiliency education. She received her degree from Chico State in business.</p>
	<p><b>VACANT, Associate Director</b></p>

## MCFSC COMMITTEES and SUBCOMMITTEES

The MCFSC Board of Directors serve on the EXECUTIVE and FINANCE Committees and can serve as leaders to initiate Subcommittees that operate with the help of general membership. Current subcommittees include:

- PUBLIC EDUCATION/MARKETING/OUTREACH
- FUNDRAISING/GRANT WRITING
- FUNDRAISING/EVENTS
- PROGRAMS/GUEST SPEAKERS
- POLICY/GOVERNANCE
- MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in a BOD position or would like to participate in a subcommittee, please contact Imil Ferrara at [firesafe@pacific.net](mailto:firesafe@pacific.net)