

**Douglass Ranch  
Firewise Committee Exploratory Meeting**

March 27, 2017

An exploratory Firewise Committee meeting was held at the home of Tom Washburn on Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>. The following members of the neighborhood were present

Attending:

Kay Collier  
Bonnis and Dick McAtee  
Dave Sanders  
Terry Sickler  
Veris Simms  
Eric and Rita Smith  
Charlie Williams  
Tom and Kate Washburn

Other interested parties who could not attend:

Gary Jorgensen  
Rick Koth  
Richard Merrick  
Susie Price  
Tom and Mary Sosnowski

The meeting was called to order about 6:30 pm.

A meeting agenda (available on the Douglass Ranch website: see [Firewise at Douglass Ranch](#)) was distributed.

Tom Washburn initiated the meeting and presented topics from the pages of the agenda. Discussion intertwined much of the presentation.

The path to community Firewise recognition was presented. Firewise recognition requires completing a Firewise application. Details of the Firewise application were discussed.

For Douglass Ranch, a community of only 40 homes, it should be straightforward to meet an annual “investment” of community time to achieve and maintain a Firewise status. Douglass Ranch requires \$200 of annual investment (computed as 2.5 residents/house x 40 homes x \$2 minimum per resident)

The “investment” of community time can come from individual homeowners doing their own mitigation efforts. Such efforts need to be reported to the FW Committee as they can be accumulated into the neighborhood’s total annual investment. Purchase of tools for mitigation work can also count toward the “investment” when they are reported to the FW Committee.

The main homeowner task is to learn about wildfire mitigation and then to act. In other words: Do something to begin to minimize the impact of wildfire. A number of references for further review (outside of the meeting) were presented.

Some candidate community-level tasks were presented. The Firewise Committee will discuss and select community task(s) as part of designing a long term mitigation plan.

One topic of discussion was that an emergency route out of the neighborhood is needed. This topic will require further study and discussion.

Our Elk Creek Fire Department contact for Community Assessment, Andrew Moyle, has taken a new job. Jacob Ware, [jware@elkcreekfire.org](mailto:jware@elkcreekfire.org), is currently covering Andrew's position.

The next steps for a Firewise Committee were discussed. Finally volunteers for a FW Committee were requested with a good response. The following attendees volunteered to serve on a DR Firewise Committee:

Terry Sickler  
Kay and Bryan Collier  
Veris Simms  
Dave and Marie Sanders  
Tom Washburn

The first meeting of the newly formed Firewise Committee will meet on a date to be determined. At the meeting, a committee lead will be decided.

The meeting ended about 7:45 pm.

Thanks to all who supported this meeting. With steady perseverance we will make a difference in the threat wildfire poses to our neighborhood.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Washburn, Secretary DR POA