

**CONEJO OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING**

**October 20, 2020
Via Videoconference/Teleconference**

SUMMARY MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE:

Chair Skei called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Flag Salute.

2. ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Bill-de la Peña, Director Huffer, Director Jones, Director Nickles, and Chair Skei present via videoconference.

Also present via videoconference were: CRPD General Manager Friedl, Deputy City Manager Rogers, Assistant City Attorney Liberman, COSCA Administrator Stark, COSCA Analyst Huber, Office Supervisor McMurtry, and Recording Secretary Goor.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Speakers/Written Statements: None.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. COSCA Administrator Stark presented a request for Approval of Appropriation from the Woolsey Fire Recovery Fund for a contract with the Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council to support community fire safety Programs. Mr. Stark discussed achieving community fire safety, described home-hardening, and commented on how blowing embers are a source of home ignition during wildfires. He described Fire Safe Council efforts to improve home fire safety including home-hardening assessments, chipper days, virtual webinars, and educational materials. Mr. Stark responded to Directors' questions regarding how to best get the information out and added that information regarding landscape plants can be added to the website.

Michael LaPlant, Ventura County Fire Safe Council Board of Directors President, provided a background on Fire Safe Council staff and training, and home-hardening educational efforts to date. He responded to Directors' questions regarding numbers of citizens that can be served through this grant, brush clearance education, the importance of property maintenance, and the hardening of homes, neighborhoods, and communities.

Chair Skei added that www.defensiblespace.org is an excellent resource regarding fire-resistant plants and home hardening. She commended the efforts of the Fire Safe Council.

Speaker/Written Statement Cards: None.

Motion by Vice Chair Bill de la Peña to approve staff recommendation (to authorize the COSCA Board Secretary to execute a contract with the Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council in an amount not to exceed \$45,808 from the Woolsey Fire Recovery Fund for the provision of community fire safety programs and services in COSCA's sphere of influence.) carried 5-0 by the following vote: Ayes – Bill-de la Peña, Huffer, Jones, Nickles, and Skei; Noes – None.

5. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m. to Regular Meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.



Rorie Skei, Chairperson