

*County of Lassen*  
**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

---



**CHRIS GALLAGHER**

*District 1*

**GARY BRIDGES**

*District 2*

**JEFF HEMPHILL**

*District 3*

**AARON ALBAUGH**

*District 4*

**TOM HAMMOND**

*District 5*

**Richard Egan**

*County Administrative Officer*

email: [coadmin@co.lassen.ca.us](mailto:coadmin@co.lassen.ca.us)

County Administration Office

221 S. Roop Street, Suite 4


Susanville, CA 96130

Phone: 530-251-8333

Fax: 530-251-2663

April 1, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors  
Agenda Date: April 13, 2021

FROM: Richard Egan, County Administrative Officer 

SUBJECT: Federal Title III Funding (Secure Rural Schools Program)

---

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Title III projects as described below and/or provide direction to staff.

PRIOR BOARD ACTIONS: When available, the federal government allocates Secure Rural Schools Title III funding to the County of Lassen. Over the past ten years, beginning in Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the Board of Supervisors has allocated Title III revenue to the following projects, approximately:

- \$1,070,154.00 for Firewise Communities activities and Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- \$181,400.00 for reimbursement of search and rescue/emergency services related costs to the County.

DISCUSSION: This agenda item identifies three specific projects for consideration by the Board, as follows:

The first project is allocating the balance of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 revenue (the amount remaining following the Board's approval of the Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc.'s request):

- Funding Request: \$74,295.00  
Project Applicant: Lassen County Sheriff's Department  
Proposed Use: Reimbursement for implementing search and rescue, law enforcement, and other emergency response activities performed on Federal land and paid for by Lassen County, including law enforcement patrols, associated training costs, and equipment purchases directly related to those services.

The second project is proposing to allocate Fiscal Year 2020-2021 revenue for Firewise Communities activities and Community Wildfire Protection Plans. On March 15, 2021, the Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. made this request (see attached letter):

- Funding Request: \$59,383.00  
Project Applicant: Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc.  
Proposed Uses: Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. shall (1) carry out Firewise Communities program assessments and action plans in the amount of \$39,383 (including a proposed 15% administrative fee) and (2) shall develop and carry out community wildfire protection plans before November 15, 2021 in the total amount of \$20,000 (including a proposed 15% administrative fee).

The third project consists of allocating the residual of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Title III funding, as proposed:

- Funding Request: Residual amount of \$44,280 (estimate) plus approximately \$5,000 in interest.  
Project Applicant: Lassen County Sheriff's Department  
Proposed Uses: Reimbursement for implementing search and rescue and other emergency response activities performed on Federal land and paid for by Lassen County including law enforcement patrols, associated training costs, and equipment purchases directly related to those services.

The Board can modify the amount of funding, approve or deny any or all of the above projects. Approved projects must undergo a 45-day public notice period to receive public comment prior to final action by the Board of Supervisors. Final action is proposed to be on or after June 8, 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT: Potentially positive since this revenue source may be allocated for the reimbursement of specific County costs, as described in the above project narratives for the Lassen County Sheriff's Department.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Various local communities and fire departments, CALFIRE, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, private timberland management companies, and private land owners and businesses such as Honey Lake Power. When requested, law enforcement search & rescue mutual aid support is provided by other local, county, state, and federal resources.

////////////////////////////////



## *Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc.*

P.O. Box 816 • Susanville, CA 96130 • (530) 251-5560 • [www.lassenfiresafecouncil.org](http://www.lassenfiresafecouncil.org)

Lloyd Keefer, Chair  
Kerri Cobb, Vice Chair  
Kam Vento, Secretary/Treasurer  
Tom Esgate, Managing Director  
Katlyn Lonergan, EO Assistant

Lassen County Board of Supervisors  
220 S Lassen St # 4  
Susanville, CA 96130

March 15, 2021

Dear County Supervisors,

To begin, the Lassen Fire Safe Council wants to thank the Board for the shared successes of recruiting and maintaining FIREWISE communities across Lassen County and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). In the past 18 years, our partnership has built a cohort of 10 nationally recognized FIREWISE communities with effective Action Plans and in-school wildfire prevention education programs. This partnership has allowed a direct conduit for rural communities to advocate for themselves and plan for treatments that mitigate wildfire risk in areas only locals can contribute. The CWPP is a first stepping stone with many downstream benefits including invaluable public-private partnerships that lead to landscape-scale grants treating thousands of acres across Lassen County reducing hazardous fuel loads, increasing public safety, and supporting the local timber industry.

As planning efforts resume in 2021, the Lassen Fire Safe Council is requesting a total of \$59,383 of Lassen County Title III funds to support Lassen County's Firewise Communities and the Lassen County Community Wildfire Protection Plan in order to uphold past efforts and strengthen partnerships within the County. LFSC requests the funds under (1) and (2) of the Title III Authorized Uses listed below:

- (1) to carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program to provide to homeowners in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires;
- (2) to develop community wildfire protection plans in coordination with the appropriate Secretary concerned.

Out of the 10 active Lassen County Firewise Communities, 9 are in need of updating their Community Action Plan by **November 15, 2021** to maintain their Firewise recognition with the National Fire Protection Association. These plans are required to be updated every 5 years. Day Lassen Bench was updated last year with Title III funds provided by Shasta County. In addition, LFSC wants to develop new plans for Westwood, making it our 11<sup>th</sup> Firewise Community. A budget for these plans is attached totaling \$39,383.

In addition, LFSC is requesting funds to support the Lassen County Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2022. A budget for these activities is attached totaling \$20,000.



We are active participants in FIREWISE Communities USA procedures.

We are hopeful that the County will be able to approve our proposal once Lassen County has received its next allocation of Title III funds which is expected next month. Please let us know if any additional information would be helpful in making a decision.

Thank you,

*Katlyn Loneragan*

Katlyn Loneragan,  
Firewise Communities Liaison  
Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc.



We are active participants in FIREWISE Communities USA procedures.

**2021 Lassen Fire Safe Council, Inc. Title III Request  
Firewise Community Assessments & Action Plans**

**Community**

Lookout	\$3,737.00	
Day Lassen Bench	\$0.00	Funded by Shasta County
Little Valley	\$3,737.00	
Stones Bengard	\$3,737.00	
Spaulding	\$3,737.00	
Lake Forest	\$3,737.00	
Clear Creek	\$3,737.00	
Westwood	\$5,750.00	New Plan
Susanville	\$3,737.00	
Janesville	\$3,737.00	
Milford	\$3,737.00	

**Total Firewise Request      \$39,383.00**

**All Plans Completed by November 15, 2021**

All of the above include a LFSC 15% administrative fee



# *Clear Creek Community Services District*

---

P.O. Box 833 • Westwood, CA 96137 • (530) 256-3096 • [cccsdwater@frontiernet.net](mailto:cccsdwater@frontiernet.net)

March 25, 2021

Chris Gallagher  
District 1 Supervisor  
221 S. Roop Street, Suite 4  
Susanville, CA 96130

RE: Title III Funds for Firewise Communities

Dear Chris Gallagher:

The Clear Creek Community Services District is in full support of Lassen Fire Safe Council's request for Title III funds for Firewise communities. It is my understanding the funds would be used to update 9 of the 10 community's action plans and would also assist in Westwood becoming a Firewise community. The "Community Action Plan" is a list of actions the community can take in order to systematically address the recommendations presented in the Assessment.

Benefits of Being a Firewise Community are:

- Access to funding and assistance
- Citizen pride
- Community-building
- Learn about wildfire
- Peace of mind

The Firewise Communities program teaches people how to adapt to living with wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together and take action to prevent losses. The program encourages local solutions for wildfire safety by involving homeowners and others in reducing wildfire risks by fostering defensible space and resilient structures for homes and communities.

Please accept this letter of support for funding assistance of Title III funds for Firewise Communities through the Lassen County Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,



Nicki Moroney, General Manager  
Clear Creek Community Services District



Milford Fire District  
P.O. Box 265  
Milford, CA 96121



March 26, 2021

Jeff Hemphill, Supervisor  
Board of Supervisors  
221 S. Roop Street, Suite 4  
Susanville, CA 96130

RE: Title III funds for Firewise Communities

Dear Mr. Hemphill:

The Milford Fire Protection District is writing in strong support of the Lassen Fire Safe Council and the request for Title III funds for the Firewise Communities projects. Milford Fire District and Milford Community Association work with the Fire Safe Council here in Milford. These groups put on fire prevention and education through the Fire Department at Wemple's Pumpkin Patch and community meetings at the MCA building each year.

We understand that our Firewise Community status needs to have its action plan updated so that we maintain our status. Also, our communities need to have the community wildfire protection plans updated. Since small groups like ours really don't have the information to do our own action plans we need Lassen Fire Safe Council to prepare the plans. Because of these necessary updates, we are asking the Board to approve the Title III funds of approximately \$60,000 for these projects.

We all know the results of wildfire and we want to be able to minimize the devastation in our communities. Please accept this letter of strong support from the Milford Fire Protection District for Title III funds.

Sincerely,

Sandy Jansen  
Milford Fire Board