Present: Delores Chavez-Harmes, Lisa Adams, Sgt. George Cryslar (VC Sherrif’s Dept.), Dorothy Kennedy, BC Cal Hendrie (CAL Fire)

Audience: James Gordon, Jim Courter (GVCPVFSC), Mike Shore (VC Fire Marshal), Rick Johnson (CAL Fire), Geoff Pemberton (CAL Fire/SD CO Fire), Tony Mecham (CAL Fire/SD CO Fire Chief).

Meeting Called to Order: Dee Harmes – Chair at 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by group

Welcome & Introduction of Guests: San Diego County/CAL Fire Chief Tony Mecham and San Diego County/CAL Fire Division Chief Geoff Pemberton new in attendance.

Public Forum: Chief Tony Mecham presented a concise and detailed presentation on the county’s program “Building Wildfire Resilient Communities” with a focus on community preparedness. This is CAL Fire’s and SD Counties program to reduce the loss from wildfires in the county.

Key Risk Reduction Objectives of the program:
1. Develop and implement a cohesive pre-fire strategy
2. Enhance vegetation management
3. Improve pre-fire emergency planning
4. Strengthen fire safety in new construction
5. Reduce loss from wildfire in existing structures

Implementation of the program:
1. Educate homeowners and build understanding of wildland fire
2. Ensure defensible space clearing and structure hardening
3. Safeguard communities through fuels treatment
4. Protect evacuation corridors
   a. Evacuation Planning:
      i. Primary Ingress/Egress Routes
      ii. Alternate Ingress/Egress Routes
      iii. Contingency Routes
      iv. Emergency, Temporary Refuge

2019 Budget Additions: Combined State and County budget provides for $3.4 million ongoing and $1,500,000 one-time funding to implement a cohesive strategy across San Diego County.

Action Items and Reports:
A) Dee Harmes: County counsel has advised a memorandum of understanding (MOU) can be entered into with a property owner but isn’t always necessary. Chief Meacham addressed this in his presentation. Consensus is to allow fire depts. to determine when needed. Planning and Development and Public Safety can review to determine if an MOU is required, if requested.
B) James Gordon: Preliminary information relating to ownership of easement/property rights for the initial evacuation options has been researched and secured. A review of the online information has been completed and is believed to be the initial info needed to follow up and to determine preliminary feasibility of these various options.

C) Jim Courter: GVCPVFSC experience has been that publication of evacuation routes can at times be problematic as routes change with the wind. Discussion ensued on best means to disseminate information to the public.

D) Fire Marshall Mike Shore: APN and site maps are prepared for 5 areas identified as additional evacuation routes. A presentation will be given at the September meeting.
   1. Betsworth – Meadow Glen
   2. Old Guajito – Meadow Creek Lane
   3. Mirar del Valle – Alps Way
   4. Canal Road – No. Lake Wohlford Rd.
   5. McNalley Road – Lilac Road

E) Dorothy Kennedy: Assessors map information page 133-39 sheet 2. Discussion on importance of property owners maintaining portions of roads that cross onto their properties. Water district access roads maintained by water district to 4-wheel drive standards with locked gates and not conducive to evacuation routes.

F) Lisa Adams: Suggests non-potable water supply requirement of developers as well as additional shelter in place locations.

Next Meeting September 26th, 2019 Valley Center Community Hall 6:30pm
Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm
Respectfully submitted by Dee Harmes