

**Sierra Hills Road Association General Meeting Minutes –DRAFT
October 26, 2023**

Call to Order – President Dave Molina called the meeting to order at 7:05

Establish Quorum – There were 22 members in attendance. Don reported a total of 17 property owners in good standing were either present or represented by proxy of 24 property owners paid. A quorum was established as more than 51% of the property owners in good standing were present or represented by proxy.

Member Introduction: Dave asked members to introduce themselves and talk about their hobbies and what they like to do in their spare time.

Minutes of last General Meeting – The May 2023 minutes were corrected on page 2 of 3 under Section 6. Dues adjustment to meet shortfall. The correct date for the dues increase to \$700 to begin is Fall 2023, not 2024. Audrey moved that the General Meeting minutes of May 25,2023 be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer’s Report - Don McAllister

1. Don reported that we have \$68,458.11 in our bank account not including payments made tonight. An outstanding bill of \$1000 is to be paid for oil and sand. He said we should have around \$80,000 in the bank for road repairs by next year.
2. Statements – Don sent out statements via email and regular mail. He established a domain–sierrahillsrma.org which links to our new SHRMA website. He sent out individual statements by email that included links to the May 2023 general meeting minutes and agenda for tonight’s meeting to the first email listed for each household on our road association email list. He mailed paper copies of minutes and agenda to those who don’t use email (Buddy Riley, James Jaksch, and Edna Shrank).
3. Audrey made a motion to have Don send statements via email instead of mail from now on, except for those without email. The motion was seconded and carried.
Chris asked if Don could send email statements and links to future agendas and minutes to both household members who have individual emails. Don will investigate this. Also discussed was having the ability to pay dues online. Don explained there would be a cost of 3% to do this at this time and may not work with El Dorado bank. He will further investigate online payment options.
4. Jany volunteered to call neighbors by telephone to remind them of the upcoming meeting and paying dues before the meeting. She asked for one more person to help with the calls.
5. Budget projections – 2023-2029 – Don noted that we are on target to pay for the \$80,000 chip seal for next year.

Road Maintenance Report - Dave Molina

1. Work Day September 23, 2023 Summary - Dave Molina
The expenses were slightly over budget (\$2500) because the additional work of painting the mailboxes and clearing the E. Hacienda culvert were not included in the original estimate. Costs for the day included lunch – around \$200; sand and oil - \$1100; Volunteer work hours - \$1450.

Dave thanked the volunteers who worked that day: Tom Huiskens, Ina and Don Hutchings, Jayson and Rayna Hess, Dave Koerber, Garrett and Kelli Nahas and children, Andy and Valerie Anderson, John and Chris Boykin, Cathy and Mel Garten, Don McAllister, Buddy Riley, Sally and Terry McDaniel, Josh and Dani Cavolt, Paul Musser, Jan Curtis, Jackie Kennedy, Ida Arne and Dave Molina.

2. Road Asphalt/Chip Seal Fall 2024 - Dave Molina

Dave reported the sand and seals completed over the last three years have resulted in our roads holding up good despite the extreme weather we had last year.

Dave went over the process for chip sealing next year:

- a. Dave Koerber will solicit at least 3 bids in April and due May 1.
 - b. The bid will include separate line items for asphalt patch paving and dig out work for severe cracks (alligating) which is expected to be no more than \$10,000 and chip seal for around \$70,000 - \$78,000. The price may fluctuate depending on the cost of oil at the time.
 - c. The schedule for work to be done is late summer/fall of 2024.
3. Roadside brush – Dave Molina commented on the improvements of the roadside brush by our neighbors and was thankful for everyone’s work. With winter rains ahead, this is optimum time to trim branches and bushes prior to next year’s fire season. Dianne Krage said she will trim up the fir trees along the roadside. Dave pointed out that the Road Association contracts a weed spraying service every spring. The cost is \$400 for the first pass in early May, and \$200 for a second pass a month later. It is very helpful in reducing fire danger. Most roadsides usually require at least one weed whacking later in the summer in addition to the spraying.
4. Signage issues- A “Caution” sign still needs to be installed on E. Hacienda facing west at the E. Hacienda/Pioneer intersection. We had planned to paint a white stop stripe on the road at that corner, however since we are less than a year from chip seal, that will be postponed until afterwards. Bill McIntosh mentioned there is a pavement marking plastic tape that could be applied and is permanent.
5. Bylaws Update Chris Boykin reported that the Road Association amended agreement was recorded with Nevada County on October 5, 2023. Two versions were recorded – one with cut and paste changes and one with all the new changes incorporated. After recording, the recorded copy is mailed to our mailing address. It will be available on the website or emailed or mailed if requested.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Shared One Drive Folder for Road Association – Garrett Nahas (absent)
Dave reported that Garrett created a folder on One drive for all Road Association documents.
2. Election of officers - The positions open are Secretary and Director at Large. Tom Huiskens nominated Chris Boykin to be Secretary. Chris was elected.

Director at Large – Sally McDaniel nominated Terry McDaniel for Director at Large. Terry was elected.
3. Don reported that the cost of the domain is free for the first year but will cost around \$12 per year. This needs to be added to the budget for next year.

4. Fire gate easement - Chris Boykin

Chris mentioned when she was in Nevada County Recorder's office she asked to see if there were any documents on the easement for the Emergency Vehicle Access on Hutchings property. She found one document from 1981 concerning easements for the Department of Public Works. Tom Huiskens and Bill McIntosh explained some of the history of establishing the Emergency vehicle access in the early 1990's because it was being used by Golden Oaks residents to bring their kids to school. Several had ideas to prevent motorcycle access but they involved barriers which could also impede horse and foot traffic. Tom Huiskens volunteered to talk with the neighbor's relative about not riding the dirt bike through the path. Diane Krage mentioned it could be classified as a prescriptive easement as it has been identified as an Emergency Vehicle Access only for a long period of time. This topic will be further investigated to see if there is anything in our historic documents or other information on deeds which may provide further clarification.

5. New bulletin board – Chris mentioned that she put up an additional bulletin board for Community News at the mailboxes. The other bulletin board will be specifically for Firewise news and information.
6. Sally and Terry McDaniel would like to have a Winter Faire for our neighbors at the Lions Club sometime in winter on a Saturday or Sunday to enjoy the neighbors, share crafts and hobbies and have some light food and drinks. John Boykin mentioned to ask the Lion's Club about the possibility to open the bar.

The meeting closed at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Boykin, Secretary

Firewise Update – Chris Boykin

Chris mentioned that we will have our next Firewise meeting on Monday November 13. We will honor and celebrate the retirement of Chief Jerry Good and meet his replacement – Joel Tam.

We are in the process of updating our Firewise application which is due November 17. We still need volunteer work hour information submitted to Audrey McIntosh.

We will have an update from Pat Leach, from the Fire Safe Council and hopefully an Insurance representative to talk about the new changes that insurance companies will require to write policies in California and what is required for homeowners to get discounts based on home hardening and vegetation risk reduction steps homeowners have made.

Chris asked for more volunteers to be on the Firewise committee.