



BRAGG CREEK FIRESMART COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

6:00 PM

Held Electronically via Microsoft Teams

Present:	Councillor K. Hanson, Chair Member L. Breakey, Vice-Chair Member M. Kamachi Member D. Koetsier Member J. Morris Member B. Neubeker
Absent:	Member R. Saville Member P. Scholz
Also Present:	K. Hubbard, Manager/Fire Chief, Fire Services and Emergency Management T. Andreasen, A/Manager, Legislative Services S. Hulsman, Manager, Asset Management J. Herrmann, Asset Management Technologist, Asset Management P. Kruger, Emergency Management Coordinator, Fire Services and Emergency Management

A Call Meeting to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

B Updates/Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Member Neubeker that the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee suspend section 53 of the *Procedure Bylaw* to allow the Chair to preside over the meeting electronically.

Carried

MOVED by Member Neubeker that the February 19, 2025 Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee meeting agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

C-1 September 23, 2024 Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee Meeting

MOVED by Member Neubeker that the June 25, 2024 Bragg Creek FireSmart meeting minutes be approved with the following amendment:

- record Member Neubeker as the mover for item E-1 in the meeting minutes

Carried



D-1 Appointment – Josh Hoddinott - Forest Management Professional - Bragg Creek Wildfire Mitigation Strategy

D-2 Appointment – Josh Hoddinott - Forest Management Professional - Rocky View County NW FireSmart Roadmap

Presenter: Josh Hoddinott - Forest Management Professional

J. Hoddinott reviewed the existing Bragg Creek Wildfire Mitigation Strategy with the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee. J. Hoddinott will be working with the Committee to update the Bragg Creek Wildfire Mitigation Strategy, which has not been updated since 2012.

A draft of the future Bragg Creek Wildfire Mitigation Strategy should be complete by July 2025.

Mr. Hoddinott and the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee discussed the following:

- the format of the existing Wildfire Mitigation Strategy is in the standard format of other wildfire management documents, but there are new tools and analysis methods that can be included in the future Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;
- both the existing and future Wildfire Mitigation Strategies will be formatted based on the seven disciplines of FireSmart, which includes topics such as vegetation management, legislation, and public education;
- the recommendations in the existing Wildfire Mitigation Strategy will be reviewed and updated and new recommendations will be identified in the future Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;
- the scope of the future Wildfire Mitigation Strategy will be updated to include any new communities/developments in the area and will include individual maps for each community/development identified in the future Wildfire Mitigation Strategy; and
- the scope of the future Wildfire Mitigation Strategy will include the McLean Creek area.

E-1 Branch Collection Project for 2025

K. Hubbard updated the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee on the County's plans for upcoming branch collection events in 2025. The branch collection events will provide an opportunity for landowners and residents to dispose of vegetation waste and debris.

Multiple branch collection events will be held in the greater Bragg Creek and Elbow Valley areas in 2025. The objective of the branch collection events is to divert vegetation waste and debris from landfill sites to the branch collection events for offsite processing.

K. Hubbard will look into coordinating branch collection events with the Kananaskis Improvement District.



E-2 \$500 FireSmart Applications Closed on January 31, 2025

P. Kruger updated the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee on recent applications to FireSmart Canada's Wildfire Community Preparedness Day. As applications were submitted directly to FireSmart Canada, Rocky View County does not know how many applications were made or how many were/will be approved.

E-3 Round Table Discussion

Councillor Hanson mentioned that the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee's terms of reference require the Committee to report to Council on its activities every year. Councillor Hanson will work with Administration to plan an update report to Council.

Member Neubeker mentioned that the members of the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee should take on more of a leadership role in planning wildfire-related cleanup events in the community, including working more closely with Fire Services and the Bragg Creek Foundation in the planning of events.

Member Breakey mentioned that she is aware that some residents in Bragg Creek have installed roof sprayers on their properties, particularly on high-risk roofs. Member Breakey encouraged Rocky View County to look into the roof sprayers and make information available to residents.

Member Morris mentioned that the Elbow Valley Fire Hall received a visit from Wildfire Innovations with an offer to demonstrate a new piece of equipment that sprays water for humidity. He would be happy to arrange a demonstration for the members of the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee. He is also willing to assist with organizing a town-hall style event for the community on wildfire mitigation.

Member Koetsier mentioned that he has been doing work around the hamlet to cut down and remove deadfall and standing dead vegetation. Given the success of Chipper Days, the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee and Rocky View County should look into providing more opportunities for residents, particularly around June.

G-1 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

The Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee discussed future meeting dates and agreed on holding another meeting of the in May 2025 to be held electronically and to focus on planning events for the summer/fall.

G-2 Business Items for the Next Meeting

Members of the Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee may forward agenda items to Fire Services for inclusion on a future meeting agenda.



H Adjourn the Meeting

MOVED by Member Morris that the February 19, 2025 Bragg Creek FireSmart Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Carried

Chair or Vice Chair

Chief Administrative Officer or Designate