



Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative

Prevention Education Safety

www.rvfpc.com

Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2011

Jackson County Fire District #3 – White City Station

Call to Order: 10:13 a.m.

Attendees: Mary Ann Ceglia, John Tudor, Carey Chaput, Charles Chase, Michelle Fuss, Mike Shaw, Joe Hyatt, Ashley Du Brey, Deb McGuire, Brian Ballou, Teresa Burkhart

Meeting Minutes: July meeting minutes approved.

Financial Report: July financial report reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

Outreach & Education

- Brian shared that Josephine County didn't release Title III O&E funds; subsequently John is being relocated back to the Medford office. Temporarily, John will also be doing specific work for Seven Basins under their Title III funds to provide some budget relief. Some projects, i.e. billboards, might get scaled back next year to allow for continuing funding of obligated projects.
- Another public opinion survey will be going out this year. Right now, \$25,000 has been allocated to this project. Brian believes some of the target areas will include Prospect, Butte Falls, Eagle Point, and Jacksonville.
- O&E has obligated \$20,000 to continue funding the OSU Land Stewardship Program.
- The *FIREBRAND* has been sent to print; distribution will take place only in Jackson County due to lack of funding.
- Charlie requested to have an analyst attend a co-op meeting to give an in depth interpretation of the *Wildfire Public Opinion Survey*, so that the group may understand better where our efforts need to be focused; Brian has someone in mind that he will contact.
- The public opinion survey is now posted on the co-op webpage; Brian will follow up with a press release notifying the media of how to access it.
- BLM, FS and ODF shared a booth at the Jackson County Fair, kids enjoyed learning tree facts, and were also quizzed on "Smokey's five rules".
- The billboards have been updated, the two new messages are "if you light it put it out", and "get fire updates anywhere"
- On August 24, a FIREWISE meeting will be held for Greensprings residents to see if there is interest among the community to start the FIREWISE process. Only one neighborhood would be targeted initially as a pilot program for the area.
- ODF O&E are planning a few bigger events, as opposed to the smaller community meetings in an effort to be more cost efficient. The meetings will be broadly advertised with the hopes of drawing in a larger audience. The focus for the first meeting is to set up an on-site meeting at a home that has created a defensible space. The public would tour the property and learn first-hand from the landowners what steps they took to create a defensible space.

PO Box 3301 Central Point, Oregon 97502



Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative

Prevention Education Safety

www.rvfpc.com

- Ashley and Teresa will also be focusing their efforts in reaching kids elementary through high school with different fire prevention curriculum. Phoenix High School has requested a fire behavior/fuel reduction segment to be taught in their Science class this fall. The segment will take approximately two weeks to rotate all the students through the curriculum. Students will study the effects fuels have on fire behavior and be involved in a reduction project that will be completed on city owned property next to the school.
- A Smokey presentation was done at Valley of the Rogue Park on July 15; over 50 campers attended came to see Smokey and learn more about fire prevention.

Old Business:

- The final copy of the Rural Metro brochure was approved. Joe Hyatt made a motion to approve funding \$250 for the printing of 1,000 brochures. The motion was seconded and carried.
- The fire safety house hasn't been weighed as of yet but is still in service. There was talk about how to deal with the weight issues, possible remedies included storing the boxes of flyers elsewhere or getting a third axle, the discussion was inconclusive.

New Business:

- Ashley is creating a future business model for establishing 501(c) (3) status for the co-op. The co-op is currently rated as 501(c) (4), meaning we can accept contributions but cannot offer a tax write-off to the donators therefore limiting charitable foundation donations.
 - Obtaining (c) (3) status would mean continued funding of current projects: youth education, publication of the *FIREBRAND*, billboards, etc. The proposed model would have board members belonging to mission related businesses recruited from the co-op, and the co-op would work in conjunction with the board. Brian suggested we could use Vivian McAleavy, accountant with Applegate to apply for (c)(3) status. Some concern was expressed regarding the cost of the application; funding sources for the application fee will be further researched.
 - Another option would be establishing a partnership with Keep Oregon Green (KOG). KOG is a (c)(3) organization based in northern Oregon. Mary Ellen Holly, President and CEO of KOG has agreed to a prospective partnership with the co-op. Partnering with KOG would be a short term solution until the co-op could gain their own (c)(3) status.
 - With the co-op's support Ashley will continue to craft the business model and Brian will pursue prospective partnership with KOG.
- Brian gave a status update for the old log building used in Smokey's Playland. According to archived meeting minutes BLM gave the building to the co-op who then turned it over to ODF. The logs have been stored at ODF headquarters for some time now and have begun rotting; ODF is making plans to dispose the logs.

Good of the Order:

- Brian Pike sustained injuries during a motorcycle accident this last month; are thoughts are with him in hopes for a quick full recovery.
- Mike announced that Rural Metro will be holding an open house, October 16, during fire prevention week.

PO Box 3301 Central Point, Oregon 97502



Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative

◆ *Prevention* ◆ *Education* ◆ *Safety* ◆

www.rvfpc.com

- Joe confirmed that Rogue Interagency Training Association (RITA) will be hosting a FI-200 Fire Investigation class in October. The burn will take place the weekend before the investigation class. Also, Grants Pass Fire will be holding an open house during fire prevention week.
- Mary reminded members that bow hunting season begins the end of August, she requested that FS contact information and regulated use closures be posted to the web and made available from all members to the public.
- If you have comments about the monthly PSAs or you're not receiving them please notify Carey, <mailto:Carey.Chaput>.
- Mark Wallace, the new State Fire Marshal will be at the next Chief's meeting on August 16, at 9:00a.m., in Ashland.
- The International Code Council (ICC) will be holding their annual business meeting at the Running Y Resort, August 26. Charlie encouraged members to attend; anyone interested please contact him, <mailto:Charles.Chase>.

Adjournment: 11:55 a.m.

Next Meeting: September 14, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Grants Pass Fire – Hillcrest Station

PO Box 3301 Central Point, Oregon 97502