



Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative

Prevention Education Safety

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Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2011

Grants Pass Fire – Hillcrest Station

Call to Order: 10:15a.m.

Attendees: Neil Benson, Mike Shaw, Brian Ballou, John O'Connor, Joe Hyatt, Carey Chaput, Michelle Fuss, Charlie Chase, Teresa Burkhart

Meeting Minutes: March meeting minutes approved. April minutes approved with one correction; change Illinois Valley Elementary to Evergreen Elementary.

Financial Report: April financial report approved. Brian Ballou wrote a pass through agreement through ODF and the Co-op for Jo Co O&E funds; the agreement was signed after the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Outreach & Education

- The final meeting of four held in the Applegate area will take place at McKee Bridge on May 19th.
- We are no longer renting the billboard at Hanley and Sage rd; we are replacing it with one at Columbus and East McAndrews. The new prevention message will be for extinguishing campfires and will be on display sometime in June.
- The Phoenix High School fire behavior/fuels reduction class has been put on hold until next spring as there were complications with scheduling.
- The ODF O&E crew have been conducting home site visits, making defensible space recommendations.
- “Facebook” is now linked to the Co-op home page. Teresa is also working on a “Wildfire: Are You Prepared” series; highlights will include defensible space, driveway clearance, and evacuation preparedness.
- Team teaching is finished for both Ja and Jo Counties. Thank you Carrie, for coordinating the schedule and also, thanks to everyone that volunteered to participate in the presentations.
- The nursery fire resistant plant displays should be finalized and printed by May 13. Fire-resistant plant darts will also be ordered to be used in conjunction with the displays.
- Teresa and an ODF volunteer attended the “Safe Kids” event held at the Medford Wal-Mart on May 7. The event was well attended, Smokey passed out fire prevention material to the kids.
- Ashley will be doing a SB-360/ defensible space presentation at the OSU extension office on May 14, as part of a “Living on Your Land” conference.
- The ODF brushing crew will begin a fuel reduction project on approx 1.5 acres along the freeway right of way behind Oak Knoll. Additional projects have been planned including one behind Rogue River High School as well as Evans Valley Elementary.
- ODF will be holding an Open House on July 23, Smokey will be onsite for pictures with kids.

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- Ashley made contact with ODOT for the message boards. The co-op will be able to use the signs for fire messages only during extreme conditions. Ashley has a list of approved messages from Salem.
- John has been airing “flammable vegetation” PSAs on KJOA radio.
- John will be working a booth at the Home Show the weekend of May 13-15; he will be using the “seven points of fire safety”, Firefree display.
- John will be reserving the fire safety trailer for the Wildlife Images Fire Prevention Days, June 11-12; he is requesting volunteers to staff the trailer for both days, 10:00-2:00.
- The O&E Committee will be discussing the “Ready Set Go” concept at their next meeting; it will be held 10:00-12:00, May 19, at the Ja Co EOC.
- Brian did three news media interviews bridging with the news release from KOG about Wildfire Awareness Week. The PSAs were about creating a defensible space, choosing fire-resistant plants, and animal evacuation preparedness. The announcement for June will be on campfire safety.
- The next “*Firebrand*” should be released the second week in June. If you have any pictures or articles you would like submitted, contact <mailto:bballou@odf.state.or.us>.

Old Business:

- Carry will be using the Clifford Dog reading program at Wolf Creek Elementary. She will read the book with the students, don her fire gear, and discuss fire safety. Carry also advised that Evergreen Elementary also has the Clifford books.

New Business:

- A public education class will be held at the Parkway Fire Station; date to be determined. This class is offered free from OSF for anyone would wants to do public education or the fire station tour programs. It was suggested that the Co-op co-host the event. Carrey made a motion that the co-op “encourages” the public to attend and use funds from membership dues to provide refreshments to attendees. The motion was carried and seconded.
- Rural Metro has been distributing a self produced, structural fire prevention brochure to residents in the Merlin area. It was suggested that Rural Metro come up with a proposal for the co-op to help fund printing for additional distribution.

Good of the Order:

- Carey shared that the Rogue Interagency Training Center received a grant to purchase a Fire and Life Extinguisher Training System. The system is available to all fire agencies in the valley; Applegate fire is currently using it.

Adjournment: 11:06 a.m.

Next Meeting: June 8, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Jackson County Fire District 3 – Admin Building

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