



## *Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative*

P.O. Box 3301 ♦ Central Point, Oregon 97502 ♦ [www.rvfpc.com](http://www.rvfpc.com)

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 11, 2007 10:00 a.m.**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
**Medford District, Oregon Room**  
**3040 Biddle Rd., Medford**

**Call to order:** 10:05 a.m.

**Attendees:** Patty Commons, Brian Bolstad, Carey Chaput, Sandy Shaffer, Neil Benson, Mike Hanna, Mark Moran, Charlie Chase, Chris Chambers, Cheryl Stanley, Dana Sallee, Brian Ballou, Mark Northrop

**Review of March meeting minutes:** Approved as written

**Financial report:** Balance as of the end of March is \$5,021.18. Most member agencies have paid 2007 dues.

**Old business:**

### **Committee Reports**

#### ***Fire safety trailer events committee:***

*Pear Blossom Festival Parade:* Mark will deliver the fire safety trailer to the ODF Medford Unit compound on April 12 and Dana will pick it up on April 13 and stage it in Ashland. On Saturday morning, Dana will haul the trailer to Medford, pick up Mike and Cheryl, and proceed to the parade line-up. Mike will wear the Smokey suit and ride in the back of the tow vehicle; Cheryl will accompany Smokey. The co-op thanks Ashland Fire & Rescue for furnishing the tow vehicle.

*Wal-Mart Safety Day:* Brian Ballou will attend the event planning meeting on April 12 at Medford Fire & Rescue. Volunteers for the fire safety trailer are needed; please contact Cheryl at 618-2200 ([cheryl\\_stanley@blm.gov](mailto:cheryl_stanley@blm.gov)) to sign up. Wal-Mart Safety Day takes place May 5, 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Medford Wal-Mart on Hwy 62.

*Wellsprings Childrens Festival:* The fire safety trailer will join SafeKids outside of the Rogue Valley Mall on May 12, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Volunteers for the fire safety trailer are needed; please contact Cheryl at 618-2200 ([cheryl\\_stanley@blm.gov](mailto:cheryl_stanley@blm.gov)) to sign up.

The co-op discussed whether to have the fire safety trailer at the Boatnik festival, which takes place on Memorial Day weekend in Grants Pass. Mark will contact Curt Pilcher at Grants Pass Fire/Rescue about the possibility of having the fire safety trailer participate in Boatnik festivities.

***Fire safety trailer management committee:*** Dana is working on having some signs made to add to the sides of the fire safety trailer. The signs will bear the URL of the co-op's website. Also, after the Pear Blossom Parade, the trailer will be delivered to ODF's Medford Unit for the installation of a generator box.

***Josephine County Outreach and Education committee:*** The county and the City of Grants Pass are coordinating on a free woody vegetation disposal day, to take place later this month.

**Jackson County Outreach and Education committee:** Chris reported that a grant is likely to be awarded for creating a local fire prevention education team that will provide information to residents during a wildland/urban interface incident. The O&E committee and local fire service agencies may work with Channel 12 to provide fire prevention PSAs during the weather reporting portion of newscasts. On April 28-29, the O&E committee is staffing a booth at the Jackson County Master Gardeners Fair; the booth will feature fire-resistant plants. A Dept. of Homeland Security Grant has been applied for, which will enable the O&E committee to translate several local family-emergency publications into Spanish, and into large-print formats for seniors.

**Website committee:** Nothing new.

**Team Teaching committee:** In Jackson County, the Talent Elementary School was dropped from the schedule due to time/date conflicts. Dana and Brian Bolstad said they would help staff a Smokey visit to Talent Elementary if a date could be secured in the future.

On April 19, Team Teaching participants are to rally at the Rogue River Fire District at 8:00 a.m., prior to proceeding to Evans Valley School.

On April 23, Team Teaching participants are to rally at Helman Elementary School at 8:15 a.m.

**Hispanic outreach:** Current ad in Hispanic community newspaper has a list of upcoming SafeKids events.

**Nonprofit status:** Continuing to work with Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association on this process.

**BLM Building:** ODF's Medford Unit will set up the building on its compound.

**Fire prevention conference proposal:** The co-op briefly discussed this proposal and decided to pursue it, but to defer in-depth discussion until its June meeting, due to the need to focus on Team Teaching and fire safety trailer events in the two months. Brian Ballou suggested that the co-op work with Debi Bisbee to learn the logistics of running a conference. Dana said he would like the co-op to ensure that it allows adequate time to plan and execute the conference so that "it's done right." Given the time necessary to properly plan such a project, the first conference may not take place until 2008.

## **New business**

**Location of next meeting:** A presentation of fire education kits for elementary school-age children is scheduled for the May 9 meeting. Brian Ballou will find a larger meeting room, anticipating that there will be a larger-than-normal number of people attending.

**Trinkets:** Dana researched the availability and cost of plastic bags and crayons that could be purchased by the co-op for distribution to children. The bags can be personalized with the co-op logo and website address, and perhaps a prevention message added. The cost of the bags is \$39 for 500. The crayons, which wouldn't be personalized, are \$0.29 per 4-crayon packet.

**Wolf Creek Fire District:** Members discussed how to attract the Wolf Creek Fire District back into the co-op. Options discussed were to hold a co-op meeting in Wolf Creek, attending the Wolf Creek community barbecue (held the first weekend after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July), and ensuring that the Wolf Creek Fire District's chief receives the co-op's regular minutes (Charlie said he'd help with this). The co-op agreed it would be mutually beneficial to keep the rural fire districts involved with the co-op, and the co-op would make every effort to provide better prevention service to them.

## **Good of the Order**

**Publications:** For OFSM fire-safety publications in Spanish, contact Colleen Olsen 503-373-1540. For quantities of fire-resistant plant brochures or booklets, contact Brian Ballou at 665-0662.

Open burning in Ashland: April 2 was the end of open burning in Ashland – forever. Burning by permit will still be allowed for fuel reduction purposes and noxious week control. For more information, see the web page at [www.ashland.or.us/burning](http://www.ashland.or.us/burning)

**Adjournment:** 11:50 a.m.

**Next meeting:** May 9, 10:00 a.m., location TBA

*Prevention*



*Education*



*Safety*