



Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association Monthly Meeting Minutes

Location: **Medford Fire – Station 14** Date: **August 19, 2025**

Call to Order: 09:00 AM

Approval of Minutes: 1st: Chief Thompson / 2nd: Chief Razor/ All in Favor = All

Financial Report: \$5,307.61 Approval: 1st: Chief Hammond / 2nd: Chief Razor / All in Favor = All

New Members/Special Guests:

- None

Presentations:

- Chuck Cook with Grants Pass Elks – Sept 25th from 1430-1730 an Appreciation Open House will be taking place for all Fire and EMS responders.

Old Business:

- Grant Writers Committee: Nothing to Report

New Business:

- Proposal to Sponsor Legislative Reform: Vote to Support: 1st Chief Hammond, 2nd Chief Thompson / All in Favor: All
- President Crume would like to re-visit the STRAT plan for the association, and will be looking at assistance with workshop sessions.

Section Reports:

- **Operations:** (McBride) No updates at this time, as there wasn't a meeting July or August. More to come after the September meeting. The Daily Briefings are going well, and appreciate the support on these morning calls.
- **Rogue Interagency Training Assoc:** No Report
- **Fire Defense Board:** (Hussey) Reinforcement of the RV3 Tac Channel issue.
- **RV Prevention Co-Op:** (Kassab) No meeting last month, and there is a meeting this next Thursday. Also, there are Purple Air machines (air quality machines) that the Public Health is looking to get out to departments. Contact Sarah Jones with Ashland for further information.

- **Technology Group:** (Shay) Collaborate on the use and implementation of technology. Share information on the use and implementation of technology to encourage a regional familiarity with mutually utilized platforms. Encourage engagement of all Rogue Valley fire service agencies. Look for group purchasing opportunities and ways to collaborate with grant funding. The meeting schedule will change to every other month, but can be adjusted more frequently based on need. Discussed the potential need for two frequency lists after the Jackson Co. radio transition. Discussed the need to standardize what agencies report to their 911 centers as premise hazards versus what is entered into First Due. Will explore possible automation. Next meeting is October 6th at 1500 via Teams.

Advisory Reports:

- **911 Centers** - Guenther: Grants Pass 911 is currently fully staffed.
- **Ambulance Services Areas** – Clough/Rasor/Hammond/Mathews: Mercy- Working with Ashland Fire on the EMT/Paramedic through RCC. There will be more students in the next session as well. Ashland Fire: Call volume is up 12%. RRDFD#1: The department is working on a 5yr Local Option Levy in November. There will be testing for Firefighter/EMT in November.
- **HazMat Team 08** – Howard: No incidents. Phone consult with local fuel distributor, with an older tank, valve failure they were able to mitigate with no major incident. There will be a fall academy at DPSST for the remaining Battalion Chief, so that will cover all shifts when there is a call out.
- **Oregon State Fire Marshal** – Stacy/Lashley/Cook/Vonn: Vonn – Wildfire Prepared grants for individual and communities is happening at this time. The budget has been approved for 2 new Fire Reduction Specialists and Andy Dwyewr will be in the one in the seat. Cook – Mobilization Plans, IRPGs and TFL paperwork is available, please contact if needing anything. The new Special Operations Manager position is Greg Davis. Lashley – Deputy fire side have been educated on Wildland Fire Investigations. Stacy – there is a big push with ODF and the un-protected lands, more information to follow.
- **SW Oregon Coordinating Group** – Quinones: August fire season going well, ODF will remain in extreme for a little longer. There are weather reports for the upcoming weekend with heat and lightning. Air Support is still available, and there have been more human starts than in previous years. If the community has questions, please direct them to the ODF local offices to keep the same answer for the best alignment for the community. If you aren't on the ODF email list, please see Natalie.

- **Emergency Management** – Richmond/JOCO/Ott/Burns: Ott – Hosting an IMT3 class in March or April. Burns – Finished the 4th wildfire series with the community. Community wide emergency alert is Oct 11th. Richmond – September is National Preparation with a WIA test on Sept 2 @ 1400 in the Jackson County area only. An AAR is being conducted for the Neal Creek Fire., and a discussion with Red Cross is also happening in regards to homes and trailers. Joco EM – nothing to report.
- **Rogue Community College** – Nothing to report
- **Oregon Fire Chiefs Association** – Brown/Hussey: Hussey – It is great to have a local OFCA President, Devon Brown. He is working on a STRAT plan and a survey will be coming out for all to participate in, and feedback is important. Devon is also working on the HB3940 impacts and working with OSFM. The new Western Chiefs Association is Derrick Wise, who is an Oregon resident.
- **Public Information** – No report
- **S. Oregon Public Safety Chaplains/SOCERT** – Saada: High traumatic incidents have happened recently, with debriefings. Please take care of yourselves, and don't hesitate to contact if things are needed.

Agency Brief-Out:

- Williams Fire - no changes
- Jacksonville – looking at an ISO reclassification.
- OSFM - (Vonn) Wildfire preparation signs are available. (Lashley) Mental Health curriculum is being taught on the coast, please see him for information if interested. (Stacy) the Rogue Valley works well and there is a lot of pride being shown.
- Grants Pass Fire – the city is hiring 6 full time firefighters at the Sept 3rd vote. There are two currently in academy and will be adding the additional six, there will be a posting coming out. And they will be receiving their new Type One in a few weeks as well.
- Rural Metro – DC Prince thanked Fred and his team for all of the assistance given recently. His team certainly stepped up in a busy time and took care of members of some major traumatic incidents. He also thanked DC McBride for the two county morning meetings for taking the time and making these happen. And he also showed his appreciation for the Shanty Fire and the great outcome and impact on the public.
- Jackson County Emergency Management – they will be meeting with Jackson County Commissioners for the Siskiyou Summit impact with the roadways due to cuts., Thank you to Jeremy and Steve Lambert for the support given.

- Fire District #3 – (Hussey) He has QR cards for when teams come into the area with mapping, please see him for some cards. Fire District #5 has two new firefighters and auto aid with Greenspring's Fire. (Ian Kassab) is looking to step down from the Co-Op in the next year and transition to a retirement mode. (Brown) OFCA survey feedback is important and will be coming out soon, please take the time to fill it out.
- Pacific Power – Wildfire Center running in 6 states with 7 employees, and looking to upgrade to 15 people and be a 24 status as soon as possible.
- Ashland Fire – Down 1 position at the time. BC role on B shift has been fixed with an internal promotion in a Captain position. They are completing an ISO audit, and it went well. Contract negotiations will be ratified soon. The City of Ashland is changing their cell phone policy to assigned positions and a new list will be coming soon. There has been no movement for a new Fire Chief at this time.
- Applegate – A Captain was hired last month and will be at St53. The ISO audit is a month away. They are negotiating a shared Administration person for Williams Fire. The Fund Raiser has a flyer going around if interested.
- Medford – Recruitment is in its final week with 100 applications accepted. September 2nd is an EMS academy for 7 members to have them out on the streets by January in their roles. The new E12 will be delivered soon and there will be a push in ceremony in October. Construction is going well.
- Illinois Valley Fire District – Thank you to Fred and his team as well for the 2 major incidents in the valley.
- Shady Cove – They are completing the DPSST boat operations at this time and they will have a new Pierce being delivered in Oct and this is the first that the district has been able to purchase in the history of the district.
- ODF - (Jake) thanks you to all of the fire partners for the recent fire and also keeping the scene preserved for the investigation. (Winslow) thanks to all of the partners with keeping the fires as small as possible.
- Grants Pass 911 – Thanks to Fred and his team.

Motion to adjourn 10:17 am – All in favor

Next Meeting: September 16, 2025 at Applegate Fire District