

# Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Zoom Video Conferencing

**Date:** October 19, 2021

**2021 E-Board:** Lee Winslow (President); Justin Bates (Vice President); Austin Prince (Secretary/Treasurer)

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**Call to Order:** Called to order at 0900 by President Lee Winslow

**Attendance Roster on file.**

**Approval of Last Month's Minutes:** Approved as written. 1<sup>st</sup> by Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Blakely.

**Approval of Financial Report:** No activity. Balance remains at \$4759.58 Approved as presented. 1<sup>st</sup> by Hammond, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Holmes.

**Special Guests:** **Phillip Reineke & Josh Truini** – Verizon Gov't account representatives  
Verizon Public Safety offerings  
[phillip.reineke@vzw.com](mailto:phillip.reineke@vzw.com)  
(541) 613-1932

Presentation regarding their prioritized access for first responders using Verizon during large areas disruptions (fires/storms). Users have access to their deployable generators and support systems. Anyone looking for more information can contact their reps.

### Section Reports:

#### Operations:

- 1. Fire** – (Hussey) Reviewed the South County AAR (July 4 crash) with ODOT to identify recommendations for both counties. The existing MOG on traffic control has received some draft edits. Looking to have RITA host more TIMS training for responders.

Putting together a task group to dive into evacuations and alerting to help out Emergency Management. Those with interest in the project are welcome to participate.

- 2. EMS** – (Horton) No report.

#### Training [RITA]: (Wolfard)

- Firefighter 1 Academy 2022 scheduled to start January 8
- RCC is looking to host a Firefighter 1 Academy in Spring 2022

#### Prevention:

- 1. RVFPC** – (Weber) Tis the season to transition peacock signs over to prevention signs. Looking to get a count on who has a peacock sign holder. Several prevention events and open houses are happening, including the safety fair coming up. Working on winter and spring education messaging. The post-fire season press conference will be Monday October 25, 1400 hours at the EXPO.
- 2. SOFCO** – (Browning) No report.

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### Liaison Reports:

**911 Centers** – (Harris) Apparatus renumbering implementation in early November. ECSO has had a phone system upgrade. Still in site development for the radio project.

(Guenther) No report.

**OSFM** – (Lashley) Continuing with the separation of OSP and OSFM. Hired a chief financial and HR managers. 10 more deputies coming in Feb 2022 due to SB 762. Several 40-hour classes coming up. Thank you to Medford Fire for hosting the deputy in-service.

(Rubrecht) Thank you to all chiefs for conducting the apparatus survey. OSFM hopes to purchase additional apparatus after the survey identifies where gaps are located across the state.

**OFMA** – (**Liaison spot open**) No report. Mike Shaw is familiar with the group working on the defensible space codes.

**EMS** – (Clough/Mathews) No report.

**HazMat** – (Baumgartner) Conducted regional training that went well. Response assistance provided to FD5 at the Cummins Battery Plant for air monitoring. Full team response with assistance from FD3 at Old Dominion truck facility in Medford for hydrogen peroxide incident.

**PIO** – (Weber) Working on a structuring plan for the monthly meeting. Please use the group for any public messaging.

### Emergency Management –

(Powers) The shared email this week from the Governor's office with regards to vaccine support was for EMS (contracted medics), not firefighters. Cascadia Rising exercise planned for June 2022. The ShakeOut earthquake preparedness drill – Stop/Cover/Hold On – is this week. Planning a test of the alerting system in Jackson County this week. Final interviews for the Fire Plan Coordinator are being scheduled. Assistant EM interview is also coming soon.

(Ring) Not planning a test of the alerting system this week, having done some recently. The Office of Emergency Management is splitting away from the military at the state level. Updating some Everbridge policies, and conducting alert-sender training.

**OFCA** – (Horton) No report.

**SWOCG** – (McCarty) Good coordination as seasonal regulations are ramping down. The end of fire season is near.

(Quinones) Dropped all restrictions. Already completed some pile burning. Looking forward to some funding for fuel mitigation. Amanda Lucas took a state aviation manager for BLM, and looking to back-fill her position. Mike McCann has been appointed

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as Chief 2 for the forest. November 10 is the forest AAR, so please send topics if you have any.

**Chaplains** – (Saada) No report.

**IMT** – (Turnbull) No report.

**SOFRC** – (Chambers) Hosted Senator Merkley on a tour of the forest fuel mitigation projects, and the support that comes from the money being allocated. Also seeing good progress coming from the SB762 funding for local landscape enhancements. Email invite has gone out to all chiefs for Oct 27 meeting at Applegate Fire on the 2-county fuels projects.

**FDBC** – (Holmes/Horton) Getting a meeting put together with OSFM and local FDBC in preparation of next season. Planning a FDBC post-fire season AAR in November.

### Old Business:

- 1) Life Membership Consideration (cont.) (Prince) After the recognition given to Chief Johnson, a list of names have been submitted for consideration of the same. These past chiefs have been measured against the criteria outlined in the bylaws\*\*, and are being presented to the association for review in November. A future favorable vote may result in special recognition displayed on the website, among other things yet to be determined. They are:

*Max Long (D5)*  
*Bill Anson (D3)*  
*Randy Iverson (D3)*  
*Mark Burns (MFD)*  
*Greg Gilpin (ODF)*  
*Dan Peterson (D3)*  
*Barry Hoffman (D3)*  
*Dan Thorpe (ODF)*  
*Scott Lockard (D6?)*  
*Brett Fillis (D9)*  
*Keith Woodley (AFR)*  
*Darin Welburn (D5)*

\*\*Life Membership – Individuals retiring or separating employment from an Association agency are eligible for life membership upon meeting set criteria and so voted by the Association members, by virtue of their contribution to the Association.

- a. Candidates for life membership should have: 1) been active in the Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association for at least ten years as a representative of a Regular Membership or Advisory Membership organization and 2) participated in committee work and special projects at both the local and statewide levels.
- b. Life Members may serve on committees
- c. Life Members may not serve on the executive board.
- d. Life Members do not have voting privileges
- e. Life Members are exempt from dues.

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- 2) OSFM Mobilization Committee Representative (Winslow) Chief Hussey has been selected as the RVFCA representative on this committee after the retirement of Chief Johnson.

### **New Business / Issues for Consideration:**

- 1) 2022 Eboard Nominations (Winslow) Will be creating a survey monkey to seek nominations for the Secretary/Treasurer position. Eligibility is anyone affiliated as a due-paying member (Fire, ODF, USFS, EMS, Emergency Mgt). Top nominees will be then put into another survey for the official vote. It will be imperative that nominations be carefully considered so that appointments be those interested in leadership bestowed the positions, rather than just the newest member of the group.

The survey concept is to give absentee members the opportunity to participate and vote, opposed to the traditional awkward name-dropping and attempted declining that follows by only those in attendance. During the 2022 year, efforts will be placed on revamping the board appointments to be similar to RITA. Such action requires an edit to the Bylaws.

- 2) 2022 RVFCA Meeting Schedule (Prince) Will be seeking agency locations that are able to accommodate for blended virtual/in-person meetings in the next year.

### **Last Minute Additions to Agenda:**

Sgt. Richards from Jackson County Sheriff's Office wished to thank Medford Fire for helping with honor guard recognition of a SAR volunteer that recently passed, who had 33 years as a firefighter in California and 28 years in SAR.

Also looking for an opportunity to talk with agencies about what SAR is all about and what they can bring to the table. Hoping to get a clear determination on what is a search mission verses a medical emergency, so that one is not leaving the other out. An example might include when SAR volunteers who have trained on a rescue skill set, see local firefighters conducting the rescue without including SAR personnel. It was decided that the Fire Ops Group would champion a discussion with SAR on ideas moving forward.

### **Good of the order:**

(Rubrecht) November 9 & 10 the OSFM will be meeting with FDBC's post-fire season regarding apparatus pre-positioning and Sara's role moving forward.

(Bates) November 9 will be the Jackson County HazMat response plan tabletop.

(Winslow) Thank you to all members who participate monthly, keeping the association active.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday November 16, 2021 0900 via Zoom**

**Adjournment:** @ 10:30'ish

**Visit our website at [www.rvfca.com](http://www.rvfca.com)**

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