

## **RVFCA Minutes**

April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 ODF Grants Pass Office

Call to Order

Approval of the minutes

Approval of financial report

Guests

## **Section Reports:**

**Operations-** No report

**RITA-**No report

### **RV Prevention COOP-**

The coop has been busy with team teaching. They will be getting team teaching dates out to departments in Josephine County. To date District 3 and the Forest Service have been doing really well hitting many of the schools.

Wildfire preparedness Day- Working on fuel location sites. Rogue disposal and biomass are possibilities. We are still working on fine tuning the details. Once finalized they will send the plan out to the Chiefs. At this point no money has come in from the state and we may use COOP funds to help.

### **Fire Defense Board-**

Schedule is out for the year. A productive meeting was held with Chief Homes and Chief Thompson. There is an upcoming training session on May 9<sup>th</sup> for all FDBC's. They are requesting that RVFCA cover lunch.

Motion to provide lunch for the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Vetter Motion passes. Not to exceed \$100. Motion passed.

Sara reminded everyone about the FDBC meeting next Monday in Bend. She has room in her vehicle for anyone that would like to ride over to the meeting with her. Alternates and FDBC need to check out the dropbox and see where we are at with things.

Thompson- A lot of administrative cleanup work was done. In the process of creating a qualification data base. State is leaning on the Chiefs to make a roster to ensure that folks are qualified. Will go over the MOG's and a preposition plan at the FDBC meeting.

Sara is setting up the cheat sheet in dropbox to help us through the process.

Group me- If you are not on the FDBC group ask to be added if needed. Preposition will now have a liaison position. This person will help work with teams that come to us and make sure their needs are met and things like comm plans are in place.

Chief Prince- The current qualifications database for IMT might be a good place to start when starting to build the quals database.

For the survey that will be coming out we are looking for the following qualifications, Eng Boss, TFL, STL, FFT2.

#### **IMT-**

Preliminary work has been done on this group. They have taken what Phil handed over and are truthing it. Will be getting out a new list or a way to update it soon. Also looking at ancillary roles for IMT at SOWS June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Liaisons:**

**911-** No report

#### **OSFM**

Teresa has Prevention signs for those that requested them. If you had not put in for one but want one, then let Teresa know. The other grant should be out end of April or early May.

Sara-

Engine grant was released. All agencies were identified in that process. Congrats to those that received the equipment. Should start seeing them next year. Capacity grant is due to be released by end of April, must be out by June. Legislative session is taking up a lot of OSFM time. OSFM has located a new building and they are working on moving in. It will be done by July 1. New 2023 MOB plan is out, and people need to review. Please send affirmation through the email. After we review the plan, we will support preposition for our local area. TFL symposium will be in Bend on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. If you need any assistance before fire season reach out to Sara and ask.

Upstaffing grant will be available this year. All leftover dollars will be in that pot. Dollar will likely be less than \$35,000, and more paperwork involved. It is coming so be ready for it.

#### **ASA-**

Mercy- Story about an event that happened. Explorer was on standby at a motorcycle event on Johns Peak. During the event they had a call for a rider down, 1 mile up on the hillside. They jumped in and found a 14 YO with significant abdominal injury. Responders were 15 YO and 18 YO with limited training but knew enough to activate the helicopter. They were transported to the hospital and right to surgery with a successful outcome. If you need landing zone training for your agency, please let Mercy or any other Air medical provider know.

National shortage of EMT's and Paramedics. Currently working on an apprenticeship program. Several people have sat down to help design this program. Please reach out if you have any questions. Those that have helped, thank you. Currently writing a 3 million grant to launch and pilot the program.

#### **HazMat-**

One limited response. Out on Kirkland Road with knife river. BC did a consult, and they did a limited response. Skid steer had hit a fuel line on a 9000-gallon tank. 3000 had spilled. All boxes checked with OERS and DEQ. Just oversight from the team. Current status at State level is drilling down on standards of cover for HazMat. Once done then they will look at tiered response. There is a renewed interest in central Oregon having a team. The other big issue at the state level is funding. With the merger of

regional hazmat and rail program potential for additional funds, however that is 1-2 years out. Will have more updates next meeting.

Team outreach- They still like to do team outreach; an example was an 8-hour outreach with the ff 1 RITA academy. They focus on awareness refresher, and decontamination. Mini hands-on portion with a decon exercise. Contact Chief Howard for scheduling.

**PIO-** No report

### **Emergency Management**

Jason- Josephine County has a vacancy. Call Jason in the meantime to help find the answer for any related EM incident. JoCo County commissioners spent quite a bit of time trying to decide if they need an emergency manager. They did post it and if you support the position and or want to help educate the BCC on why we need it, then please do so.

### **CWPP**

Trying to get the CWPP updated by the end of the year. With that they are trying to get community input. Will reach out to folks during outreach education events. They have a template they are developing for ways to ask people to get the information needed. The preparedness event on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Rogue Valley Mall they will be asking some of these questions. They are also working on building a template to ask what projects people would also like to see. Want to get a good green debris program. Wanted to have a token to give people so they can drop off free debris after people fill out the survey. Josephine County did approve contract with Jackson County for the CWPP position

### **OFCA**

Golf tournament bend. Conference April next week

### **SWOCG**

ODF- New dispatch detection building in central point. Will move in during the middle of May. Detection center feed won't be available until after that is done.

Brandon- Met with Emily to make sure that King Mountain camera site grant will get completed.

Also, ODF updated waiver guidelines. Added in utility work around power poles on the ground. If people would like they can distribute those updates to them.

Forest Service- Hiring is going well. All of the modules are doing well, except on the coast. Coast will have less than they would like. Key positions are all good nationally. Anticipate bolstered numbers by the time we hit the fire season. 90% staffed.

### **Chaplains-**

Stress First Aid Class May 8, 9, 17<sup>th</sup>. This is located at Grants Pass Fire. 2 Classes each day. Focused on peer support for each other. \$40.00 per person. They have done some of these classes. Target group is peer to peer. Gives people the skills necessary to help each other out. Teaches how to get people assistance when needed.

Chief Hussey- Thank you for what you do. D3 Chaplain experienced a loss and the chaplains really worked to help him out.

**SOOFRC- No Report**

**Local Emergency Planning Commission- No Report**

### **Technology Group**

Met and had a lot of good discussion on GIS programs. Many different programs exist and they are trying to narrow in on what the state is using. They identified what is out there and looking for direction from the state.

### **Old Business**

**None**

### **New Business**

Chili cookoff- Reached out to Chief Hanley and were granted permission to use D5's large area for the cookoff. There are 22 participants that would like to take part. Need to find a date after fire season to hold the cookoff. Several vendors are willing to participate. Cascade Fire Equipment is willing to provide door prizes. May need to implement IMT team to manage. Will need some help with putting this together. Ian's group could do something with the fire prevention concept. Looking towards October and fire prevention week. IMT practice is good. If you have anyone that can help, please do so.

### **New Business**

**RCC- Update-** Recent FF1 students have hit the 6-month point. RCC has completed applications for DPSST FF1 certification. Assigned task books for FF2 this last term. Will not be completing sign offs for drivers, but task books are partially completed.

RCC has decided they are accountable for credit. They have college level accreditation. They need to confirm enough hours and credit have been completed to meet their requirements. Questions, please send them to Rusty. Gary is still the chair, but informally Rusty has taken on a lot of those responsibilities. TaiLese has availability throughout the week. When a student applied for credit, it will ask for hours and the instructor qualifications. Tasking out will also happen now and there is a significant cost. Taillese, has questions about how this program will affect students. For the academy it may be best to get together with the Academy leads to gather information. Then they will need to perform the task performance evaluation. This will apply to all classes.

Next advisory meeting- They are trying to figure out where this is. RCC is rewriting the committee standards. They will then present that to the fire advisory committee. This change will put responsibility on RCC to schedule and hold the meetings. Would like to see each agency training chief or other person involved. Rusty will continue to move forward and get that scheduled. Will not be doing a subcommittee on the PAT. CPAT is not setup yet. Currently have 20 positions in the fire academy in the Fall and they have more people than positions.

Plan to do hiring process with interview process in Spring and Summer. Want to swing door wide open and have more representation of all agencies.

## **Preseason Refresher-**

If you have any ideas send to Chief Prince. Small department hosting a large incident was one thought.

Chief Thompson- Communication process and how to engage it. Always confusion on the appropriate process. How to mobilize RV 1 and 2. Refining the template that we carry in the field. We should pull out a template and it should look the same as what is in the dispatch center.

Roster set for going out on deployment.

Wolfard- We will get more ideas after the upcoming training

Chief Hussey- Coordinate with the State on a call down for conflagration. Conflagration request call.

## **Good of the Order**

Davidson- Effective June 1 will be the Fire Chief. Of Evans Valley Fire District.

Williams- Received a tactical tender. It is a much-needed piece of equipment. Attended Senator Ron Wyden townhall open meeting. Shared with the senator that it is great that money is coming in, but the smaller departments are not seeing as much of the dollars. The Senator responded that he is hearing the same thing. There is a bill at Congress to help with this if it moves forward.

Jacksonville- Political magazine came out talking about how and where the funds are going in.

Applegate- Received notification of award for 2021 SAFER grant application. Congressional spending request- 10 million went to 2 million. ECSO is now the applicant for this request to get a LEO portion added to this. Adding in the LEO was important for it to be successful. Being looked at and is still alive.

Hussey- Hiring 4 firefighters for anticipated and unanticipated vacancies. Harrington has resigned and is doing something else. The Alliance is continuing to talk with each other. They have decision makers in the room to assist. The purpose was to assist FD4 with Chiefs process. We are all potentially have funding issues. This alliance allows for them to enter into agreements. A few weeks ago, FD4 did not have the staffing so this alliance allowed for FD3 and FD1 to help each other out. Hoping to build models that are not currently allowed in Oregon right now but can through IGA's. FD 1 is glad to be part of this group. It has allowed the agencies to leverage the message a little bit.

Grants Pass- We are having budget issues and have to cut 2.6 million from next years City budget. In doing so we are looking at browning out a station for 6 months. The student program will be eliminated, and many other cuts that will have impacts. These are the beginning discussions and there are many rounds left to go through before final.

Jacksonville- Lots of fuel mitigation being done. Hoping to get 50-100 acres done in Forest Park. They have 2 Firewise gardens. May 6<sup>th</sup> will be the annual cleanup day in COOP with ODF. In the market for a type 1. Will likely be purchasing a demo unit. Have also hired a parttime FI. Will help with weeds and grass and inspection activities.

Medford- Finally starting to wrap up labor negotiations. Both sides will come out and be ok, Wrapping up 2 budget process at the same time. Will have both solidified in the next month. Hired an admin support staff. Pam Webbers last day will be June 1. Received approval to start recruitment and replacement for the Office administrator position. FF process is near complete with a start date of May 8<sup>th</sup>. EMS captain will be filled first part of summer. Also, single role Paramedic and EMT in a squad. Start at station 13 to stop using ladder on EMS runs. Had good time in DC. Sat down with many representatives to tell the story for Medford and the whole valley. A lot of money comes out of LE and so we need to tie it to them.

Phil Turnbull was nominated and awarded the meritorious service award at the State Chiefs meeting.

Next Meeting May and June in white City