

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Location: Zoom Video Conferencing

Date: November 16, 2021

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

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

Attendance Roster on file.

Approval of Last Month's Minutes: A correction was identified by Baumgartner regarding the hazmat team activation locations. Correction made by Prince, confirmed by Baumgartner -- (corrected minutes are available on the website) Approved as written. 1st by Vetter, 2nd by Wolfard.

Approval of Financial Report: No activity. Balance remains at \$4759.58 Approved as presented. 1st by McLaughlin, 2nd by Gavlik.

Special Guests: Welcome new member **Pat Songer (Mercy Flights VP of Operations)**
pats@mercyflights.com

Jennifer Horton (DEQ), Justin Fimbres (JoCo Public Health) and Ryan Sandler (NWS) – Annual discussion and refresher with group regarding open and illegal burning protocols within the control areas of Jackson & Josephine County, and criteria for reporting. Also included air quality determinations established by the NWS, with inputs by RVFCA for wind and lack of moisture. A PPT was presented that included contact information. It will be attached to the November minutes email for those unable to attend.

Additionally, an 'open burn task group' was formed (led by Chief Hanley) to look over the entire burn criteria across both counties. Participation welcomed.

Section Reports:

Operations:

1. Fire – (Hussey)

- Evacuation group has formed and will be meeting December 20 to go over topics in preparation of Fire Season 2022.
- Apparatus renumbering has launched across Jackson County. Thank you to Kevin Harris and ECSO. Feedback has been good thus far.

2. EMS – (Horton) No report.

Training [RITA]: (Wolfard)

- Still looking to bring 'Live Fire Instructor' training to the valley in Spring 2022.
- Fire Officer 1 targeted for 2023
- NFA Leadership Courses: December 3-4. \$100 per student
- S-130/S-190/L-180 at Applegate Fire December 11
- S-131 class in the works

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

- RITA Pumper Operator class last month was excellent!!
- RCC Fire Science courses start up again in January
- RITA Firefighter 1 Academy is open, \$600 to start January 8 in Applegate (weekend format)
- RCC Winter Wildland Classes are out. Flyer will be attached to the November email.

Prevention:

- 1. RVFPC** – (Weber) Ordering a new prevention sign for the airport. Working on a content calendar with safety and prevention topics to promote regionally consistent messaging.
- 2. SOFCO** – (Shay) Next meeting is tomorrow via Teams.

Liaison Reports:

911 Centers –

(Harris) Radio project is on-going. The CAD interface is still in the works. Apparatus renumbering is on-going. ECSO experiencing radio interference and trying to resolve it. There is an app available for identifying interference – called "Radio ID"

(Guenther) Entering in the new Jackson County apparatus numbers in preparation to track units if they come to Josephine County

OSFM –

(Lashley) Offering 40-hour investigation classes, with plans to bring one to Applegate in March 2022. There is also a 16 hour class for Company Officers available on request. More deputy positions needing filled as a result of SB762. Fire code adoption is wrapping up. Staying busy with investigations across the district.

(Rubrecht) Lots of legislative updates going on. Home Ignition Zone workgroups coming soon. Plenty of money and grant opportunities going on. Deployment reimbursement packets are available for this season. Apparatus survey had 100% participation from the RVFCA. Working on Mobilization Plan – new form required to show your intent to deploy into California with regards to vaccine compliance. FDB meetings in SW Oregon got a good response at the state level in their learning of our local capability. The RVFCA IMT pool has developed a good reputation across the state, and other areas are interested in being just like us.

OFMA –

(Shay) Recently completed Technical Education Conference on code learning. New leadership positions being sought.

EMS –

(Clough) Working on the CAD interface as well. Took a roadtrip up to Portland to look at the successful integration they have for tying in fire/ems/emergency management, as it pertains to public/private collaboration.

HazMat –

(Baumgartner) Last month's training included the tanker hazmat scenario.

PIO –

(Weber) Group is now meeting quarterly rather than monthly. Emergency Resource Fair meeting is in December.

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Emergency Management –

(Powers) Last round of interviews on the Integrated Fire Plan Coordinator are complete, with a hopeful candidate that will accept the job. Three finalists for the Jackson County Assist EM are set for interviews next week. The added staffing will help with focus on overall project prioritization.

(Ring) Current focus is mainly centered around flood preparedness, cannabis issues, warming centers and alternative evacuation route planning. Looking forward to upcoming evacuation planning and alerting program work in preparation for next season.

OFCA – (Horton) No report.

SWOCG – (Witz) Great season due to awesome coordination with agencies. Recruitment is the hot topic. Hoping to have more overhead positions next year. The open District Forester position will be decided soon. 1/3 of the workforce is out there on grant money working on fuels reduction projects.

(Quinones) Ditto on the great coordination this year. Looking forward to upgrades and staffing at the Medford Tanker Base, Siskiyou Rappelers, the hotshot crew in Prospect and prevention program. Reached 2000 acres on burning projects.

Chaplains – (Saada) No report.

IMT – (Turnbull) No report.

SOFRC – (Chambers) No report.

FDBC – (Holmes/Horton) Will be conducting a post-fire season roundtable immediately following the November meeting. Looking to schedule meetings with the alternates in preparation of next season.

Old Business:

- 1) AIM Small Grant Program Letter of Support (Bates) RVFCA letter was sent to help get grant money to add a fuels reduction dump trailer for FD3 to promote alternative recycling of debris.
- 2) Life Membership Consideration (cont.) (Prince) Discussion continued with consideration of these past members by vote of the association. Minimum plans at this time for memorializing their work and contributions would be to post names to the public-facing website. Discussion ended with plans to build a voting survey between Bates and Prince, so that all members can have an opportunity to vote.

Max Long (D5)
Bill Anson (D3)
Randy Iverson (D3)
Mark Burns (MFD)
Greg Gilpin (ODF)

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Dan Peterson (D3)
Barry Hoffman (D3)
Dan Thorpe (ODF)
Scott Lochard (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.

New Business / Issues for Consideration:

- 1) Portable Radio Cache (Wolfard) The radio cache has found a home with RITA.
- 2) JCFD5 Apprenticeship Program (Hanley) Will be bringing on 21 apprentice firefighters to increase staffing on engines, ladder company, and as part of a hand crew. The crew will work on fuels mitigation but also respond I.A. where needed, including the response with a Type 6 Engine REM module. The program is similar to those found in Eugene and Clackamas, with the intent to build a workforce development program over 2-3 years. Staffing will be fully trained to the all-risk disciplines.
- 3) Recruitment for 2022 Secretary/Treasurer (Bates) Survey Monkey netted the following nominations, with official voting ballots coming soon:
 - a. **Chris Wolfard (D9)**
 - b. **Randy DeLonge (GPFR)**
 - c. **John Holmes (IVFD)**
 - d. **Eric Thompson (MFD)**
 - e. **Rick Vetter (WRFPD)**
- 4) 2022 Meeting Schedule (Prince) The schedule is finalized and will be distributed soon. It combines host locations with virtual and in-person options.
- 5) 2021 Financial Audit (Prince) End of the year audit will be with Chief McLaughlin before December 14.

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Last Minute Additions to Agenda:

Good of the order:

(McLaughlin) Thank you to all the agencies who helped with the Applegate's Captain testing process.

(Sartain) Thank you to FD3, Medford and FD5 for assistance with the Ashland hiring process.

(Prince) Thank you to all agencies that came to help with the 76 Gas Station fire in Wolf Creek. As is already known, WCFD is without any fire personnel for the last month due to a walk-out resulting from a disagreement between line staff and the board. The board is struggling to find an answer, and have even applied to SDAO for a loaner fire chief. Unfortunately there is a waiting list for fire chiefs. Currently Rural Metro Fire and Glendale Fire and doing what we can to provide assistance through established auto/mutual aid, but the intent remains for WCFD to get back on their own feet.

(Gavlik) Have a new repeater location on Bolan Mt (same freq/different PL tone). Will work with Hussey to integrate into the next programming list.

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 14, 2021 @ 1200 at Taprock NW Grill in Grants Pass
(invitation flyer has been distributed with a need to RSVP before Dec 6)

Adjournment: @ 11:09 – Happy Thanksgiving!

Visit our website at www.rvfca.com