

Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association – Monthly Meeting

Location: Grants Pass Fire – Parkway Fire Station

Date: July 19, 2022

Time: 0900

Call to Order: 0900 Start

Approval of Last Month's Minutes: Painter Hammond

Approval of Financial Report: Approved

Additions to the Agenda: None

Special Guests:

Leland O'Driscoll (U of O Hazards Lab) – AlertWildFire Camera System- Started in 2017. In last year it has really taken off. Largely Cal., Nevada, and Oregon. Camera is digital high resolution. 30X zoom capacity. Place cameras up on mountain tops for visible view sheds. System is public on alertwildfire.org. Great to have in an operations center. There are also internal use logins for use of the cameras. Individually credentialed system. Go to login page.

Have deployed a series of sites. There are 3 cameras operating, one in CJ, one off Mt. Baldy and one off of Eagle Creek and Long Mountain. There are plans to build another dozen plus in the next three years or so as part of a FEMA project. From GP to CJ. Also, will do additional cameras through the state. The idea is to give different views from ODF detection views. They are also available for ODF. The detection system can have both theirs and alerts up on 2 different feeds.

Process of siting the cameras. First is efficacy of the view shed. See assets of the WUI and areas that do not have a good view of existing cameras. Also collocating with their seismic sites. Availability of vertical assets on towers. If you have an area that needs a camera, they will take input. Directly contact me or Doug Toome. Let them know why, and also is there power, pole, data on site already? There are annual recurring costs. FEMA covers the first 3 years. We are leaning on utilities such as power to help sustain long term, but this is not confirmed.

Fire interoperability from Rogue Valley they get input from Chief Horton and OFCA. Shake alert, a person from RVCOG is given from our area.

Meeting with RVCOG, Powers, ODF. One issue is that access to the cameras is free. So, if there is conflict who should have control. During summer ODF can be the controllers and then during off fire season the agency. Representation of a task group to create a role model policy on this.

Section Reports:

Operations (Fire/EMS):

- Evacuation MOG- Guideline has reached group final draft. It is out to everyone on email. Review and give input and they will review in August looking for approval at the August meeting. Most clerical changes do come with a check sheet.

Training (RITA):

- Wolfard- DPSST has filled the Regional Training Coordinator position. Conner Lane is the new person. He has been a skid truck trainer for a while and will be volunteering with Applegate. He is from Douglas area. Bringing the skid truck down August 11th-14th, Thursday through Sunday. Flyers and links will go to DC DeLonge to share.
- Also putting on a FO1 course. October 22nd, 23rd to be held out at Applegate.
- Working on offering live fire instructor and live fire instructor in charge. Second weekend in December 10-11th. Need to have Fire instructor 2. November 19th and 20th, need this to do live fire training. IC has to complete the live fire instructor in charge with FI 2. Also, a series of taskbooks and burns. Is for interior operations only.
- SOWS had about 40 folks and was successful.
- FF1 Academy is doing good and will open registration on October 1. Do the online course work ahead of the January start.
- Looking at grant opportunities for more props and equipment to continue to develop the FF1 Academy.
- Also looking for Command and General staff training.
- Investigation/Inspector courses get with Sam or Tim from OSFM. Zoom link to me to disperse.

Prevention (RVFPC, SOFCO):

- Continuing to work on home assessment forms online. Trying to find out a way to sign up for them, so they do not have to figure out who is in charge.
- New Airport sign will be getting made and put up.
- Fire and Life Safety Trailer committee is formed to see what we need to do to repair or replace. At this point repair seems fairly simple and will be the avenue to go down.

Liaison Reports:

911 Centers (Harris/Guenther) – ECSO continuing on radio project. Cutover for new project is 4th quarter of 2025 and or 1st quarter of 2026. CAD to CAD is still moving forward. Currently they are pushing data up into the cloud. Will hopefully have it going to each other in the Fall. Director Margie Mullen is retiring. Recruitment for her is active and applications are being received. Staffing is still an issue. Out of 40 they have 24. They have 8 in training. About 50% will be in their first year. All supervisors are on the floor and not able to step back to oversee like normal. It takes 7-9 months to train new people. By the time they lose somebody, the time for a replacement to be on their own is over a year. Then takes a few years to get experience. There is a two-week academy in house and then to the floor. Looking at contingency to push non-emergent to voice mail. JoCo- Pre call is being requested for our side.

OSFM (Stacy/Lashley/Rubrecht) – Sara- Brought new mobilization plans. Those ordered are being shipped also to you. Congrats to those that got upstaffing dollars. It went out fast and checks were in hand within two weeks. Started with \$4 million and ended up with \$6 million. Around state there has

been some good news about the upstaffing making a difference. Work around our area on using it for severity staffing.

Apparatus request. Survey was done and it will be used for the request of apparatus. The application is also quite easy. First round of review will be October 28th. This is not first come first serve. 50% will be for engine only if it is a State purchased engine. You are not required to mobilize if you receive equipment. If you do go on a state mobilization, then it must be the first or second out to go on the incident.

Sam- Four deputies were hired and one more is in background.

Town hall meeting coming up soon in Ashland and Grants Pass on the Wildfire WUI Classification. November there will be some NFPA instructor classes.

ASA Agencies (Clough/Sartain/Hammond/Mathews) –

Hammond- Rogue River has the boat. They are making the frame this week; it will need to be power coated. We do have the trailer but will not have a motor until September. Then will need training time.

VMED29 frequency for air to ground as default to air unit on EMS. In GP we have bleed over. Locally they are able to talk with us on primary. Chiefs list does not have a PL tone, frequency that went out does have a PL tone. We will need to look more into this and may need to have radio updates. Oregon, Washington, and Idaho are getting ready to adopt use in the wildland also. All federally carded ships will be required to run this in their radios.

Haz-Mat (Baumgartner) – No callouts. Meeting their recertification requirements. Was recently at a state meeting. Having a meeting regarding boundaries and how best to keep teams around the State. Looking at the regional as we move forward this fall. Funding mechanisms is not getting as far as they need in the system. HazMat will be trying to get additional funding. Training funds are limited. Have exhausted our outreach funds. To send people out it will now be out of Medford's budget.

Rosenbauer got bid for the water tender production for State.

PIO (Weber) – August 3rd, quarterly meeting. Anyone can attend.

***Emergency Management** (Powers/Ring) –

Emily - Jason Alleman is our Public Region Education Coordinator. Will be doing this through both counties. Community meetings are coming up. Participating in any WUI map meetings.

Zone Haven is complete on the Josephine County side, and we will push it for the summer. Will be static and is a tool that is available to use this summer if needed. Multiple requests for preference on what the zones look like if you need it. Working on different formats to get out. Zone Haven can provide live training support if needed. Could get a trainer here in late October and or November.

Spire Grant- Wolf Creek Fire District- Attempted to get a prep U out there. Do not know yet if there is interest. Will be going out to see if it will work.

Holly- Via Aaron Con

Medford has several classes they have a grant for and will be rolling out the next year. 300 and 400 coming up soon.

DEQ smoke plan for Jackson County. We secured a grant for a plan for Jackson County similar to Ashland.

CWPP (Vonn) – In Deschutes. Then on Friday meeting with Youth Corp groups.

OFCA (Horton)– Met early July legislative planning session. Looking to see what we really want to advance. Can expect 762 will come under attack. Chief Horton was the Oregon rep for Western Fire Chiefs, stepped down and another person was placed.

HB4087- Media access will start next year. Two subcommittees are working on credentialing and training. What does press or media look like? Lots taking place on this for the credentialing. This is all disasters, not just wildfire.

SWOCG (McCarty/Edwards) –

We currently have 6 additional engines into the valley. Hotshots in Wyoming. Rappelers are in Northern Cal. Lots of vacancies in support centers. Dispatch is at 40% staffing, with 4 brand new. About 80% staffing for normal fire folks. VLAT base is open with agency owned equipment. Only 6 mix masters in the nation. We just happen to have one in the Valley for AD.

Herbert J Stone meeting is about the dam breaking and a planning meeting on what should they do.

National office switched crews. So now crews here come from Eugene and Grayback goes to Salem.

ODF- High IFPL Level 2 Fuel loading in fines and 10 hours are thicker and taller than previous years. Great IA with FS. All ODF aircraft are on and available. LAT is up helping DNR near Wenatchee. Detection upgrade for Ashland end of August beginning of September. 80% new folks for dispatch All OJT training. Few out of district personnel around the State. WUI Risk meetings 26th at Anne Basker at Josephine County. Will get me the information to share.

Chaplains (Saada) –

Are getting another dog for Jackson County. Staying busy. At times lean but are recruiting more.

IMT (Turnbull) –Have had an uptick in applicants for IMT. In process of updating the roster one more time. Updated roster coming out soon and updated policy. Looking at C and G course for the Valley in the Winter or early Spring. IMT-Pool as official policy name.

Motion to approve the policy - Wolfard first, Kevin second. Motion passes.

SOFRC (Chambers) -

No Report

LEPC (Bates/Powers) –

Holly and Justin met about reinvigorating that group. Focused on HazMat. Trying to get this re-kicked off in October.

Old Business:

- Open Burn Task Group – Chief Hanley - Need to get involved with air DEQ smoke plan.
- Association Strategic Plan Survey- Please get this back to the person for review.
- RVFCA logo update- We now have a much better high-quality logo. Banner is available for anyone to use. Where do we store them and then how to get them? Co-Op can store them.

New Business / Issues for Consideration:

- Dana Black getting together with Chief Vetter about the small rural fire districts. She is Senator Merkley's assistant. She wants to see what the office can do to help make these agencies more efficient. We will invite her next month.

Good of the order:

- SOFSA (Intterra) Update- Good information out about this. If needed I can resend back out.
- Vetter- Partnerships thank you to ODF and EM for the help they did. They were able to utilize the chipper thanks to their support.
- ODF- Awareness people are getting heightened and aware of issues and texting pictures asking if there is a fire. Good reminder people are watching.
- Grants Pass DeLonge- Chief Larkin is in our background process for Grants Pass and should be starting in September. Also announced the BC Brandon Rigaud who is our most recently promoted BC is sitting in today.
- OSFM Grants- Jim- Talked about upcoming grants and projects. They are working to build money around the projects. There is a lot of desire to get funding out. Salem is trying to build the money around the projects. Working to get out to areas he has not been to yet. Trying to catch up. Film elemental coming out about home hardening. Could give a good definition on how to empower people to create more defensible space.

FDB Meeting after will be restarted following this meeting.

Next Meeting: 0900 August 16th at Medford Fire – Station 14 (Railroad Park on Table Rock Rd)

Adjournment: