



Missoula County Fire Protection Association

- **March General Membership Meeting Agenda**

7:00pm, Wednesday March 21st, 2018

County Health Department

1. Call to Order (Joe- Chair)

2. Introductions (All)

Joe Calnan-Chair	Gordy Hughes- MFD	Chris Newman- MRFD	Adriane Beck- OEM
Sarah Coefield- MCCH	Andi Colson- Lolo MRD	Jesse Kurpius-Lolo MRD	Matt Hall – SWLO
Anna Henderson- Lolo	Charlie Lambson- FFD	Ryan Hall- GPF	Cory Calnan- CLW
Glenda Wallace- WebM	Tom Martin- FFD	Chris Johnson- LNF	

3. Approve Financial Report / Correspondence Received (Jordan Koppen- Secretary/Treasurer)

- Savings: \$18,740.26
- Checking: \$3,104.53

Old Business:

- **Assessments have been sent out**
- Webmaster fees have been paid
- VFA Grants-Joe Calnan
 - March 16 deadline for agencies to submit. Due to the state by end of June. As of today, everyone except two have submitted; all intentions everyone will submit. Joe will reach out. Middle of April will be reassessment, prior to May GM Meeting.
- CJ's Survey on website and committee
 - Goal of survey is to reset, refocus our webpage and social media platform to align with our mission.
 - Big question is: Can you be on the committee?
 - Develop focused objectives for social media/webpage
 - Protocol for posting approval
 - CJ will send out the DRAFT survey to all-in attendance at March GM Meeting.
 - **CJ was limited to 10 comment invitations in Survey Monkey**
- Double Bobble head has been approved and moving forward. Firefighter appreciation night is July 7th.
 - Double bobble was approved; Jordan leading the effort
- Exchange Club Firefighter appreciation Luncheon-May 17th
 - If you can make it, please go. \$1,000 award will be presented to MCFPA @ meeting.

NEW BUSINESS/Agenda Items:

1. New Lolo Frequencies & Area Aviation Frequencies in 2018
 - a. We will provide feedback on the rollout to our radio group. Lolo Fire doesn't control the rollout.
 - b. TAN (Air Ambulance) should not have a tone. A new frequency list will be pushed to correct that typo
 - c. Good news that there is a repeater on Stark for Frenchtown
2. Assess Your Own Risk Portal-Matt Hall
 - a. Matt- You may have seen the new SAM product. That has been pushed out, Jordan announced a webinar, in the form of a portal that goes live in April as a tool to use. It is meant to be an educational tool for homeowners to lower the risk of ignitability of their structures. It asks for general information on their property and to request a professional visit. We are still working out a workflow of where the requests go. The plan is for an April for a rollout in May for Wildfire Awareness Month. We are advocating for Seeley Lake to be a test spot.
 - i. It is a tool that DNRC has put together with help from other agencies. We need to figure out how to employ the tool locally and with MCFPA.
 - ii. Q: will there be materials to help promote? Yes
 - iii. Q: is it primarily be DNRC employees doing the assessments? This is a point of discussion. Could other agencies be tapped? Do we want DNRC going to your department's jurisdiction without local fire department personnel? Could local departments benefit from this?
 - iv. Q: has there been talk of getting insurance companies involved that might offer a premium for work being done? Currently it is intended to be a homeowner tool as an educational piece. It is an interesting idea to think about getting them involved, but it could perhaps lead to risk-mining and a potential increase in rates; the idea needs fleshing out if we were to go that way- perhaps if the homeowner *initiated* a conversation with their insurer and asked for a premium adjustment should work be done.
 - v. This is another tool that aligns with the Cohesive Strategy regarding homeowner responsibility.
 - vi. Q: If someone goes on the public portal and fills out the form, it isn't giving them a red or green, it is just submitted to someone for assessment. After it's done, the information is public. You can zoom in on Seeley right now where a lot of work is displayed.
 - vii. After 5 years, it reverts to a "no rating" category
 - viii. Q: What is the funding potential for the program, which may be unfunded as of November? It is our position that the state owns the data, but we are not sure of future funding.
 - ix. From DNRC's perspective, we'd like to start using these tools to more formally engage our communities. We'd like to have a formal approach to the creation of fire adaptive communities.
3. Adriane Beck- MCFPA coordinated/cohesive prevention and preparedness message for Spring 2018 & CWPP update
 - a. Many of you have been working on an updated CWPP. It is out for draft and public comment. Tomorrow night at the courthouse, we'll have a public meeting.
 - b. We are using it as a way to incentivize all of us to act in accordance with the plan.

- c. By late May, we'd like to formally convene a cohesive strategy (CS) working group. For OEM to utilize funding to develop a position in our office to implement the CS across the county????
- d. We have taken care of the response component. We really need coordinated effort. We all have local authorities, we are all saying the same thing- a coordinated and cohesive message. We look at everything that incorporates a fire adaptive community. DNRC and OEM have looked at some long-term goals to develop programs that will enable us to take the next step looking at Fire Adaptive Communities, with a consistent message.
- e. To wit, a good public campaign re: home ignition zone and a community ignition zone only as good as each property owner.
- f. OEM is a coordinating agency, we don't own any fire trucks. It's not our train to drive, but we recognize there are lots of effort out there that need to be coordinated.
 - i. Q: How often will you revisit the CWPP? There is no set schedule. In the pre-disaster mitigation plan in Missoula County, that has to be updated every five years.
 - ii. The Health Department is developing plans to build resiliency and become a smoke adapted community emphasizing clean air areas and home improvement opportunities. Smoke levels, even in the buildings related to filters were not good, and this could be combined with the fire adapted community effort.
 - iii. The vast majority of the Missoula community is getting smoked out during the summer.
 - iv. There are lots of good individual projects going on, but if they aren't coordinated, they are often unknown and unable to produce a synergistic effect.
 - v. With burn season open, if there is a desire to pull together consistent messaging, this would be a good time for an effective campaign.
 - vi. The MELT (Missoula Elders for a Livable Tomorrow) folks have been doing good presentations, but if we only talk HIZ, we are doing a disservice to the public who may have a higher expectation of the benefit of the work they're doing and may give them a further impetus to stay and defend their homes if they've done so much work.
 - vii. There are landscape scale components that need to be taken, especially in our public messaging. People need to look at their homes, yes, but they also need to consider their communities.
 - viii. Frenchtown is trying to take a district-wide approach. MELT seems to favor a "defend your home" approach which potentially focuses attention too narrowly. Their message has gained momentum and may be giving folks a false comfort that, if they act on their homes, they will be defensible.
 - ix. MCFPA and OEM have an opportunity to come together for a messaging campaign in May for Wildfire Awareness Month. Jordan (DNRC) and Nick (OEM) can spearhead the effort.
 - x. Mineral County is looking at a coordinator's position. If you are interested in jumping on-board, please contact Joe Calnan.
 - xi. Contact Adriane for a description of the county project coordinator. Timeline will be to hire the position July 1 (start of the county fiscal)

AGENCY ROUND-ROBIN

- MFD: Gordy. Match Safety. Sarah has had a slow response from schools. It will start April 10 thru middle of May. Please sign up and help the 1st grader program.
- MRFD: Chris. Couple of retirements in next fiscal. We'll be looking to hire 2-3 folks. Since our last meeting, we improved our ISO rating. A lot of the credit goes to Chief Colwell. We figured it should affect 12,000 address points within our jurisdiction, going from a level 6 to a level 4. We plan a press conference. It will be a significant savings across the district
 - Paul Finley has outreached to our community regarding active shooter planning. There is the potential that each of our agencies could be involved quickly in that scenario. If we don't have a plan, we're negligent at this point- that's our perspective
- OEM: Trying to get all agencies to plan for active shooter scenarios- including consistent 'stop the bleed' stations for schools and plan for a coordinated response
 - Last month, the oversight committee met to change the Type 3 IMT to the Western Montana IMT. We were able to set the roster. We have gaps in the OSC section and in the IC department.
- City/County Health: 1,332 burn permits, most were renewals (309 were new). Over 600 activations. We are charging departments \$4 per permit rather than \$5. We know it takes your time and effort. Funds go to mailing and staff time. We are in the black, and we wanted to start giving that back to the departments who are facilitating sign-ups.
 - Sarah just got back from a Regional conference of smoke management professionals; it was beneficial. Beginning fire season projections are dire. Cooler spring, no extra precipitation; dryer than normal. All of the fines left from last year will lead to a big buildup of hazardous fuels.
 - Delivering a talk in May on Smoke Resilient Communities with a case study of Missoula in 2016.
 - Continue to work with UM researchers
 - Received \$15k for purchase of air purifiers to augment our cache. Ours will be focused on public spaces.
 - Data from monitors from inside buildings was just as bad as outdoors. Our buildings aren't ready for wildfire smoke. We've got ahead on schools with the recent bonds.
 - MRFD: Burn permits online are the greatest thing since sliced bread. MRFD used to do 30 a day and our guys couldn't do anything all day. We are down to 1-2 people a day. We love the online permit system. March 1, we expected a flood, and we didn't get it
 - FFD: The mapping is awesome to know if we're headed for something permitted.
- Missoula RD: Welcome Andi Coulson, our new Prevention Tech. She starts with us April 2nd. She is going to be on until Christmas and on in the spring. Working with Jordan and Anna at Ninemile to supply more help from Missoula RD.
 - One other position filled during fire hire at 100% staffing. A lot of folks have come on in the last couple of weeks. Thinning at Rattlesnake trailhead. The area will have a lot of people walking through, and hope to have good comments.
 - A couple of burns (Blue Mountain 24 and 100 acres up Sawmill). A lot of it is going to be piles into the fall. Last year, we got 300 acres done.
- SWLO: Dylan is setting up for April 6-8 for a basic FFT2 course. April 8-12 S-212 in Lolo at MRFD station #5.

- Lubrecht training in June- available to local government at no tuition (S-290, S-230, S-231 on first week. Second week is IA school and advanced FFT courses; third week is S-200 and L-280)
- Chapter 50 should be coming out in April. The tender rates have been updated. In 2018, we'll see requirements for local government deadlines for reimbursement packets. We are still processing payments from last year. Your Chief certs will need to be updated.
- Trying to fill assistant center manager and initial attack dispatcher.
- At Missoula Unit, we lost Keith Kriener, so we'll be looking to fill the AFMO and prevention position.
- Ninemile: Got seasonals hired. Engine and chase going to the Coronado. We've had two fires, human-caused. Getting in the classroom for education.
- Florence. Charlie. New positions getting trained and up to speed; one in paramedic school. Our engine is just about ready to go online and will be in service by April with qualified folks to operate it.
 - Received a DOT ambulance grant, that should be ready by July
- Greenough/Potomac: EMT refresher went well. MESI put it on; big thanks to Missoula Rural for active shooter/stop the bleed; new to us. Pancakes and permits went well, but Smokey would not inflate. Lots of snowpack in Seeley. Very few people burning. Big thanks to Cory Calnan for Blackfoot FFT1 training put on. 12-20 people engaged in each area, so it was very productive.
 - Always looking to hire volunteers
- Seeley Lake: Measuring snow in the feet. Clearwater has a big turnover (5-6 positions). Working through preseason work. Had a good roadshow presentation in Seeley and Ovando and Lincoln re: large fire response AAR.
 - Seeley Fire: hired a new chief (David Lane out of Nevada). Plan for him is to start mid-April. Our current interim chief (Greer) will stay on until June for transition.
 - Recruitment is up at the department- folks are excited.
- Webmaster: Do we need a volunteer page? I've been promoting a join the department campaign as they are posted. I have a ton of MCFPA paperwork. Would it be interesting to create a history of MCFPA? Who were the founders? I read the book Megafires by Michael Kadis (mostly based in Colorado) and it is a good read, appropriate to MCFPA's concerns. It is eye-opening to see where we've come in our MCFPA messaging.
- DNRC SWLO: AFMO position announcement is in the process of screening apps. Seasonal positions on the street. Ashleigh Burwick wanted to deliver the message that they were grateful of the support following the passing of Keith Kreiner.
- FFD: We've gone out on three reports. We've got a grant ambulance, should be there in July for Mineral. New ambulance is in, and a new structure engine in the middle of April. Got bids out for a chassis for a Type 5 hybrid. We've made some significant changes in FFD on the wildland side. FFD has been doing response and fuels mitigation for 20 years, and Taylor is going to be the Wildland Coordinator putting folks into the Cohesive Strategy focus. Looking at landscape message. At least three funding sources to continue the hazardous fuels project.
 - Libby Hooper is helping as well.
 - Formalizing the changes we've been doing for years.
 - ISO changes as well; 50% of structures in Frenchtown are going from a 9 to a 5 effective April 1st. A lot of work goes into that.

NEXT MEETING: May 16 @ Frenchtown Fire Department