



**Missoula County Fire Protection Association
July General Membership Meeting Agenda**

Date/Time/Location

Wednesday, July 18th, 2018

6:30 PM – Dinner

7:00 PM – Meeting Start

Seeley Lake Rural Fire District – 200 Firehouse Drive, Seeley Lake

AGENDA Est. Time

1. Call to Order (Vice Chair)

2. Introductions (All) 5

- Jesse K-Forest Service
- Bill-Clinton Fire
- Ken-OEM
- Cory Calnan-CLW
- Chris Johnson-FS
- Ash-DNRC
- Beau-DNRC
- Matt Hall
- Gordy Hughes-City Fire
- Ryan Hall
- Taylor-Frenchtown
- Sarah C-Air
- Chief Dave
- Charlie-Florence Fire
- Carl N-Seeley Ranger Dist.

3. Agenda Additions, If Any

- CJ motion to approve min-approved

4. Review Minutes of May Meeting (Jordan)

- Lolo Assessment should be coming soon
- Cofield to approve min

5. Financial Report (Jordan) – Requires Approval

a. Account Balances (As of July 17, 2018)

i. Checking: \$4,000.22

ii. Savings: \$18,743.40

6. Correspondence (Jordan)

- **Matt Hall- Exchange Club Recognition plaque recognition Handout**
 - **Gordy emphasized the importance for departments to show up for events like that and show support.**

a. All bills Caught up, Jordan Paid Trailer insurance \$1,143. Tried to ask for a better rate and agent said it would have to be assessed this winter.

Old Business

7. Assessments – All received except Condon

8. Social Media Committee – “Reset” (CJ)

- CJ handout of the new MCFPA Twitter account. Use as primary conduit for the press and the public and our agencies. Agencies share the account.
 - Operations, Events, PSA’s or alerts
 - Actions taken with regard to the Missoula County Wildfire Protection Plan
 - Actions taken with regard to the National Cohesive Strategy
 - Sarah: We should keep on it and make it a commitment to build our audience.
 - CJ Sub Committee proposal. What do you have for content? Do you have time to tweet it?
 - Committee Members: Mel Holtz? Jordan K, and Chris Johnson Forest Service.
 - Taylor makes a point that we can share information by sharing information.
- Motion Launch Twitter for Season- Sarah- Approved and passed.
 - CJ Brought up the issue of the MCFPA policy and implementing it straight across to Twitter Account. Start up and begin instructions for the group that utilizes Twitter account.
 - Amendment passed, none opposed.

New Business

9. General Outdoor Burn Permit Expiration – Discussion (Sarah)

- Angst of burning permits rolling into July. We hardly ever go past the first week of July, we would be on the same path as the CSKT tribe.
- Ash: public that had escaped debris burns were not following the directions in the first place. It would eliminate the excuse to give debris burners to plead ignorance. Cory curious to see which of the two kinds of permits do they have to burn. All permits would have between June 30th and Fall burning. Taylor says people still think that they can burn with their permit in the fall (General Permit). CJ suggests “Spring outdoor burn permit.” If we could get all county fire wardens to agree on this permit system and we all go out on June 30th. Sarah will go in and see if we can tweak and talk to fire wardens. Doing it to help reduce the number of confused people asking questions on open burning closure dates. Cory will talk to Powell County. Jim Ward running mineral County-close to a June 30th cutoff also. Gordy-extensions on project work... Sara: Lolo who does not have a permit for the system and more resources. Matt: Still retain ability to close in early June due to fire danger. Simplified: turning the August 30th date to June 30th.
- Action item: Sarah will contact other fire wardens.

10. Wildfire Community Preparedness AAR (Matt Hall)

- **Brainstorm out at RSG presentation**
- **CMAT Opportunity**
- **Community wildfire preparedness coordinator.**
 - Risk Portal (DNRC) Education tool for homeowners and have fire official come out.
 - Reader boards to see if we could get a good response.

- Operation Standalone-worked out good.
- MELT group-Lessons learned
- Taylor-Community Chip Day funded through united way. Pilot program to be used in Seeley and in Lolo.
- Green Waste Removal Days
- Greenough-Potomac preparedness event. Agency folks coming to talk about projects going on in the area. Blackfoot challenge and similar groups were a part of this. Paul Hessberg presentation was purchased and viewed.
- CRC Jack Cohen event about 40 people showed up.
- Pattee Canyon Scoping-Talking piece: Fuels maintenance piece they are doing on the Pattee canyon area. Missoula Rural there about their mitigation crew.
- Big sky lake with Klara (venturing scout) community preparedness coordinator project. Cory says good traction in the Big Sky Lake area.
- Matt H. explains his Cohesive Strategy Work Group.
- Sarah-last meeting founded by Steve from BLM. Meteorologists that don't really go outside. Get more prescribed fire on the ground. Find ways to optimize and get as much burning done without harming the public when the ventilation is good. Are there ways that we can find more "good days" to burn prescribed fire.
- RSG day at Frenchtown rural: discussion with Taylor, Ryan and Matt Hall; how do we start doing better outreach and looking for better opportunities?

a. Review events from this year and AAR notes

b. Discuss committee to work preparedness effort with county's new position

c. Possible membership in Missoula Building Industry Association (Parade of Homes, Home Show)

- Resistant material and having a home in this parade of homes. Fire district could be at that home on the parade route and have an expectation. Builders control what's going on how these homes are being.
- MCFPA could recognize a home or builder that year that would receive an award for the best-looking wildfire resistant home. Options are there, and parade of homes is end of September and home show is in February. NOT DURING PEAK SEASON.
- Becoming a member, we would gain access, and article speaking about what fire officials are looking for etc. Membership comes together, they allow suppliers and membership members to interact every year. Cory: cool idea get in on the front end of things. Different aspect than we've tried before. Coordinating our message and being consistent. We struggled to get that done, we have a need to be together as a team on the fire adapted communities talk. We could have a group of folks that could supplement the new county coordinator. Working hand in hand from an interagency perspective. Longer planning timeline to get a lot of this work done. Part of the responsibilities of the Board? CJ: Only other Committee could be the board on the chair of this committee for the new county position. MCFPA is going to be the group that is the driver of coordinating the membership of the MBIA and tying in the new coordinator. Sarah Cofield would

be willing to help out with this, just depending on fire season and the intensity of this year. Cory: Sees this as a group maybe at the September meeting, where we could be ready to go by March.

- Shoot for the home show, we become a member of the MBIA in January when their calendar starts over.
- Matt Proposes a group (subcommittee) or (preparedness committee) out of the MCFPA group
- Taylor Motion to form a Wildfire Preparedness Committee-guidance that they propose, and the board approves. Rough Charter
 - CJ Second- Motion Passed.
 - Andi Coulson has been nominated, Taylor, Adam Sebastian, Jordan Koppen
 - Deadline is Friday for Parade of homes, going to hold off until January to get a plan.
- CMAT- Group similar in nature to RSG, federally funded group on trial basis that come out with team, state local government. Sits down with organization, looks to get a sustainable approach to the cohesive strategy. Request them to come out this October. They have projects done in Oregon where group comes in and work with local folks to create sustainable approach to **Fire Adapted Communities**. Already been discussed a little bit, same coordinator for the RSG of the CMAT group so there are connections. Put together an application to **plan** to address the community. They need commitment for all the departments. They don't want to work with just one group but a multi-agency crowd where they can help us lay out a plan.
- Motion to see if MCFPA wants to put together an application together for this. Interagency approach. Matt and CJ/Laura are up for saying they can help put this together. They Draw the documents that we have here locally. We are primed position with new CWPP, perfect opportunity for this effort to go through. "How do we work together to find avenues." Probably into October is when they could come in and do some work. Usually they do this during an incident. Proposal was to wait till this fall. Preparedness coordinator, CWPP adoption is fresh and best to wait. Funded through the Forest Service. They offer a bunch of specialties with different avenues. They provide the tools for success. Gordy would like to do a little investigation into it before diving in. -Taylor will contact Chief Joe to set up a time to set this all up. Matt will put as much information as possible. We will try to push as much information to the board as possible.
- Motion to leave this up to the board -Bill: CJ Second. Motion Carries

Ken Parks: Trying to move ahead the new Missoula County Wildfire Preparedness Coordinator. Trying to find a unique individual to fill position, maybe with some fire behavior knowledge.

Oversight committee would prioritize projects when they start work. Position Description, there is a draft. Rep for a hiring committee, and oversight committee.

Bill: Motion- have board select the person for hiring committee and oversight committee for new county position. Group their looking for, pay to play. All agencies have pitched in \$ for this position. Motion Passed-Action item.

d. Advertising space in Parade of Homes magazine
(deadline 7/20)

e. MCFPA Article in Parade of Homes magazine

11. 2018-2019 VFA Grant (Taylor)

a. Awarded - \$1,350 for each department. **Must Spend \$1,500 to receive the \$1,350 reimbursement**

b. Distribute packages

c. Due by March 15, 2019

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12. MCFPA E-Mail List (Jordan)

13. Agency Round Robin / Announcements

- Round Robin
 - Sarah-Central Montana plume. Super high elevation smoke. Responding to smoke proactively and using updates preparing people to prepare for wildfire season. 123 air purifiers ready to go out to sensitive folks. NASA meeting giving a talk on using satellite messaging. New buildings will have hepta filtration air if they are recycling the air. Putting recommendations on how to make the learning spaces safer for the kids when it comes to air quality in Missoula County.
 - Carl N. -Seeley Lake geared up, few people out on assignment. 1-year anniversary for Trenton in Seeley and plans ongoing for tomorrow. CJ-T-shirts for wildland firefighter foundation for 3 fallen firefighters.
 - Bill T.-New water tender for Clinton, leap ahead of Potomac for radios. Approval last board meeting for new tender. Been quiet, 4th of July quiet and Testy Fest is long over.
 - Ash- Missoula unit- rekindled illegal debris burn. 2 engines out. Waiting to see what happens. Finishing up with the Liberty Fire Rehab work in next couple weeks.
 - Jesse K.- last engine in Arizona, kicked crew down the bitterroot. More work up marshal woods.
 - Ken Parks- CWPP adopted, new position announcement soon. Team meeting at helibase, work day to go through equipment and process. Keep posted where the team stands. Finance people are needed for the team. Really up to their availability team wise. People can be added to the applicant pool. Very robust in the plans and safety sections. Finance and logistics are a very "help needed" section of the Southwestern Montana Incident Management team.
 - Cory C.- Mellow, Colorado engine was just returned. pretty slow.
 - Florence- put a crew together for bitterroot fire.
 - Ryan Hall-Big increase in motor vehicle collisions for Potomac. No wildland or illegal burn calls.

- Taylor: Frenchtown-1.8-acre Wamble escaped burn. 6 Acre by fish creek, people are still debris burning. Structure engine in process of paint and outfitted. RSG came in from JUNE. Actions items came in, RSG action guide making specific to Missoula county. Evacuation: Montana sheriffs are finally starting to adopt the two-step evacuation protocol. Work on the preparedness side from mineral county.
- Gordy-Jeff Brandt new fire chief of Missoula City Fire. Few resources out
- Motion to adjourn 8:52 motion passed

14. Adjournment (Vice Chair)

NEXT MEETING: Scheduled for September 19, 2018, Florence Rural Fire District