



## Missoula County Fire Protection Association

- **July MCFPA General Membership Meeting Minutes**

7:00 PM, Wednesday, July 16, 2014  
Seeley Lake Fire Department

### 1. Call to Order (Matt- Chair)

### 2. Introductions (All)

Matt Hall- Chair	Sarah Coefield- Board	Chris Johnson- Sec/Treas	Brent Christopherson- Brd
Chad Nicholson- Board	Cory Calnan- DNRC CLW	Ryan Hall- Green/Potomac	Justin Iverson- G/P
Joe Calnan- Frenchtown	Greg Jacobson- Msla FS	Allen Branine- DNRC Swan	Jesse Kurpius- Msla FS
Kristin Baker-Dickinson DNRC-CLW	Adriane Beck- Msla DES	Rob Taylor- MSO	Geron Wade- MPD
Charlie Lambson- Florence	Chad Stater- Seeley Lake	Gordy Hughes- MFD	Michael Richards- Seeley
Lynn Richards- Seeley	Michael Reagan- Seeley	Colin Adkins- Seeley	

### 3. Approve May Minutes / Financial Report / Correspondence Received (CJ- Secretary/Treasurer)

- Savings Balance: \$23,409.78
- Checking Balance: \$2,610.00
  - Western Group Insurance Premium paid (\$850)
  - VFA Grants Distributed (\$795.79, and \$1,133)
    - Seeley and Clinton Fire
    - Deposited (\$1,928.79)
  - Webmaster (May \$378)
  - VFA Grant Disbursement received 7/16 (\$1,105.88)
    - Greenough/Potomac
  - Bobble Head paid (\$3000)
- Accounts Payable:
  - June webmaster (no invoice at this time)
  - Blackfoot Communication (monthly web-hosting \$8)
- Accounts Receivable:
  - Frenchtown Fire Donation (\$300) from fundraiser at Ninemile House. Thanks!!

### Correspondence Received:

- Continental Western Group (Insurance Carrier) has safety videos available to their subscribers, MCFPA included. The videos are available at [www.firepak.com](http://www.firepak.com). The username is *MTFirePAK2013* and the password is *prevention*.

## OLD BUSINESS

A. Bobble-Head Night (Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup> in Missoula). CJ will coordinate with Osprey administration. All agency engines and personnel should arrive at Osprey Stadium @ 1700 for operational briefing from CJ. CJ will pick up the bobble heads that night. 750 will go to fans, the remainder will be divided between BLM and MCFPA members at the September meeting or as arrangements can be made.

CJ will have the tickets in-hand for firefighters and their families who wish to attend the game.

## NEW BUSINESS

- VFA Grant (Matt)

2014 Grant \$ has been dispersed, and this year's share for each department is 1,333. Please contact Matt directly with any questions.

- Missoula Area Restrictions Calls (CJ)

Beginning Monday, July 21, Missoula Area Restrictions conference calls will begin @ 1000 and will generally be over by 1100. Interagency units and fire wardens and chiefs are invited on the call. Discussions will include current situation at each unit, including numbers of fires, numbers of human-caused fires, and resource availability. The discussion will conclude with a decision of whether or not to move to restrictions. Calls will repeat each week at the same time on Mondays.

- Burn Permits (Coefield)

3,900 sold in the spring of 2014. Outdoor burning closed in Missoula County on 7/8. There were 30-40 active permits on an average spring day. There were a few instances in which folks were burning trash, which is not permitted.

- Dispatch Protocol Meeting (Matt)

Recently in Missoula, interagency wildland fire managers met with MIDC to review dispatch protocols; the meeting was productive and no comments or concerns were noted in the MCFPA meeting.

- Evacuation Procedures (Sheriff's Office Rob Taylor)

To streamline and make consistent for all (incident commanders, battalion chiefs, and sheriff patrol units) the SO is drafting a two-stage evacuation protocol. The state of Montana has adopted “Ready, Set, Go” as its public messaging campaign regarding fires threatening the urban interface, and the SO plan dovetails with the final two steps.

“Ready” corresponds the homeowner/property owner preparing their home prior to wildland fire season- specifically, implementing the mitigations that will lessen the threat of wildfire damaging their property. It also involves family pre-planning of what to do in case of an evacuation. Interagency wildland fire partners assist the public in these efforts with information and resources.

“Set” is the first tier of evacuation, not necessarily the first step in all cases, however. SO is color-coding yellow a list of things that homeowners should consider when they are alerted to the fact that an evacuation may take place in their area. The desired outcome of such alerts would be face-to-face contact with each affected homeowner or leaving a flyer at the home with information without a face-to-face if time doesn’t permit. “Set” can involve evacuating livestock, packing up precious belongings, and in some cases, actually evacuating before the order actually comes.

“Go” is the second tier of evacuation, although it may be the first step in some cases where time is critical and the incident is an imminent threat to lives and property. The SO is developing a flyer color-coded red a list of things the homeowner should do when the evacuation is effected. This is the time to go, not contemplate or get ready. It should be noted that face-to-face contact is preferred, but evacuation “go” notices may come in the form of lights and random siren blasts from patrol cars.

If the SO effects an evacuation of property, they will do their best to establish security patrols to lessen the threat of theft while the homeowner is evacuated.

SO is working with Missoula County OEM to develop the flyers and a public information campaign. Agencies will be provided (CJ will distribute when final product is available) copies of the two-tier procedures in the hope that they will use the information to train their first-responders and incident commanders of the capabilities and protocols of SO.

SO and OEM are working with Missoula Dispatch Center to develop run cards for incidents where evacuations may be necessary- generally, it will be helpful if dispatchers have a set of questions for the Incident Commanders that will prompt them to provide SO with the details and timeframes it needs.

#### ROUND-ROBIN

- DNRC – Missoula Unit (Asleigh Burwick) had two fires last week, both lightning-caused.
- DNRC – Clearwater Unit (Cory Calnan) had multiple fires, including a 5 acre fire that got up and ran for a bit. Lots of lightning last week and only scattered rain showers
- MFD – (Chad Nicholson and Gordy Hughes) had a few human-caused fires last week, one got to 16 acres, caused by dragging tow-chains, unattended campfires on the Kim Williams Trail, and 2 related to fireworks

- Greenough/Potomac – (Ryan Hall) has 10-12 EMT candidates in the pipeline working with Frenchtown Fire to get the training done. Six wildland fires to-date. Few minor 911 glitches shared with Seeley Lake Fire Department, but working out the kinks.
- Frenchtown – (Joe Calnan) had a good dump of rain accompanied by a few lightning strikes. Also had an impromptu fundraiser with a terrific assist from Ninemile Roadhouse restaurant. Raised \$300 for MCFPA. Certainly wanted to extend our thanks to all involved.
- Missoula RD – (Greg Jacobson) had 2 one-tenth acre fires and one two-tenths acre fire to-date from the last storm. Is supporting two 20-person Lolo crews on assignment.
- DNRC- Swan Unit (Allen Branine) has ½ inch of rain last storm and 1 one-tenth acre fire.
- Seeley Lake Fire – (Mike Richards) had a few outdoor burning violations and a quiet Fourth of July holiday. Should have a new chief in place by the end of August.
- Seeley Lake RD – (Karl Nikoleyczik) has had a quiet spring and early summer. Supporting the 20-person Lolo NF crews and various overhead around the country.
- Missoula County Public Health – (Sarah Coefield) will begin smoke monitoring with levels approaching reportable levels due to increase in drift smoke from wildfires in Canada and to the west of Montana.
- Office of Emergency Management – (Adriane Beck) Smart Boards will come out next week and will work with departments to engage them. Updating the EOC to reflect the oncoming fire season.
- Missoula Rural Fire – (Brent Christopherson) has a new Type 5 engine at Station 2 dedicated to the mitigation crew. There have been two professional positions that have retired, so they'll be looking to fill behind.
- Sheriff's Office – (Rob Taylor) has moved to larger office space in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the courthouse complex. Come and see the new area on a social visit.
- DNRC Southwestern Land Office – Jordan Koppen has accepted the Public Information/Prevention/Education position vice- Cindy Super. Fire background from Clearwater Unit. He is eager to assist in planning and implementation of various interagency goals.

\*Meeting adjourned @ 2015

Next Meeting:

September 17<sup>th</sup>

Florence Fire Department

(Details to come in September as we near the meeting)