



Missoula County Fire Protection Association

January 2012 MCFPA Meeting Summary

MCFPA General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2012
Missoula Rural Fire District – Sta#1

In Attendance: Becky White - USFS Seeley Lake; Frank Maradeo – Seeley Lake Fire; Sarah Coefield - MCCHD Air Quality; Bill Colwell, Missoula Rural Fire; Brent Christopherson - Missoula Rural Fire; Matthew Hall - Missoula Unit, DNRC; Adriane Beck – Frenchtown Fire; Chris Lounsbury – Missoula County DES; Bill Tucker – Clinton Fire; Chad Nicholson - Missoula City Fire; Chris "CJ" Johnson – USFS Lolo NF; Michael Painter – Missoula City Fire.

MCFPA Chair Frank Maradeo called the January meeting to order. Official thanks were given to our hosts MRFD for providing some excellent sustenance to the Association members in attendance.

MCFPA agency representatives in attendance introduced themselves.

Painter reported on MCFPA's January meeting packet:

- MCFPA November 2011 Meeting Summary. On a voice vote the minutes were approved.
 - MCFPA 2011 Financial Report – account balances as of Dec.31.2011:
 - Savings: \$23,084.35; Checking: \$2,724.73
 - Copies of Nov.2011 & Dec.2011 MFCU Statements
 - 2011 Financial Report (Unencumbered Association Funds: \$21,072.07)
- On a voice vote the financial report was approved.
- Correspondence
 - Montana State Volunteer FF Association Convention Report
 - Montana State Volunteer FF November Newsletter
 - Montana Fire Alliance Invitation (Jun.14-16.2012; Butte, America)
 - MCFPA Agency Assessment History – CY2002 to CY2011
 - Proposed / Tentative MCFPA CY2012 Meeting Schedule

OLD BUSINESS

- 2011 Fire Prevention / Public Education Events.
 - Fuel Mitigation Public Education Program
MCFPA had received a request from DNRC (Pat Cross) & Missoula FD's Fire Prevention Bureau to endorse the ongoing fuel mitigation public education program. (Discussed also at MCFPA's September 2011 meeting in Florence.) Pat Cross would be submitting a grant request and MCFPA's support and financial assistance would increase the chances of that grant being approved. On a voice vote the Association approved MCFPA's endorsement of the program. Pat Cross and/or MFD's FPB personnel would be asked to provide a request for specific funds as needed.
 - MCFPA Match Safety Program
Painter reported that Missoula Fire would again be scheduling this year's Match Safety Program for Missoula County first grade students. Sarah Kennett was hired as MFD's

new secretary and would be contacting the schools and coordinating the calendar for MCFPA representatives. Presentations will probably start at the end of March and run into April. All MCFPA agencies and members were asked to assist with those presentations as their schedule allowed. Sarah can be contacted during regular business hours at MFD Station #1 (552-6210; skennett@ci.missoula.mt.us).

- Painter also noted on the agenda that this year's Wildland Fire Prevention Osprey Bobblehead event would most likely take place in July or August & that MCFPA's Fire Safety Education Puppet Shows (given each year to Missoula County kindergarten students) would take place in October in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week.
- MCFPA Scholarship Committee Report
Brent Christopherson reported on MCFPA's scholarship efforts – scholarship applications will be due by March 1st, 2012. Brent does expect some of the COT Fire Science students to submit applications. Anyone interested in assisting the MCFPA Board of Directors with evaluation of those applications should contact Brent (or any member of the Board).
- 2012 Outdoor Burning Permits – On-Line Burn Permit System
Sarah Coefield updated MCFPA on the status of the on-line burn permit system for Missoula County. Implementation was on schedule and a demonstration of the system was scheduled for the Air Quality Board. There are training webinars also scheduled for all agencies and their personnel. A set of "Frequently Asked Questions" had been created and will be made available to all agencies & the public. Sarah represents MCCHD representative on a "User's Group" of those Montana Counties currently using the system which conducts a conference call bi-monthly.
Sarah handed out copies of the updated Missoula County Outdoor Burning Inter-local Agreement and asked that all agencies route them to the appropriate party for signatures.
- Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants
Frank Maradeo gave a brief report on this year's VFA Grants – there will be a total of \$9,000 available for the 7 districts / departments eligible for those grants. Frank will e-mail those departments with information needed – the deadline for completion has been extended to August 15th, 2012.
- MCFPA Website
Painter gave a brief report on the work Glenda Wallace had already accomplished on update of the Association's website. All members were encouraged to look through the website and bring any ideas about additional information which might be posted there to the Board. A motion to pay the invoice Glenda had submitted passed unanimously by voice vote.
- MCFPA Fire Sprinkler Trailer
Brent Christopherson had no new information to report on the trailer – MRFD's facilities manager had reported some structural problems with the trailer and some local fire protection services who had expressed interest in possibly supporting an upgrade / repair of that tool had withdrawn their offer pending further discussion.
- 2012 DNRC / MCFPA Agency Wildland Fire Training Exercise (DNRC / MCFPA)
Matt Hall gave a report on past years' exercises – DNRC would like to tentatively schedule an exercise in the Rock Creek / Clinton Fire area in 2012, involving area fire agencies, including the DNRC & USFS. On behalf of Clinton Fire, Chief Bill Tucker thanked MCFPA agencies which had assisted them with the mass casualty incident on I-90. All agencies were invited to participate in this spring's exercise, which will be scheduled some time in April or May.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Smart911 Project**
Chris Lounsbury handed out an information sheet on Smart911 and gave a report on how that tool might be used in Missoula County to provide more up-to-date information on specific occupancies which emergency response agencies respond to. Missoula County DES / 9-1-1 would be requested funds in the upcoming year's budget to purchase that program and would appreciate MCFPA's support. It was moved & seconded that MCFPA support 9-1-1's purchase of the program – that motion passed unanimously by voice vote.
- **MCFPA 2012 Agency Assessments**
Painter referred MCFPA members to the assessment history in their meeting packets – while the Association has continued to increase its assets over the last few years, there are also increase costs associated with projects in progress (MCFPA's Scholarship Program; support of the current Fuel Mitigation Public Education & upcoming Wildland Fire Prevention Osprey Bobblehead programs; additional upgrades to the MCFPA website). It was moved & seconded that agency assessments for CY2012 be sent out to all agencies in the same amount as were sent for CY2011. That motion passed unanimously by a voice vote. Painter will mail out assessments.
- **MCFPA Board of Directors Election**
All current MCFPA Board of Directors members offered to serve again for 2012 – no additional nominations were made; the current board members were re-elected by acclamation by voice vote:
 - Frank Maradeo, Chair; Brent Christopherson, Vice-Chair; Matt Hall, Vice-Chair; Becky White, Vice-ChairPainter has retired from Missoula Fire and will work with the Board to appoint and train a replacement Secretary/Treasurer.
- **MCFPA 2012 Meeting Schedule**
The 2012 MCFPA meeting schedule was approved by voice vote with one change – at the recommendation / request of Bill Tucker, the November meeting will be held in Clinton on November 28th (the 4th Wednesday) to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving & hunting season. (As Florence Fire was unable to send a representative, Painter will contact Chief Charlie Lambson to confirm that they are able to host the September meeting.)

OTHER

- **Agency Report Roundtable**
All representatives gave a report on their agencies' activities, personnel changes & incidents of note.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, March 21, 2011 - 7:00 PM
Missoula City-County Health Department
301 W Alder, Missoula - (406) 258-4755

Summary by Painter.