

June 19, 2014 Lincoln County FireSafe Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees; Dawain Burgess, TFF RFD; Lisa Osborn, Three River RD; Ed Levert, Lincoln Co; Mark Peck and Doug Turman, DNRC; Lou Kuennen, Flathead Economic Policy Center; Kirk Kraft, Lincoln County Sheriff's Dept. and Fisher River Valley FSA; Matt Bower, Yaak Valley Forest Council; Bruce Vincent, Provider Pals

Round Robin:

Mark Peck- Bobtail Cutoff proposed timber sale is scheduled for 2016.

Kuennen- One new agreement and two closing out. Lou has 49 agreements with 3 dropping out.

Burgess- TFS has had no new fires. Took the FireWise trailer to the auction at West Kootenai on the 14th. TFS budget is completed.

Osborn- Involved in training and orientation. 15 new fire folks working on fuels projects. Gearing up for July 4th celebration.

Bowser- Kootenai Forest Plan objections responses have not been announced yet. Suspect that Lincoln County would be first to be informed. Matt announced that he is leaving YVFC and unfortunately will not be attending any more FSC meetings. We appreciate his participation.

Turman- DNRC has 3 engine crew bosses with the 4th engine to be manned with a regular. Training has been ongoing. Secured 20 sets of personal protection gear. Looking for a water tender for the Upper Yaak.

Vincent- Teachers camp at Raven has been cancelled because of lack of interest. Too much competition from Bozeman summer course. Suggested an overnight camp for kids as a replacement. I mentioned that there is a question of spending Title III funds for children's FireWise education and that I was going to check further on the legitimacy of those expenditures. Bruce was to provide us with the cost of the camp.

Bruce said that he had received a call from a representative of the National Academy of Science regarding doing a study of Lincoln County's resiliency upon a large wildfire. More information is needed to fully understand what this about.

Bruce asked about the budget for summer advertising. I said it was \$5,000 max. County wide we agreed to one ad to run county wide in June, one in July, maybe two in August and September depending on the fire season. The theme will be Ready-Set-Go with the Ready starting now, the Set in July or August and the Go in August or September.

Kraft- The Chain of Lakes Homeowners Assoc. annual meeting and picnic will be on July 12. The FireWise trailer is scheduled for the event.

Levert- The Edgewater 10 acre fuel reduction project is continuing. Kirk was going to come up with a time where Bill Swope, Lou Kuennen, Doug Turman and myself could come out the Fisher River and discuss a possible grant in the near future. Other potential grant areas include Pinkam-Black Lake near Eureka and the Bull Lake area.

I had spent a productive day with Mrs Rose's 9th grade classes on wildfire. I mentioned the Ready-Set-Go petition and resolution signed by the commissioners. I expressed my enthusiasm for the B-cap part of the new farm bill that subsidizes the removal of un-merchantable wood from national forests.

Old Business-

Kootenai Wildland Firefighter Challenge & FireSafe Expo- Mark led a discussion on the success of the event on the 7th. We all expressed our enthusiasm for continuing the event. We recognized those things that could be improved on and feel that this will become an established long term success. A closeout is planned for June 21st at the Peck residence.

FireWise Trailer- It was decided that we would hire Keith Kenelty to transport, set up and meet with the public. Lisa and I will meet with Keith once I get the hiring completed to discuss our objectives. Lisa was going to update the scheduling of the trailer on the web-site.

One thing we thought would help the trailer would be to string a large banner over the top of the trailer. Doug was going to talk to Steve Tiegen about coming up with some pole attachment to the trailer. One observation is that we need to do something different with the awning, which can obstruct the public's view of the exhibit. Another is that the table needs to be off to the side and not directly in front of the trailer. We also need to either find our fold up exhibit or make a new one. This had a lot of valuable information on it.

Next Meeting- July 24, 2014

Ed Levert, Chair

