

June 20, 2013 Lincoln County FireSafe Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees; Dawain Burgess, TFF RFD; Lisa Osborn, Three River RD; Steve Lauer, Libby RFD; Ed Levert, Lincoln Co; Kirby Maki, Libby Supt. of Schools; Doug Turman, DNRC

Round Robin:

Turman- DNRC fire crews are on board at full strength this summer. Fireman's Rodeo went well and over \$12,000 was raised for the Firefighters Fund.

Maki- Kirby said that things were going well although the school district is down 11 positions from last year.

Lauer- Steve attended the Corvallis Fire Convention and felt it was a very good session. He was elected as vice president of District One, which is composed of the four Northwest Montana counties. The fire department will be starting back on FireWise assessments South and West of Hwy 2. Hope to complete by end of August.

Osborn- District fire crew is down five from last year. All but four are on fire assignments. Buckhorn Sale is latest project on district. She is working on the FireWise trailer. Still in training mode. The district will be filling a AFMO position. Charlie Webster is retiring. Sparring Bull Sale was bought by Idaho Forest Group.

Burgess- TFS was able to successfully burn down an old house as a training exercise along with participants from eleven other fire departments. Purchased a 1984 fire truck from Bull Lake RFD.

Levert- I passed around the approved copy of the Lincoln County CWPP. I did a FireWise presentation to the Troy City Council on June 13. I encouraged the city to become a FireWise Community. I will be following up on that.

I gave a brief update on the progress of the two fuel reduction grants we received. The grant information and applications are available on our website which is www.lcfiresafe.org

I informed the group that our group was going to be responsible for recommending projects for spending this year's Title III funds. Obligations of these funds must be identified by Sept. 30, 2013.

Old Business

FireWise Trailer- The graphics are still needed on the outside and inside. Lisa is waiting to hear from the two businesses she has been working with. She does have a Libby fireman who is going to build the cabinets. Other needed contents include handouts and a FireWise banner(Crystal is coming up with one according to Doug).

Steve suggested Red Cross materials be included. Someone suggested including native seed packets along with the handout on FireWise plants. Dawain suggested a house display. Other suggestions were discussed as a way to get kids interested including a smoke jumper silhouette with actual mask. They could then have their picture taken as a smokejumper.

Education- Everyone thought the newspaper advertisements were going well. The county reader board is showing the weekly tips.

The feeling of the group was that our efforts to coordinate FireWise education in the school system did not work well.

I mentioned that some of the fire departments were struggling with the FireWise assessment program. Libby and Eureka are doing well, but getting volunteers to do these assessments is difficult. I mentioned that fire departments could pay their folks for doing the assessments although the original idea was that this was going to be a fund raiser for the fire departments. Dawain said that he has a firefighter that is now going to be doing assessments for TFS.

I suggested that perhaps it would be best if we hired a qualified individual to start doing assessments around the county, working with the individual fire departments?

New Business

July 18 was selected as the date of the Troy Bus Tour/BBQ.

Next Meeting – August 1 * This date was selected because the Troy Bus Tour is on our normal meeting date of July 18.

Ed Levert, Chair

