

## **September 20, 2012 Lincoln County FireSafe Council Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees; Ed Levert, Lincoln Co. ; Dawain Burgess, Lisa Osborn, Forest Service; Katie Andreessen, Forest Service**

August 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes- The minutes were accepted as written.

### **Round Robin:**

**Katie-** This is the driest September the district has had in the last 4 years. Stage I restrictions have been suggested for OU-3 but have not been signed by the Forest Supervisor. Swede LO is the only lookout being manned. The last 5 fires have been man-caused. The Little Tom Fire was 26 acres. The CARD Clinic will be having an open house on October 11 and she and Nikia plan on attending.

**Burgess-** Some of TFS's firemen are back from fires. They have a couple of FireWise assessments completed and have identified several areas that they will be working on. There fund raiser, Deerfest, is scheduled for October 13.

**Osborn-** Many of their firefighters are still in Idaho. They have only had 6 fires and most have been human caused. They are not issuing burn permits. The Yaak area is still green. October 7-13 is fire prevention week.

**Levert-** I have been spending much of my time working on fire grants and other fuel reduction projects such as the proposed Skidale Sale, Edgewater Estates and other potential fuel reduction opportunities in the Libby FireWise Community. Bill Swope and I met with the Edgewater Estates Homeowners Assoc. to seek their input on county ownership and treatments on their properties.

Bill Swope and I met with the W.Kootenai Fire Chief, Stuart Hall and discussed possible fuel breaks around the community using Stevens Bill grant funding.

I displayed the recently completed Fire Fuels Severity map for the West Kootenai.

I mentioned the phone call I received from Libby High School regarding a new ecology class that is being designed by John Love. I was invited to help with designing the curriculum, but have not heard from Mr. Love yet.

### **Old Business**

**FireWise Trailer-** Lisa talked with Gardner RV in Kalispell and they said they could build a trailer for \$7,500. They said they could complete it in 4-5 weeks. They are preparing a detailed bid and will be asking for a 10% down payment. We agreed that they were our best option since we were not able to get a responsible bid in Lincoln County. Katie showed us the final version of the logo that will go on the trailer and calendar.

**Calendar-** We looked at several bids that Katie had received for doing the FireWise calendar. The best bid was from Laflin Printing in Libby for doing 2500 8 1/2" X 11" calendars for \$3,800. We decided that we would go with them and we needed to move ahead with the 2013 calendar.

**Web Site-** Lisa added an explanation as to what the varying fire danger ratings meant.

**Advertisements-** We felt that the most recent advertisement in area newspapers was very good.

**Assessments-** I told the group that we have had good success from Libby and Eureka, but not from the other fire departments. I had hoped to address this issue at the next fire coop meeting.

### **Lincoln County Grants-**

Flathead Economic Policy Center has still not received the promised grant funds so all Lincoln County fuel reduction projects remain on hold.

### **New Business**

Katie said she had been approached by HenriEtte Brumbaugh of Libby's schools about financial help to bring Jane Kapler Smith to Libby for a two days. Jane is the Forest Service fire ecology instructor who taught at Raven this summer and is very highly regarded in the FireWise community. The instruction would be for teachers participating in their in-service days. The cost would be \$1,000, which Lisa thought was unusual since she is already financed. Katie will get a detailed description of the proposal to me so I can discuss with the commissioners. We all agreed this would be an excellent opportunity to educate more of our teachers.

Next Meeting- October 18 at 9AM

Ed Levert, Chair

