To: Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan – Emergency Management Board  
From: Shari Friebus  
Date: December 10, 2008  
Re: December 10, 2008 Emergency Management Board Meeting

Meeting Participants

- Jenny Zeltvay, Josephine County Public Health
- Neil Benson, JJLCG
- Tim Gonzales, BLM
- Shari Friebus, Josephine County Emergency Management
- Brian Fritsen, JCEC
- Jerry Schaeffer, IV Fire Dept
- Lang Johnson, GPFR
- Natalie Simrell, BLM
- Phil Turnbull, Rural Metro Fire Dept
- John Jensen, Wolf Creek Fire Dept
- Steve Smith, Senior & Disabilities Services
- Charlie Creese, ODOT
- Russell Peterson, ODOT

Sub-Committee Updates

Fuels / Risk Assessment

- Tim Gonzales from risk assessment stated that they are having pretty good participation at their meetings. At this time there are no active NFP grants, and their project list has not been completed as of yet. Paul Showalter has completed his work in the Cathedral Hills, Wonder, Selma and Wolf Creek areas. John Jensen stated that there has been some waiting periods in the Wolf Creek area due to issues involving the Endangered Species Act. Neil Benson stated that the IV Fire Dept, funded by Southern IV grant, has been going door-to-door speaking with residents in the O’Brien area and trying to get them signed up for the Fuels Reduction program. Jerry mentioned that there have been quite a few signups, with possible as many as 20 or so people who have signed up so far.

- For the 2009 grant, Lomakatsi has been tentatively awarded a Takilma grant.

- Tim advised that the Risk Assessment group has put out a CD, and Neil advised that Jim Wolf is the person to contact to get a copy of the CD.

- Neil advised that the Landfire/rapid refresh is ongoing, and Jim is getting a group together for the purpose of updating the risk assessment for both counties. There is ongoing interest in the program, and the work is continuing.

Education & Outreach

- The Education and Outreach Committee with be doing 2 trainings in the spring to teach local information officers how best to communicate with the public regarding wildfire issues. The trainings are based on the results of a national study that was conducted to see how the public reacts to discussions about fire.

- The National Fire Plan Working Team under the Pacific Northwest Coordination Group may be coming down to visit our area January 14 or 15. This group is an interagency group that provides oversight to the NFP implementation in Oregon and Washington. This would provide an excellent opportunity for us to show them the “on the ground work” that’s been done for defensible space.
**Are You Prepared?**

- An effort is underway to connect with Public Access TV to put together some Public Service Announcements and 1-hour call-in shows regarding wildfire education.

- A Defensible Space table top display is now available to anyone who would like to use it. They need to contact Brian Ballou to get that arranged.

- The “Living with Wildfire” booklet is in the process of being re-written and is due back from the printer on Monday. Title III and other federal grant money was used in the completion of this re-write. The goal is to target those who are new to the area or who are new to living in wildfire country.

- The committee is working on a neighborhood planning template for neighborhoods who wish to come together to become more educated and proactive about wildfire issues. The template is based on what a neighborhood in the Foots Creek area came up with. The committee is currently working on creating either the template or a “how-to” guide that a neighborhood could use.

- Jenny mentioned that a program for livestock and pet evacuation is being worked on in accordance with the county’s legal requirements to meet the evacuation needs within the county. The hope is that more citizens will get involved and have evacuation plans in place for their pets/livestock.

**Special Needs (Regional Vulnerable Populations Committee)**

- Jenny reported that they were able to provide 2 additional adult foster care training workshops. The 2 classes were not planned, but they had a waiting list of people who wanted to receive the training. Next year, the focus of the training will be towards home health care workers. Neil will also be attending the meeting. The group has been operating as a regional committee for the past year.

**Emergency Management Board**

- Charlie will be having a meeting next week with his new committee, the ICS HIMT committee. A representative from Douglas County, who holds Jenny’s position in Douglas County, is very interested in learning more about the IMT and will be attending the meeting. It is not clear at this point what the focus of the meeting will be.

- At the next Search & Rescue OSSA Academy in January, there will be an ICS 100/IS 700 class taught that may be able to be attended by no academy attendees. Shari will check into that and get back to the group in case anyone within the EMB wishes to attend the training. The date is tentatively Friday, January 23 from 1800-2200 hrs.

- Title II and III money has been reauthorized for counties, however the federal government has significantly decreased the number of things it can be spent on. Most (if not all) of the expenditures made by the fire plans are still allowable, but other expenses made by the counties may not be.

- The county received an allotment of $131,900, most of which will be going towards mobile and portable radios that are AFCO 25 compliant. $5,000 will be going towards the animal evacuation program. It there may be a full award for Citizen Corps (including CERT), VIPS, and Neighborhood Watch were awarded their entire grant request.
Representatives from ODOT, County Public Works and other local partners met for the annual Operation Snowflake meeting. The partners discussed winter operations for the county, including power outages, road issues and sheltering.

**New Business**

- The results of the survey were passed around and Jenny gave a presentation on the results. There appeared to be some good, positive feedback obtained from the survey. The group was requested to review the results of the survey, keeping in mind whether the survey was helpful and whether the group’s questions got answered.

- The draft for the 2008 Annual Report was also passed around and discussed. It was decided that funding for Charlie and Jeff for their ICS training and the issue of getting an assistant for Cody in GIS should be lumped together into a new action item. Neil does not believe that the ICS training would qualify for Title III funds but said that he would have to check with Paul Galloway.

- There will be two meetings taking place in the near future to provide information about changes to Title III funding and allowable uses. The first will be in Medford at the MIO office on 1/8/09 from 1300-1500 hrs, and the second will be at the Grants Pass GPA office on 1/9/09 from 1300-1500 hrs.

- A meeting place for the April JJLCG meeting was discussed. The options are to hold the meeting at the Anne Basker Auditorium, City Council Chambers, or the Parkway Fire Station if it is completed in time. Lance indicated that the station would be up and running in time for the meeting to be held there. Jenny is going to make arrangements to hold the meeting in the City Council Chambers in case the Parkway Fire Station is unavailable. The tentative date for the meeting is Wednesday, 4/1/09. UPDATE: the Josephine County Commissioners are unable to attend our meeting that day. Neil will ask the JJLCG if we can find an alternate date for our update.

**Next Meeting:**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2009**