Meeting Participants

- Brian Pike, Grants Pass DPS
- Tim Gonzales, BLM
- Lang Johnson, Grants Pass DPS
- Phil Turnbull, Rural Metro Fire
- Sara Rubrecht, Josephine County Emergency Management
- Charlie Phenix, Citizen
- Gary Gnauck, Applegate Partnership
- Linda Langford, Josephine County
- Cody Zook, Josephine County G.I.S.
- Bruce Bartow, Citizen
- Kathy Lynn, Resource Innovations
- John Jensen, Wolf Creek Fire
- Harry Rich, IV Fire
- Kathy Pangburn, IV Fire
- Craig Henslee, Grants Pass DPS
- Tim DeLisle, Grants Pass DPS
- Rob Budge, USFS
- Steve Smith, Josephine County Senior & Disability Services
- Neil Benson, JJLCG
- Herman Baertschiger, HB Company
- Stephen Fate, Inland Fire
- Jenny Zeltvay, Josephine County Public Health
- Lloyd Lawless, Rural Metro Fire

Meeting Notes

Sub-Committee Updates

Fuels / Risk Assessment

- There are four projects still being worked on. The NEPA work has been done for them. The group has about $500,000 in outstanding grant applications they are waiting to hear back on. For their October meeting, they will be taking a field trip to view a project in Selma.

- The Risk Assessment committee will move ahead as fire season ends. Many personnel involved in doing this work are also involved in fire season efforts. By December of this year, they plan to have completed the new fuels hazard layer. It contains data from both Josephine and Jackson Counties. BLM is working to update the data sets.

Education & Outreach

- Woody vegetation day went well this year. The group focused on an ad campaign to try to draw people to the event.

- The group is working on the formation of a post fire team to take advantage of the ‘teachable moment’ after a disaster. The group will focus on education about things such as creating a defensible space around your home and other fire education. ODF got a $75,000 grant to assist the group with public meetings, newspaper ads and other outreach activities.
- The group is working on a home assessment training program. The program would provide a standardized approach to the assessment process and how to talk to home owners about process. They are working with channel 12 to present tips about fire safety during fire season.

- The education field kits are not available for use. There are a total of 5 kits. The kits contain a series of lesson plans aimed at 1-8 graders as well as games and activities. Contact the education and outreach committee if you would like to borrow a kit.

- The Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Co-op is working to get non-profit status, which should open doors for more funding opportunities. They are also working to get their website redone with funding from several sources.

- Senate Bill 99 was passed, which amends Senate Bill 360. Previously it was up to the home owner to disclose to a potential buyer if the residence was affected by SB 360. SB 99 amends that to make it the responsibility of the realtor. Work is ongoing for a website that lists all of the properties affected by SB 360.

**Special Needs**

- The group will be meeting with representatives from Red Cross from Jackson and Lane Counties to discuss sheltering. The responsibilities for a special needs shelter are not clearly defined. The goal of the meeting is to clarify roles and look at ways to maximize our efforts. Pet sheltering will also be discussed.

**Stewardship Contracting**

- Contractors, agencies and environmentalists are working together to develop 5 and 10 year contracts. Previously, Commissioner Toler had toured one of the projects. In a radio interview, Toler spoke favorably about the stewardship contracting program.

- The group was in limbo last quarter because the Board of County Commissioners had not signed the contract with Marcus. The BCC is set to sign that contract next week at a public meeting. Someone from the group will be present at the public meeting to answer any questions raised about the program. Stewardship contracting projects fund themselves which is very important with the loss of O&C funding.

**EMB**

- The group had talked previously about the potential loss of one GIS person from the county. The county sent an email to all department heads asking how much GIS was used and how it would affect departments if it went away. Several favorable replies were sent. Unfortunately, the head GIS employee, Jason Wegner, has left to pursue employment elsewhere. Cody will be running the department by himself. It is hoped that the county will choose to hire someone to replace Jason and take some of the workload off Cody.
Grants Update

- The Homeland Security Grant review process has taken longer than expected. The state hopes to send out grant award letters in October or November.
- ODF put in two Western States Fire Management Grants. One for Stringer Gap and one for Hugo and Sunny Valley. They have also applied for funding to create a master gardener program that will include information on fire wise landscaping.
- Grants Pass DPS was awarded a SAFER grant. They will be hiring 5 firefighters. The grant pays 90% of their salaries the first year, then steps down gradually for 4 more years.
- IV Fire applied for a SAFER grant to staff one fire station.

Old Business

- NIMS compliance / ICS training
  The county met all NIMS requirements for this year in July. Kathy has started a resource typing database. She will be contacting all local agencies to get an inventory of apparatus. She is in the process of developing a framework for Joint Information Centers/Systems for the county.
  ICS 100 is now being taught at the DPSST police academy as part of the basic course.
- A tabletop exercise will be held in December for the BCC and county department heads. The scenario will be a flood.
- All Risk Incident Management Team
  Charlie and Bruce continue work on an All Risk Incident Management Team. They will be working to develop a charter for the group.
- Fire Season Update
  Fire season has been moderate so far, but it isn’t over yet. There have been two single shift fires. One engine was lost.
- Sheriff’s Office Funding
  Due to staffing levels, there is no patrol from 3 am to 5 pm each day. The Sheriff is responding to emergency calls during the hours that there is no patrol. Forest Service, BLM and Marine deputies are still on duty, but are not handling patrol-related activities. The Fire Defense Board put together guidelines to use for decreased staffing. They are in use, but it is too early for feedback on how they are working.
- AMR Strike
  AMR is still in mediation over contract issues. Before they strike, a 10 day strike notice must be filed. As of this meeting, no notice has been filed. It should become clear if the next few weeks whether or not a strike will take place.
ARE YOU PREPARED?

- Rural/Metro Hardship Program
  
  100 applications have been turned in for the program. About 40 people are currently receiving reduced rates which equates to about $3500 for the community. Only a few applications have been denied. Kathy developed the income verification process. It is hoped that other agencies would offer reduced rates using the income verification process. RSVP is doing most of the verifications. SDS has done some. Both agencies are happy with the process, stating that it is simple and easy.

- Fire Standards Committee
  
  This committee was formed in November 2006 by the BCC because of rate increases by private providers for fire service. The committee is diverse, including people from the fire service, insurance companies and the general public. The committee is tasked with looking at rates in the unprotected areas and forming standards for training, equipment and apparatus. The BCC will set the ordinance for private providers in the county. The committee has come up with many ideas, but is guided by the BCC. Hopefully by the end of the year they will establish the ordinance. The draft standards and ordinance are available online for viewing at www.co.josephine.or.us. Click on the link in the left column titled “Draft Fire Standards and Ordinance.”

New Business

- 2007 JCIFP Evaluation and Annual Report
  
  Committees will e moving to calendar year reporting to coincide with Jackson County. We will work to combine our annual update with Jackson County as well.
  
  A draft update will be completed by December. Subcommittees will each update their action items. The board will then compile the information into the report. The goal is to do an update to the JJLCG and BCC in January.
  
  It was suggested to use Survey Monkey for the annual partner survey. Jenny and Kathy will work to develop this.

- Title III money for fire education
  
  $3450 is left I the budget for fire education. The Education & Outreach committee will work on how to spend it.

Good of the Order

- Foundations have been poured on the two new fire stations for Grants Pass DPS.
- Two fire management officers have been hired by the USFS. Jeff Riepe will be working in Grants pass and will begin attending these meetings. Toy Cavanaugh will be working in Gold Beach.
ARE YOU PREPARED?

Next Meeting

October 10, 2007 @ SAR from 1:00 – 3:00
November 14, 2007 @ SAR from 1:00-3:00