



# Boundary County Fire Chief's Association

P.O. Box 437 Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Meeting Minutes for 08/21/2019  
Hosted by: Paradise Valley

Recorded by Ken Homik

Members present:

Bonnors Ferry Fire Department----- Dave Winey  
North Bench Volunteer Fire District-----Gus Jackson  
South Boundary Fire Protection District----- Tony Rohrwasser  
Idaho Department of Lands-----Jason Wilkerson  
Moyie Fire----- Absent  
Paradise Valley-----Mike Glazier  
Hall Mountain-----Absent  
Curley Creek Fire Department----- Absent  
Search and Rescue-----Tony Jeppesen  
Boundary County Chaplain's Corp-----Len Pine  
US Forest Service-----Absent  
Boundary Ambulance Service----- John Minden

Guests:

SMT-----Mike Elam  
North Bench VFD-----Granite Allinger  
South Boundary Fire-----Wayne Wilkerson  
Bonnors Ferry Fire Department----- John Youngwirth  
Boundary Ambulance Service----- McKenna Burt

Minutes -- Reading and approval of Minutes from July 17th, 2019. Tony R. made motion to accept minutes without corrections, Tony J. seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Report -- Review of all accounts for Chief's Association

Guest Speakers/Seasonal Updates – Wildland Season – Season had been relatively uneventful, no significant fires in Boundary County. Fire danger remains high and will likely stay that way for some time.

Honor Guard Committee Updates -- Len Pine – Will start up in September. High school very thankful for presenting of colors at graduation; would like the Guard to present colors at each of the home games. October 6, Fallen Firefighters memorial. Let Len know if anybody would like to be a reader.

Fire Prevention Co-Op Updates – Ken Homik – Boundary County Fair was a success. Thanks for all those that were able to participate...good show of cooperation. Got quite a few kids involved, not so much on the home assessment side of things. Learned some things, including having a better plan to engage kids, and start planning early. Plan on Coop meeting the first week of September...Letha Schulte from Red Cross would like to work in cooperation for distribution of smoke detectors. Coop will make contact with her to determine how best to pursue this.

#### Upcoming Trainings/Events

- 9/5-6 Suicide Prevention Seminar: Still room for one. Let Len know ASAP if anyone is interested. Class is capped at 20. Lunch will be provided on the first day with Angel 1.
- Emergency Vehicle Driver Training September 27-29, get names to Tony R.

#### Old Business

- Simulcast System Ownership – Need to determine if we still want to go ahead and have Chief's association take on ownership. Need to approach current Joint Powers communications group and get their buy-in. Hospital and county would need to have voting member on a new board, and that group would need to be affiliated with the Chief's Association. Board would have representation from Chief's organization, and would report to Chief's Organization. Tony J. spoke to the need to manage the system. Len made a motion that a subcommittee be convened with Tony J. as chairman with two more. Seconded by Mike G. Frank (Drew) Rinella from ambulance and Tony R. from South Boundary will participate in subgroup to approach current Joint Powers group with a proposal. Hope to have something by October.
- Active 911 System – Sheriff Dispatch has everything she needs, just waiting for dispatch to take care of some matters on their side.
- Boundary County Dispatch Protocol – John Minden. Three Examples of protocol were distributed. John Youngwirth asked as to the need for the pre-alert prior to the tone. John M and Tony J described the role of the pre-alert. Having a protocol in place will provide consistency, which is lacking now. Lots of discussion on what information needs to come from the call out. Goal is to keep initial page short, but provide critical information to get resources mobilized. Additional information can be requested as necessary. Reviewed Boundary County Fire 1 Use Protocol. No changes or suggestions. Gus brought up that there presently is not a quality assurance (QA) protocol, and asked the question of the group of what that should look like. Discussion suggested whatever it is, it needs to be forwarded to Dave Kramer and Crystal for review for their buy-in. Any QA program has to come across as being productive, rather than mere complaints from the departments. Fire Chief, sheriff (dispatch) office, and ambulance were proposed as members of a QA board. All issues will be channeled through the QA board. QA process would be to review particular calls that caused issues, and then a random sample of calls, and then discussion of what went well and what could be better. Needs to be with folks from dispatch that are in a position to enact change. Len has QA protocol written and will incorporate into Use Protocol when forwarded from John Minden. Once approved by dispatch, will bring back to group for hopeful implementation in November/December.
- Communication Updates – No updates.

- Evacuation Process for Wildland Fires – Wayne Wilkerson, Mike Glazier – Had discussion with CA department, use candy cane flagging and a card that has general information. CalFire had a similar system, Wayne will bring an example WUI placard next time.

#### New Business

- MOU for large scale events and wildfires – distributed for review.
- ILETS new forms – send new form, which is 5 pages, to Crystal.

#### Open Forum

North Idaho Chiefs Meeting – new rotating meeting schedule that rotates around the region. If you want the North Idaho Chief's CISM, they are available through state com. If anybody wants to help on North Idaho Training Academy next year, let Tony know.

Ambulance – significant shortage of personnel at the moment, hoping staffing will improve in the near future.

Next Meeting – Boundary Ambulance 9/18/19      Meeting Adjourned 20:11