



# Boundary County Fire Chief's Association

P.O. Box 437 Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Meeting Minutes for 2/19/2020  
Hosted by: Boundary County Chaplains Corp

Recorded by Ken Homik

Members present:

Bonners Ferry Fire Department-----Dave Winey  
North Bench Volunteer Fire District-----Gus Jackson  
South Boundary Fire Protection District----- Tony Rohrwasser  
Idaho Department of Lands-----Ken Homik  
Moyie Fire-----Absent  
Paradise Valley-----Mike Glazier  
Hall Mountain-----Brad Lowther  
Curley Creek Fire Department-----Brad Stalcup  
Search and Rescue-----Tony Jeppeson  
Boundary County Chaplain's Corp-----Len Pine  
US Forest Service-----Absent  
Boundary Ambulance Service-----Drew Rinella

Guests:

SMT-----Mike Elam  
Boundary County Emergency Management-----Andrew O'Neel  
Boundary County Sheriff-----Dave Kramer  
Bonners Ferry Fire Department -----John Youngsworth  
South Boundary Fire Protection District-----Wayne Wilkerson

Meeting began at 1835

Minutes – Add Brad Stalcup as in attendance on 1/15/2020, Tony J made motion to accept as minutes asamended, seconded by Mike Glazier. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Review of all accounts for Chief's Association. Bills were handed out, Chaplains and SAR bills will be corrected to remove Fire Prevention Coop dues.

Guest Speakers/Seasonal Updates – Gus Hyatt – JustServe.org – Worldwide website used to connect volunteers to non-profit, non-political, secular entities that need assistance. Just now getting organizations enrolled in Boundary County, have six organizations listed, once get a few more will be advertising aggressively. Fire Departments can add their needs and contact information on the website. Next step, get organizations and those fire departments that are interested on the website in whatever format they like, either departments individually or through fire chiefs, and go live in March.

Kari Dameron – Mystery Readers for Mount Hall Elementary – Looking for volunteers to come in during Dr. Seuss week to read to students to fit the theme, “Stop, Drop and Read.” Tuesday March 3, 9 to 10 AM. Dave Kramer, Gus Jackson, Wayne Wilkerson volunteered.

Andrew O’Neel – State grant money still available, roughly \$26K still available. Some is slated for sheriff’s communications needs. If you still need interoperable communications, get quote to Andrew. Email or call. BNSF reimbursement claims – have been in touch with agencies involved. Each agency needs to provide invoice, Andrew will get assist in getting/completing BNSF forms to those who have claim, and Andrew will consolidate and submit to BNSF. Standing ICS organization – Concept from train derailment AAR, pre-identify folks that could fill rolls if need to staff organization for short duration incidents or while other team is being mobilized. There’s a lot of work that needs to go into it; need to come up with a plan as to how this team would work with the EOC. Likely need training to get more people involved up to the ICS 300 and 400 level. May be a call list for folks qualified at certain levels. Andrew will send out an email inquiring if there is interest from each agency.

Dave Kramer – 911 is now using medical prompts on medical calls to ask basic questions to callers to assist first responders in building situational awareness to know what they are getting into. Adding questions to screen for Corona virus. Bonner Ferry Builders is working on county building; mid May completion. Penguin Plunge coming up, get a team together.

Honor Guard Committee Updates – Len Pine – Practices have started again on Tuesdays, back up and running. Goal of upping the game this year, building on the basics, working on extra movements and flag protocol. Wanting to get badges specific to the Honor Guard.

Fire Prevention Co-Op Updates – Ken Homik - Smoke alarm program has been quite busy. May need to work with individual agencies to determine schedule to keep program manageable in order to not run into scheduling conflicts. Next meeting March 10 at 1500.

#### Upcoming Trainings/Events

- All February, Fire 1 protocol – system is going live in March.
- 03/27-28/2020 S-131 Firefighter 1 training @ IDL.
- 04/09-11/2020 S-211 Wildland pumps @ IDL.
- 05/15-17/2020 Swift Water Rescue. Lots of people signed up through SAR, will likely split advanced folks from basic. \$335/person.
- 05/15/2020 AWR 147 Railcar Incident Response, BFFD, free class.
- 2020 Integrated response to active shooter (September-ish) Do we want it over a weekend or during the week? Exact date yet to be determined.
- NIFCA – April 24-26, Lake City Highschool. Will vote on schedule tomorrow, should be on website by 2/20/2020.
- BNSF – wondering if there is interest in training with extrication/medical response on locomotives. Early June possible date.
- Wrapping up Instructor 1 Class this weekend.
- Inquiry if there is interest in FF2 class by Jason Blubaum – possibly next year.
- EVDT class in Bonner County, April or May.
- Probably 1 or 2 house burns in South Boundary.

- Wayne and Wanda – stop the bleed instructors. Quick and effective training on how to stop severe bleeding using tourniquet or whatever other materials are available. Can do it in 15-20 minutes, then however much you want to practice.
- ICS 300 March 10-12, ICS 400 April 8-9, both in Hayden.
- Communications exercise in May? OEM, IDL and North Bench starting to plan exercise to emphasize radio communications, not tactics. Will have to find a date that will work.

### Old Business

- Color Guard – SOP's. There seems to be plenty of interest from agencies, at least 7 or more, blending of law enforcement and fire. Len is still interested in leading. Need to determine funding for it, as uniforms are roughly \$250 per uniform. Len will amend SOP to incorporate other agencies other than just fire and redistribute for comment next month. Decision was made to make color guard a separate organization under chiefs rather than under the Honor Guard. Chief bylaws will need to be amended as well, small change that Gus will take care of.
- Active 911 System – up and running, been talking to Crystal about inconsistencies in when the text goes out. Working out issues with mutual/automatic aid.
- Boundary County Fire 1 Dispatch Protocol – going live March 1. Dispatch seems to be following to some degree already. No negative comments from dispatch. Training PowerPoint has been created and being presented. Crystal pointed out that the Protocol should have signatory page on back to confirm which agencies are vested in the protocol. Need to have delegate on Quality Assurance and Quality Review panels. Will be members of Dispatch, EMS and one from BCFA. Brad Stalcup will be primary and Tony Jeppeson will be backup.
- Evacuation Process for Wildland Fires – Mike Glazier will ask some questions, will send out existing protocol for review again in March.
- Yearly run report and volunteer numbers – Some, but not all agencies are interested. Gus will shoot something out and will send out, point was to share how many calls are run countywide.

### New Business

- Update of By-Laws (Gus Jackson) – Correction has been made to voting/swearing in procedure for officers, will clarify that nominations and elections will be held during the same meeting.
- Discussion about Corona virus (Drew Rinella) – Drew believes there are reasons to be concerned. Mortality rate being reported doesn't paint full picture as calculated currently, probably more around 20% rather than the 2% that CDC is reporting. China is taking extraordinary measures to quarantine, but likely not very effective. It is very contagious. Has potential to be significantly more dangerous than other viruses. Price gouging is in full swing for N95 masks, getting hard to find. Andrew will send out link for supplier that still has stock at reasonable price. Recommendation for medical assists – go off answers from dispatch screening questions, then mask and gown for responders if possible infection. Virus lives for 9 days on surfaces. Updates of cases in county will be through EOM. OEM will be getting update from Panhandle Health 2/20/2020.

### Open Forum

March 28 – Chili feed, Paradise Valley. Paradise Valley sent out 800 notices for volunteers and smoke detectors, have gotten 3 volunteers and many requests for smoke detectors.

Next Meeting – City of Bonners Ferry, March 18

Len made motion to adjourn, Tony J. seconded, meeting adjourned 2036.