



Boundary County Fire Chief's Association

P.O. Box 437 Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Meeting Minutes, 03/20/2019
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-----Ken Homik
Moyie Fire----- Ken English
Paradise Valley-----Mike Glazier
Hall Mountain-----absent
Curley Creek Fire Department-----Brad Stalcup
Search and Rescue----- absent
Boundary County Chaplain's Corp-----Len Pine
US Forest Service-----Absent
Boundary Ambulance Service----- Drew Rinella

Guests:

Boundary County Emergency Management-----Mike Meier
SMT-----Mike Elam
ISP-----Dusty Kralik
Bonnors Ferry FD-----John Youngworth

Meeting began 6:31 PM

Minutes - Approval of minutes from February 20th, 2019. Len made motion to accept without change. Tony Seconds. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Review of all accounts for Chief's Association. See financial report.

Guest Speakers – Mike Meier – Emergency Management – Setting up for AWR class. 37 signed up; great enrollment. AWR-136 – Community Cyber Security is up next April 23rd, 8 AM – 12 noon. Flooding – looking good for this coming week, but could get worse by next week. Keep your sandbags ready.

Honor Guard Update – Len Pine- Meeting every other Friday. Will be doing law enforcement memorial in May. Will start meeting every Friday starting sometime in April. Will have fundraiser sometime in future, will likely be Chili feed again.

Fire Prevention Coop Update – Ken Homik – Had coop meeting this past Monday, good attendance and representation from the departments. Structure Assessment class this Friday; still room in class if you are interested. Will be advertising to some degree and conducting public outreach to offer assessments following training. Have number of activities planned for the coming year for the coop.

Training Updates

- March 21st, Biological Incident Awareness AWR-118 – Mike Meier
- March 22nd, Wild Fire Home Assessment Class – Ken Homik
- April 5, 6, 7th, NIESA. Lots of room available. Some classes may be cancelled if enrollment doesn't increase by tomorrow.
- April 18th, RT-130 Wildland Refresher, 6:30 PM at Bonners Ferry FD – Ken Homik
- April 25-28, S-130/S-190 Wildland Class – Ken Homik
- Flooding – get ready!
- Additional trainings or events?

Old Business

- Rehab Committee, Len Pine chair – BVA's proposal is best referred to as a guideline rather than a policy. Len moved the recommendations from the committee to the Association for discussion. Recommendations from committee were captured and available electronically. Question from Gus to BA – if each agency has its own baseline for each member of the department, will that work for BA? Reply is that it is not typical. If each agency has its own, it's more complicated, but it is workable. It is very difficult to manage if each responder has their own baseline. Gus made motion to approve rehab committee recommendations. Seconded by Ken H. Motion passed.
- Communications group updates – Gus Jackson – meeting proposed for April 8. Minutes were distributed via email.
- Active 911/CAD integration – Ken Homik – received message from Dave Kramer, will be \$13 or \$14 per device for the county to utilize the system, which will be payable by the entities that want the service. There is also a cost to the owner of the device for the service. Ken will follow up with Dave to determine how to get it up and running.

New Business

- Fire1 ownership and governance – Gus Jackson – Just been realized that the Chief's Association owns Fire1. Currently, there is not clear guidance or governance on the frequency is managed and used. Clarification from Tony R. that there is governance preexisting, back from a couple years ago, likely located in "the box" that Kenny Baker had last had when he was President a number of years ago. Gus asked the question of who the point of contact is for questions regarding MOU creation and use. How does the association want to handle this? Tony will look to see what he has for minutes regarding this from the past, Gus will talk to Kenny Baker, former president, to see if he has hard copies. If it can't be found, the officers of the Association would be tasked to put together the guidance. Issue was brought up by ISP when question was raised to ISP communications folk about how to get Fire1 on authorized list that is

- preprogrammed into ISP radios statewide. If it was to be approved, it will be preprogrammed into all ISP radios and the ISP communications trailer. Gus – is the association in favor of ISP having Fire1 channel? ISP would want a copy of the license for the MOU. Motion made to table until Tony can look for existing guidance. Len seconded, motion passed.
- Simulcast system ownership – Tony Rohrwasser – Fire1 and BCH1 all operate on the system. The system was purchased by a grant obtained by South Boundary, and South Boundary initially took ownership of the infrastructure. Since that time, many agencies use and have invested in the system, therefore South Boundary is not seen as the sole owner of the system. The maintenance of the system has been paid for by a joint powers agreement, based on usage by all agencies that utilized Fire1. Tony’s question is, should the system be handed over to the Chief’s Association? There are many agencies involved, including the hospital. Since the Association owns the channel, should they own the infrastructure? Some questions exist around whether there is liability to the Chief’s Association of taking over the system. Tony thinks it’s as easy as the Association takes it on, or it doesn’t. Joint powers would sign over to Chief’s Association and the Association would bill out by agency use. Motion made by Ken H. for Chief’s Association to assume ownership of the simulcast system. seconded by Ken E. Motion passed.

Open Forum

South Boundary (Tony)- Automatic Aid – North Bench/South Boundary/Paradise Valley – problem is dispatch isn’t toning out supporting agencies appropriately. It is most likely a training issue. Dispatch needs some kind of matrix to determine when to tone which agencies under the auto aid agreement.

Len – March 30th Chaplain’s basic fire arms training, more for when providing support for support for sheriff. Have not received MOU’s from some of the departments. One chaplain will be off to chaplain’s academy coming up.

IDL- Organizations with ICMA’s need to get with Ken and Vikki to ensure the personnel rosters and equipment rosters are up to date. Also, some MOU’s are expired, will need to get those renewed soon.

Motion made by Len to adjourn, seconded by Ken H.

Next Meeting – April 17 at South Boundary. Meeting Adjourned. 8:02 PM