

March 26, 2015 Lincoln County FireSafe Council Meeting Minutes

Attendees; Doug Turman, DNRC; Ed Levert, Lincoln Co; Dawain Burgess, Trego, Fortine, Stryker RFD; Jessie Grossman, Yaak Valley Forest Council; Lou Kuennen and Bill Swope, Flathead Economic Policy Center; Mark Peck, Lincoln County Commissioner; Terry Peck; Mike Sanders, UYVFS

Round Robin:

Burgess- TFS had a major house fire. Still doing training. Toured Meadow Creek with Bill and Lou to discuss grant. Arrangements have made to meet with the FS, Eureka RFD and Tracey McIntyre to discuss grant and public open houses. Will be taking two signs from Libby on grant availability and setting up in grant area.

Kuennen- Completed 6 assessments last month and 2 agreements. One of the agreements is with the Baakens in the Bobtail area. Unsuccessful in getting the Lennert property signed up.

Turman- Doug is the new Libby Unit Manager(congratulations Doug). Will be detailing behind Doug and filling the position in the fall. Burning the 160 acre unit in Harris Creek with helicopter. McGinnis Sale about done..

Grossman- Jessie updated our group on the Kootenai N.F. Stakeholder Coalition.

Sanders- Mike said that the Upper Yaak Valley FSA was in need of a fire tender. Getting ready to start FireWise assessments. Would like the FireWise trailer for their rendezvous on April 25th. We informed Mike that reservations can be made on our web site or contact Lisa Osborn.

Mark Peck- Mark reported on his recent testimony in Washington D C. He said that a table top exercise was needed for the community leaders to prepare a wildfire. Doug has been working on this.

Swope- Bill mentioned the need to bring back the old 100" log program to help utilize wood material from grant projects. He gave an update on the Libby/Sanders County and Eureka grants. The balance of funds in the Libby grant is considerably more than originally reported.

Terry Peck- Terry announced that the Fire Fighter Challenge has received a \$500 grant that can be used to pay expenses. This grant is from the National Fire Protection Association and State Farm Insurance. In order to qualify for the grant we must have an event on May 2. This obligation will be met by having a major planning event on that date. The next planning meeting is scheduled for April 2 at 9 AM.

Levert- I reported on the status of the Pat Neils Fuels project in Libby, which is a 27 acre timber sale/fuels reduction project planned for this coming summer. I also mentioned that Bill, Lou and I were going to meet at Carolyn Pecks house to look at a possible large fuels project/timber sale on her 140 acres just outside of Libby.

Next Meeting- April 16, 2015