

Lincoln County Firesafe Council Meeting Notes

Location - LIBBY FIRE HALL 119 E 6th St

Date- June 20th, 2019

Time-9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Note Taker: Logan Sandman

Introductions:

Round Robin:

Jeff Stevenson –

- Kootenai completed their guard school with 30 FFT trained.
- The Kootenai will be starting 7-day coverage by July 4th.
- The Kootenai Exclusive Use Ship is at Libby Heli-base and is available.
- 2 Engines and various overhead are on assignment in Arizona.
- The Kootenai has had 13 fires to date with 2 being lightning caused.
- Fire danger has been moved to high.
- Two repeater systems have been placed on Horse and Berry Mountain.

Jennifer Nelson –

- Jennifer attended the NRCS meeting up in Eureka. They are looking for the next priority areas to create a Targeted Implementation Plan (TIP). They are currently focusing on the Edna Creek area, which is a 10,000-acre project. The 5-year plan included looking at Glen Lake, Whispering Pines, Dodge Creek, and Pinkham.
- KFRI –
 1. We are seeing some movement and are supposed to be getting the funds soon.
 2. Landowners have started calling the county for funding.
 3. The peer network is an experiment vs. the professional forester to see what gets people more involved.
 4. Jenn Coulter is using criteria and priorities presented by Lincoln County, USFS Kootenai, and DNRC to prioritize work being done.
 5. A weekly update from Jenn will be sent out on who has been approved for funding.
- No update on FEMA grant.
- Jennifer received notification that the Western States has been preselected for the Ripley/Clay Banks project area.
- Hazardous Fuels Grant will focus on Warland Creek. The application will be completed soon.
- 2 CWPP meetings have been completed. The group has identified goals and objectives.

They are working on criteria.

Jeremy Rank –

- Trust Lands has 3 active sales ongoing. One on the Mckillop, one thinning project on the west shore of the Kootenai, and just started on the Clay Banks project.
- The Pipe Creek sale just sold with a 3-year contract.
- Jeremy has been working on 1 SMZ violation investigation up Pipe Creek.
- Jeremy has been working with 2 landowners on KFRI visits.

Brent Teske –

- Brent attended the OU3 Limited Fire Resources meeting in Kalispell. He thought this helped everyone get on the same page.
- He will be closing out the VFA grants soon.
- He plans on having a County Co-Op meeting in early July.

Paige Hageness –

- D5 has been busy doing thinning projects.
- Portal and no fireworks signs have been placed for the 4th.

Craig Johnson (Yaak VFD) –

- 2-acre grass fire in the Yaak.
- They have a few new volunteers.

Logan Sandman –

- Libby Unit has finished up most of the formal seasonal and county trainings.
- Libby Unit has had no fires yet this season.
- They have 3 FFT on a hand crew in Canada.

Steve Lauer –

- Steve has been working on the airport water supply tanks. They had some leakage problems, but they seem to have it fixed.
- Working on rural district maps.
- 7 firework stands have been inspected for use.

New/Old Business:

- Springtime projects –
 - Loggers Day update –
 1. A schedule has been set to man the Firewise trailer at Logger Days.

2. We need to add signup sheets for assessments.

○ Wildfire Preparedness Day update –

1. We are having a hard time getting participation for the event. We are looking at repurposing the money to bring in the “Era of Megafires” at the Dome Theatre. We will look to August, when there is smoke in the air, to show the film.

Adjourned