



Our mission is to prevent deaths, injuries, property loss, and environmental damage resulting from wildfires in Deschutes County.


**April 16, 2019 – Steering Committee – Regular Meeting – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
APPROVED Minutes**

Steering Committee Members & Staff Present:

	Vacant	Fire Rep 1	
x	Doug Green	Fire Rep 2	Bend Fire Dept.
x	Gary Marshall	Fire Rep 3	Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
	Dan Daugherty	Fire Rep 3	LaPine Fire Dept.
	Gary Githens	Insurance Industry	Brown & Brown
	Vacant	Business Community	
	Erica Pelley	Marketing	High Desert Museum
x	Chris Perry	911 Service District	Deschutes County
X	Zechariah Heck	Community Development Dept.	Deschutes County
	Dan Galecki	Private Forestry	Spin Drift Forestry
x	Patti Gentiluomo	HOA Rep	Sunriver HOA
	Dave Gibson	HOA Rep	Black Butte Ranch HOA
x	Dean Richardson	HOA Rep	Upper Deschutes River Communities
	Craig Letz, Vice-Chair	HOA Rep	Tree Farm
x	Nathan Garibay	Sheriff's Office - Emergency Mgmt.	Deschutes County
X	George Chesley	Citizen Rep	At Large - Retired
	Vacant	Citizen Rep	
x	Doug Burklo for David Morman	Citizen Rep	At Large - Red Cross
x	Boone Zimmerlee for Gordon Foster	Oregon Dept. of Forestry	ODF - Unit Forester
x	Alex Robertson	COFMS US Forest Service	USFS
	Nicole Strong	OSU Extension Service	OSU Ext
	Paula Simone	Central Oregon Comm. College	COCC
	Vacant	Environmental Community	
X	Ed Keith, Chair	County Forester	Deschutes County
x	Tony DeBone	Commissioner	Deschutes County
X	Jodie Barram	Contract Director	Project Wildfire/FireFree

Public Present:

Jeff Amaral, Bend Parks & Rec. District
Greg Bryant, Deschutes River Woods
Georgia Hill, Ridge at Eagle Crest
Dave Howe, City of Bend Fire Department
Doug Johnson, COFMS
Heather Kaisner, Deschutes Co. Public Health
Stella Larson, Woodside Ranch

Ray Miao, Woodside Ranch
Todd Peplin, Deschutes SWCD
Kevin Stock, USFS, Newberry Division
Kevin Sullivan, Oregon State Fire Marshal
Boyd Turner, Homeowners at Eagle Crest
Helen Webre, Woodside Ranch

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was opened by Ed Keith, Chair. Introductions were made by those in attendance (name/affiliation).

AGENDA, PAST MINUTES AND UPDATE

The agenda was briefly reviewed. Meeting minutes from March 19, 2019 were approved by consensus.

Jodie Barram updated on activities, presentations, Wildland Urban Interface Conference in Reno, Home Ignition Zone training, & home assessments that are starting.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, EVACUATIONS & NOTIFICATIONS

Nathan Garibay presented on the pressure of evacuating an entire community. Concerned residents are getting equipped to have evacuations. Milli Fire was interesting as the public perception was good overall of why and how the Sheriff's Office does evacuations. This time of year, he feels we need to raise awareness, especially for visitors, and collaborate with standard methodology across agencies. He currently uses the Ready, Set, Go messaging. He relies on media to push information, and uses social media. 911 can use cell phone and land line data, and people can self-identify to record mobility impairments or others that may need more assistance.

They are rolling out a platform on Everbridge (Nixle) for text alerts. People can opt-in to 888777 with a keyword ("cofire"). Black Butte and Sunriver are trying to reach visitors for general community advisories. It will not be used for emergency alerts. Emergency notifications should only go out from 911 to avoid confusion.

When time permits during an evacuation, they will go door to door, and use mutual aid for help if needed.

Evacuation planning is ongoing and dynamic. With a tsunami, you know where the water is coming from and can map it. Deschutes doesn't have that luxury with fire behavior and potential wind change and other variables. He looks at known pinch points in roads. Search And Rescue preplans some areas like Deschutes River Woods (DRW) as an assignment so there is a Form 204 in place as an event unfolds. DRW has had some traffic changes and other influences since the last plan. His office

works with Oregon Department Of Transportation, City Of Bend, and Bend Parks and Recreation District to coordinate evacuation planning on the traffic infrastructure. They have these issues all over the county and try to be adaptable to a variety of situations.

Nothing makes up for good interagency communications and strategy. Evaluating messaging in general, he's looking at bringing back the worst-case scenario – what if you can't evacuate – shelter in place (home, vehicle), or find a place of refuge. It's a problematic conversation because it's a last resort but you want people to consider it. People get trapped at least once a year somewhere in the country.

For contingency planning they encourage people to leave early. If you are worried, take care of yourself and go. He mentioned the rabbitbrush fire in Cloverdale last year as an example. There's no way they can effectively evacuate in some extreme circumstances.

Kevin Stock believes the county is essentially on evacuation level one all summer

Gary Marshall asked about subdivisions like Skyliners. He wanted to know if Nathan was working with them and the Bend Fire Department to protect in place. Nathan answered yes, they are problematic and there's a desire to have customization for tough neighborhoods like that. Gary thinks they could protect in place as a last resort. He suggested identifying the 10 worst neighborhoods with one-way in and out. Nathan has a couple projects like that right now. One is a population mapping that can show worrisome areas.

Kevin Sullivan is working with **Denease Schiffman** in Sunriver on address signage to be more compliant. He'll connect with Nathan to get information to create signage.

Ed Keith recommended to get rid of old brochures and use the current language and brochures to avoid confusing public.

Dean Richardson discussed sheltering in place. He wondered if some of the communities can identify open areas like golf courses. Nathan answered that Paradise actually had assembly areas. Some of our communities do look at that but it's hard to find a standard. Short of the Sunriver Airport, he wouldn't recommend residents go onto a golf course because of the potential change to fire behavior that could trap people. He wants to get messaging out about how to be safe in a vehicle (like close windows, turn off exterior air, etc.). He worries about the safety factor of overloading a space with people too and putting them close to fuels. Fire adapted doesn't mean fire proof.

Ray Miao thinks people need to be responsible for themselves at the end of the day. We can do all this stuff as a community but it really comes down to individual responsibility. Don't count on the sheriff and fire fighters to save you and your house. Nathan agrees that people need to not rely on government to rescue them. He doesn't want to create an unrealistic expectation. People can't fix everything but they can mitigate impact. It takes multiple things to keep a community safe that we all need to do our little part in. He emphasized partnership.

Boyd Turner asked if there is a way to capture knowledge to help people in an event. Nathan answered, yes, write things down and be prepared. Training people to consider different strategies – what is a safety zone for you, identify places to go in worst case scenario. Putting things on a list could help. Boyd wondered about areas people can go to. First responders know the area and others that come later don't. Nathan discussed an example of Sunriver looking at transportation options during evacuations, and levers that will influence traffic flow. Nathan applied for a post hazard mitigation grant to implement common risk assessment practices.

George Chesley shared that it's when you have major evacuation events where are people dying. Nathan mentioned traffic crashes and discussed Paradise again.

Alex Robertson brought up that to shelter in place is tough because if people go to the Walmart parking lot it's safe until the Walmart catches fire. The 'safe' area may need to change. How to get the public to understand the differences is tough. Nathan wants to change to focus more on what do you do if your entrapped and not use 'shelter in place'. Use 'trapped' because that's what's happening. Alex agreed there needs to be tools to give people hope.

Gary Marshall discussed a process a few years back that involved a lot of agencies to look at sheltering in place as well as the laws that give people the right to stay in homes. The committee created 'Plan Prep Go' before 'Ready Set Go'. Over 80% die on the road during evacuations. They are not staying in place. Redesigned Home Ignition Zone training is trying to include sheltering if necessary. People have to make a proper decision personally. Homes can be a protection with low intensity fire around it. With defensible space, fire resistant structures can help buy time and wait out a fire. Nathan said they are trying to integrate that concept. Kevin agreed that people can ride it out until you get house to house to house ignitions.

ROUNDTABLE

Boone Zimmerlee reported on ODF land classification updates and hiring.

Doug Johnson shared about TREX coming up at the end of April first of May. It will have international participants. Prescribed fire season is right around the corner. The US Forest Service has some money to get it done shortly. Today and Thursday are big days for fire simulations. He's helping with a live fire event on May 4th with Project Wildfire. Most hiring offers have been made. It may take a while yet. Training season getting going.

Boyd Turner said his neighborhood is cleaning up the effects of the snow storm. There were a lot of broken junipers.

Patti Gentiluomo relayed that Sunriver is cleaning wind storm debris from in January and snow storm effects. They are getting ready for a ladder fuels program. They will be chipping for a long time. Sunriver Homeowners Association is working on emergency procedures. Released a website a couple weeks ago. Nathan has been a big help. They are looking at using a siren system. There will be a big progressive campaign.

Zechariah Heck reported that the Westside Transect Zone becomes official today. Community Development (CDD) is expecting the application soon. It is a phased project with 80 units allowed. There is a non-prime resource lands amendment to the plan. It recognizes there is inaccurate zoning. He mentioned Squaw Creek and Skyliners as examples. It won't create new residential lands. It is going through planning commission now if people want to comment. May 23rd, June 13th are the hearings.

Nathan Garibay said his office is reinvigorating functional access needs support in emergencies. They are doing continuity of operations planning. He encourages everyone to consider that for themselves. He is looking at updating Emergency Operating Procedures and Natural Hazard Mitigation. Additionally, his office is looking at catastrophic events at the local level with State and Federal partners.

Ed Keith shared that the City of Bend and Deschutes County submitted Community Response Plan to allow for an exemption to the Smoke Management Plan. Both are also pushing centraloregonfire.org as a resource. People can text 'cofire' to 888777 to get non-emergency information on prescribed fire and then it will transition to wildfire. Tony DeBone asked about the content that'll be sent. Ed explained it will be non-emergency information for if people see smoke.

Alex Robertson will have the website up, and may be able to change the slide to promote texting too. John Allen is retiring after 12 years as Forest Supervisor. June 21st is his last day. The US Forest Service has been fortunate to have continuity of leadership with him. They might have a short-term detail before a permanent placement is made. That will be important to restoration and fire. There is a lot going on in upcoming weeks for preparedness.

Greg Bryant said that on May 16th Deschutes River Woods will have a meeting to talk about Firewise.

Jeff Amaral reported that BPRD is looking at fire planning for spring 2020.

Todd Peplin will be contacting partners for a support letter on a project to pick up where Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) left off with joint chiefs funding with the end goal of getting people to do restoration work.

Doug Burklo shared that the Red Cross was busy installing alarms in homes in the Bend area. They will do more in May in Redmond, and Prineville in June.

Gary Marshall mentioned that in Deschutes Rural District #2 (DCRFPD2), one subdivision is having trouble getting homeowners insurance or their rates are escalating because of the ISO 10W classification a few years ago that is just now impacting them. Another subdivision on the other end is saying they can't get insurance. He is working with the Bend Fire Department and subdivisions now but it could work its way up to electeds and insurance companies. This could also be a turning point for the State.

Doug Green reported that there was blessing and approval from City Council to move forward with mapping and WUI codes. The City will probably bring consultants in and use ODF level mapping for code development in the future. In Sisters, the City Council wants to move ahead with CPAW, hardening homes, and mapping. He's leading a symposium for all Sisters area Firewise communities later this month. He's working on getting people signed up for Deschutes Alerts. He thinks the Sheriff's Office does a good job with evacuation routes but residents may not always use them depending on where people will be told to go in an event. Sisters has a new burn permit online application. It can produce a map so they know where approved locations are. It can also notify on short notice if needed to close burning. It's in the beta testing stage.

Dave Howe is working on ignition messaging around illegal fireworks that is different than normal. He's doing a video series for the media. Alex Robertson asked if it will address exploding targets. Dave said no, not this year.

Heather Kaisner shared that Public Health is helping with centraloregonfire.org messaging to target vulnerable populations and coincide with Department of Environmental Quality early messaging before fire season.

Dean Richardson thinks of our environment as a legacy is like our Notre Dame. UDRC is focusing on education. He thought they were getting out of projects but they are getting more grants and will continue to do a defensible space program providing up to \$500 to cost-share with landowners. They

currently have over twelve people signed up for that. The senior-low-income program is good to go for its first-year trial program. More prescribed smoke please.

Ray Miao updated the group that DRFPD2 fire stations are going up. Their board is concerned about being reactive. They want to be proactive for areas being annexed into the City.

Helen Webre said that tonight is the Woodside Ranch Annual Meeting. They are giving a survey and will tell residents about the text alerts. The City of Bend is coming to discuss development in the area. They will reschedule Nathan to talk to them.

Georgia Hill reported that the Ridge at Eagle Crest had 200 trees limbed up or cut down due to winter storms. They are currently chipping and taking care of the debris.

Tony DeBone shared about purpleair.com having more monitoring and data. He remembered an angry mom asking about kids going to school when an app shows red. HB2222 requires ODF to report to the Legislature on SB360 work. That will help them be accountable and the County supports it. Biomass in LaPine has unplugged officially. He felt that was a full-on play by national interests wanting to invest in solar and talked about solar a bit. He spent the weekend cleaning up and taking care of fuel reduction on his property.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27am.