



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

**May 18, 2021 – Steering Committee – Zoom Meeting – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
DRAFT Minutes**

Steering Committee Members & Staff Present:

X	Ken Kehmna	Fire Rep 1	Redmond Fire Chief
	Gary Marshall	Fire Rep 2	Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
	Dan Daugherty	Fire Rep 3	La Pine Fire Dept.
	Doug Green	Fire Rep 4	Bend / Sisters Fire
	Vacant	Insurance Industry	
	Chris Perry	911 Service District	Deschutes County
		Community Development Dept.	Deschutes County
	Dan Galecki	Private Forestry	Spin Drift Forestry
	Patti Gentiluomo	HOA Rep	Sunriver HOA
	Dave Gibson	HOA Rep	Black Butte Ranch HOA
X	Dean Richardson	HOA Rep	Upper Deschutes River Communities
	Nathan Garibay	Sheriff's Office - Emergency Mgmt.	Deschutes County
X	David Morman	Citizen Rep	At Large - Red Cross
	Oliver Tatom	Citizen Rep	At Large
	Gordon Foster	Oregon Dept. of Forestry	ODF - Unit Forester
	Kevin Stock	COFMS US Forest Service	USFS
	Ariel Cowan	OSU Extension Service	OSU Ext
X	Paula Simone	Central Oregon Comm. College	COCC
	Vacant	Environmental Community	
X	Ed Keith, Chair	County Forester	Deschutes County
X	Patti Adair	Commissioner	Deschutes County
X	Nick Ahnen	Marketing	At Large
	Brandon Fogelman	Business	
	Jessica Laberge	Business	
X	Robert Pohly	Citizen Rep	At Large Retired
X	Boone Zimmerlee	Director	Deschutes County

Public Present:

Bill Boos – Bend Fire
Boyd Turner – Eagle Crest
Craig Letz – Forestry/Fire Consultant
Frank Ammirata – Tillicum Village
Georgia Hill – Eagle Crest
Greg Bryant – Deschutes River Woods
Jane Merrow - North Rim HOA
Kris Green – Deschutes National Forest
Kyle Collins – Deschutes County, Associate Planner
Ray & Chris Miao – Woodside Ranch
Rick Unzueta – Black Butte Ranch
Tanya Saltzman – Deschutes County Senior Planner
Tony DeBone – Deschutes County Commissioner

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were through Chat

AGENDA, PAST MINUTES AND UPDATE

Agenda and past minutes were sent out in a previous email. Ed solicited for any input and reminded folks to email Boone or himself directly if they found any needed changes.

Ed- Welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded folks to mute themselves and do introductions through the chat.

Boone – Covered monthly program of work update. Today we will discussing the spring FireFree numbers. A recording of the most recent Wildfire Home Protection Strategies Class has just become available. (<https://youtu.be/ECBus7wXaJA>) We are currently in the process of creating a Storymap for the Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP's) across Deschutes County. As a reminder, we have started using Constant Contact to send out meeting updates and invites. We also have plenty of the recently created tri-folds available if folks want any please [email Boone](#) or there is [a printer friendly version](#) available.

At this time, Boone transitioned from the monthly update to presenting the monthly topic.

Meeting Topic

2021 Spring FireFree report out – Boone Zimmerlee

Boone – Started the presentation with reminding folks that after last year's success of extending dates to include 3 weekends and the two weeks in between, this was the same plan this year. However, there was a slight adjustment to the dates in regards to timing of when the landfill and the transfer stations operated. The landfill operated May 1-16, and the transfer station operated May 22-June 5. The offset times helped to staff the event. Thanks to Brooks Resources, the Westside site operated May 1-2, 8-9, 15-16. Bend Fire and Rescue used volunteers to staff the

site; their ability to help was greatly appreciated. This will likely be the last year of using the Westside site.

Looking at the numbers, there was a slight decrease in debris collect in 2021 vs 2020. In 2020 there was ~61,000 cubic yards compared to this year's ~57,000 cubic yards. Much of this decrease is likely contributed to COVID and more folks being home last year at that time compared to this year.

After reviewing the overall numbers, Boone went through each site individually.

Boone thanked everyone that participated this year: Deschutes County Waste Management and Road Department, Brooks Resources, Heart of Oregon, Redmond Fire, Bend Fire and Rescue, Sisters Camp Sherman Fire, Cloverdale, La Pine Fire, ODF, USFS, Bend Parks and Rec, UDRC, Bend Radio Group, Various Coffee Stands and many more folks.

Greg Bryant – Asked if we had numbers on cost for the event this year. Boone- At this time we don't have those numbers. Commissioner Adair – Believed it cost around a 500,000 last year and likely cost about the same this year.

Nick Ahnen – Inquired about getting some of the new tri-folds and also mentioned that as we look to update the FireFree signs we may want to consider adding Project Wildfire logo.

Ariel Cowan – Asked what is the potential of using FireFree across other counties. Ed – FireFree started in Bend in 1997 and since expanded out into other counties slowly adding dates. The use of the logo is fine to share across counties. Currently we do help to promote Klamath, Crook, and Jefferson County as they hold their events.

Dean Richardson – Congratulations' on another successful FireFree event. The Constant Contact meeting invite does not allow the option to call in. Boone – Thanked Dean and will get the number added in.

Ed – Added, looking at the Southwest transfer station as an example, the 2 weeks leading up to FireFree, 134 cubic yards were collected compared to 1,570 cubic yards on the first day of the event. So if you are wondering how a normal day compares to the event, it is significantly different.

[Boone's presentation](#) is available here.

Ed – Turned the meeting over to a roundtable discussion with updates.

ROUNDTABLE

Ariel Cowan – OSU – Fire program is wrapping up last webinar for the season with more planned in the future. This last webinar is focused on what to do after the fire. Ariel is looking forward to in person meetings and hoping the fire season ends up being lighter than expected.

Bill Boos – Bend Fire and Rescue – Glad we have moisture with heat wave coming. Thanks everyone for all the work on FireFree.

Dean Richardson – UDRC – Ruralite published their June edition with a two-page article about the UDRC and their fuels reduction program. Thanked Boone for the pictures of fuels reduction that were provided.

Frank Ammirata – Tillicum Village – VIA chat, completed a fuels project this past month.

Georgia Hill – Eagle Crest – Their FireFree event was recently held April 30 – May 14 with residents filling 1546 landscape bags in addition chipped 630 yards, volunteers and residents logged 1,000 hours of time. Eagle Crest has transitioned to brush mowing and will continue until sometime around July 1.

Greg Bryant – Deschutes River Woods – Held HOA meeting discussed Firewise with a resident looking to start another Firewise site. Greg plans to do one more Firewise presentation.

Ken Kehmna – Redmond Fire – Wanted to thank everyone on their efforts around FireFree and appreciates all the partnership in preparing for wildfire season.

Kris Green – COFMS Fire mitigation Specialist – Working with Jefferson County on their CWPP. Stacey Lacey will be back next week.

Kyle Collins – Associate Planner – Tracking 2 senate bills, 391 accessory dwelling units (ADU) and 762 wildfire bill. These bills are related to the efforts of home hardening and defensible space that were presented over this past year. A month from now on July 14, Kyle and others will be going before the Board of County Commissioners to discuss these two bills. There are many unknowns, but Kyle wanted to be able to catch this group as a heads up that he will be reaching out to fire districts to discuss these bills in more depth.

Tanya Saltzman – Senior Planner – Tanya will be covering senate bill 391 the ADU bill and Kyle will be covering 762 the wildland bill.

Patti Adair – County Commissioner – Has been testifying in regards to the ADU bill. Hopefully we will have 9,000 legal ADU's in the county if this passes. Hoping the mapping process goes quickly and they do not add to the values at risk from wildfire. Thanked Kyle and Tanya for working on these bills, and Ed and Boone for working on fire preparedness.

Ray Miao – Woodside Ranch – Impressed with the numbers of this year's FireFree. Recent newsletter included resources for home hardening. This was well received within the community. The Tahoe retrofit guide was a great resource for the community.

Rick Unzueta – Black Butte Ranch – Still doing their defensible space clean up in their neighborhood. Last year Black Butte Ranch shipped 7,600 cubic yards and anticipate something near that number again this year. Also looking at extending clearing right a ways along roads, currently developing plan for improving ingress and egress.

Bob Pohly – Mountain High HOA – This was Mountain High's first FireFree event. Bob thanked the county for the grant. They hauled three large dumpsters to the landfill. They offered free pick up for elderly folks and worked on common areas removing 85 cubic yards. Invested \$7,700 in fire preparedness.

Boone - Shared on behalf of ODF and USFS – USFS done with prescribed fire and preparing for fire season and sending resources out of the region. ODF is geared up for the fire season and preparing for us to dry back out after the recent rain.

At this time, Ed thanked everyone for joining and closed out the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 AM.