

Boulder County Wildland Fire Cooperator  
Business Meeting Minutes – August 6, 2010

**MISSION:**

*The mission for the BCWFC is to support safe and effective wildland fire training and provide a forum for open discussion of wildland fire activities.*

Meeting called to order 1003 hours

Approval of June 2010 Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the June 2010 meeting minutes as submitted. 1<sup>st</sup> A Moschetti, 2<sup>nd</sup> G Nichols. Motion passed – None opposed.

Old Business

None

Financial update – E Philips

- \$1267.10 is the current balance.
- No changes to the balance other than interest.
- Can \$16 be spent in order to keep the domain name of bcwfc.org for the website? Group agreed.
- Four Mile FD is not requesting reimbursement for the lost/damaged hose from last minutes.

New Business

- WebEOC (Chard)
  - Presentation regarding Resource Management given by M Chard.
  - Primary mission is that the community gets put back in commission and that the financial piece is managed efficiently.
  - EOC – can assist in activating/finding resources.
  - Web EOC is an information management tool.
  - This links directly to the State and they can view the events unfolding.
  - Overview given regarding how resource orders will be placed/requested – and what agencies can/need to do in order to assist in filling these orders.
  - Resource Status Board – offers agencies a way to (real time) status their resources.
  - This is not a system that is linked with CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch)
  - Discussion held regarding additional items to add (staffed vs. unstaffed apparatus, in vs. out of district availability...etc.)
  - If you have questions or further input please contact:
    - Mike Chard: 303.565.7878 cell; 303.441.3653 ofc
    - Sgt. Dan Barber
    - Both of these people can be contacted via the message section in WebEOC.
  - Group agreed to work on building a daily resource status page for Boulder County agencies – understanding that common terminology and resource typing needs to be used by all agencies to ensure consistency.

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- Andrew M, Jay S, Brett H, and Rob O'D will work with M Chard on getting this resource developed. From there agencies will designate a rep to learn the system and then train their own agency personnel.
- IQSWeb (V Jones)
  - 12.31.10 all agencies will need to be on the web system. This will be the final switch over.
  - DO NOT install your own IQS Web System – this can cause a lot of problems later on.
  - This allows maintenance to be done on databases from different locations.
  - **10.15.10 is the deadline to get cleaned up information to V Jones.**
- BCWFC meetings will now be held at the Fire Training Center. More information to come regarding this.
- Boulder County CWPP applying for a FEMA grant. This grant is interested in structure protection or mitigation.
  - If you have ideas for mitigation projects or infrastructure assets that need to be protected please contact B Haberstick.
  - Hand out will be included with the minutes.
  - D Space is what they are looking for – fuel breaks are not accepted projects.
- County Ambulance update (Benson)
  - Boulder County Ambulance committee is looking at ways to provide ambulance service to the unincorporated areas.
  - A request for information will be sent out to gather additional information.
  - Providers that have been talked to have said that they will provide services as they are now if given the contract.
  - A suggestion for a mill levy request to support this has been discarded.
  - A committee is in place and will continue to work on this – updates will continue.

**Training Update –**

- M410 – Facilitative Instructor
  - September 20-24, 2010 – Location BES
  - Some slots left – Contact: Laura McConnell for more information.
- \*\*S270 – Basic Air Operations – Tentative Dates: 10-16/17 @ Tanker Base
- \*\*L280 – Followership to Leadership – Tentative Dates: 11-6/7 @ BMFPD
  - \*\*Course announcements will be sent out with additional information.
- FI210 (MAFIT) – Currently on hold – date change needed.
- FF1 Academy – Fall 2010 (BCFFA)
  - This will be an intensive academy for those needing to update or interested in State 1. (HazMat Ops/FF1 will both be offered).

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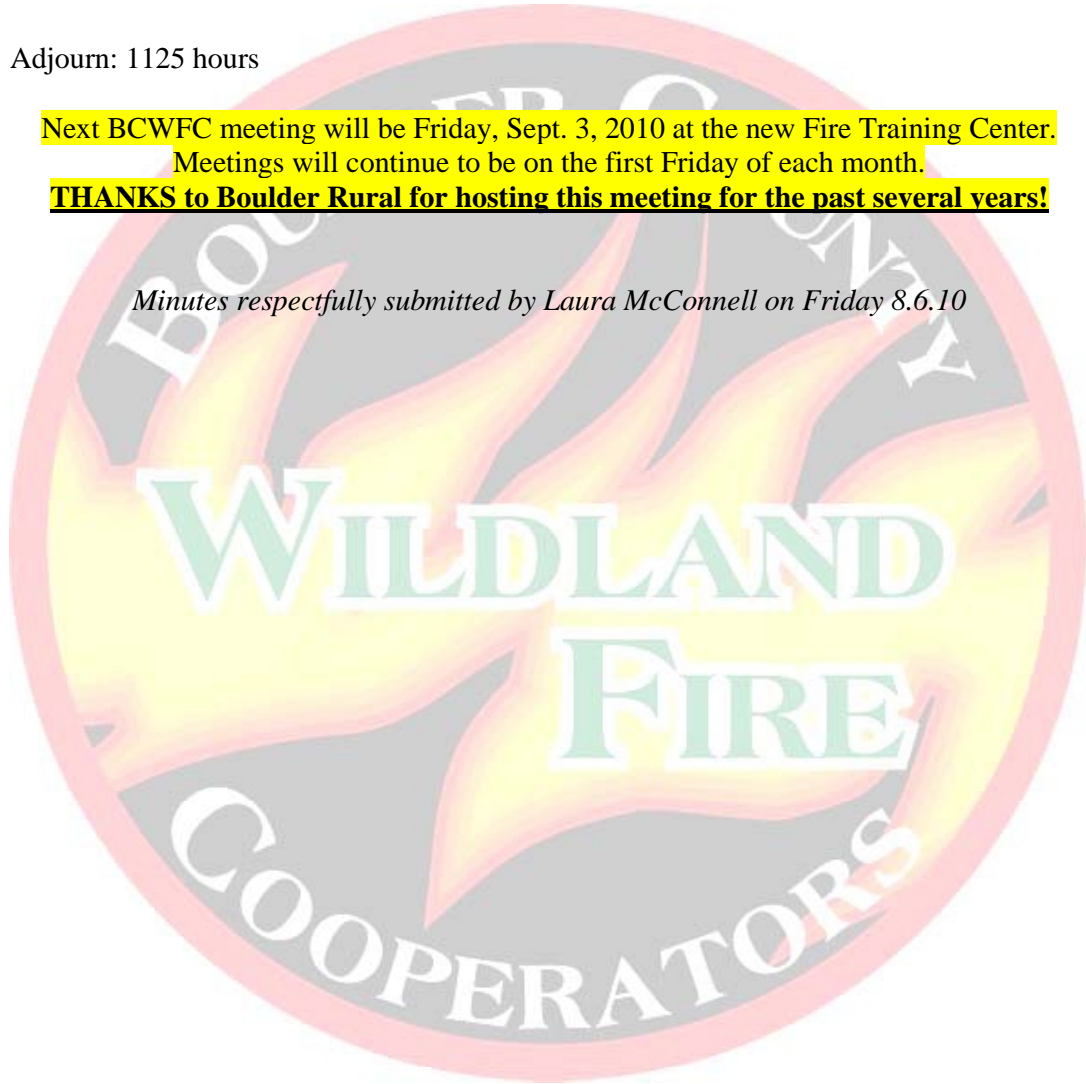
- Working on getting grant monies for a part of this class – need 15 students to qualify.
- Still working on an instructor appreciation for the S130/190 class from this spring.

Adjourn: 1125 hours

Next BCWFC meeting will be Friday, Sept. 3, 2010 at the new Fire Training Center. Meetings will continue to be on the first Friday of each month.

**THANKS to Boulder Rural for hosting this meeting for the past several years!**

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura McConnell on Friday 8.6.10*



# FEMA's Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance

## Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program

### Eligible Wildfire Mitigation Activities

PDM funds are available to mitigate the risk to at-risk structures and associated loss of life from the threat of future wildfire through:

- Defensible space that involves creating perimeters around residential and non-residential buildings and structures through the removal or reduction of flammable vegetation;
- The application of non-combustible building envelope assemblies, the use of ignition-resistant materials, and proper retrofit techniques of new and existing structures; and
- Hazardous fuels reduction vegetation management, vegetation thinning, or reduction of flammable materials to protect life and property beyond defensible space parameters, but proximate to at-risk structures.

Wildfire mitigation projects may mitigate the risk to residential and non-residential structures (including public and commercial facilities). These projects must be located in, adjacent to, or co-mingled with the built environment and provide protection to life and the built environment from future wildfire hazard.

### Defensible Space Activities

Defensible space activities involve creating perimeters around residential and non-residential structures through the removal or reduction of flammable vegetation, including vertical clearance of tree branches. Specifically, this involves minimizing the volume of combustibles (e.g., surface litter such as dry leaves, pine needles, dead and dying foliage, and trees, and removal of propane tanks) in the safety zone around the structure. The description of requested defensible space activities must be provided for each property.

The required radius of defensible space around the building or structure is directly related to the degree of the hazard and, therefore, the radius for defensible space may also vary from one jurisdiction to another. Local codes and standards may provide specific requirements for defensible space; however, the International Code Council's International Wildland-Urban Interface Code can be used as the default code.

### Structural Protection through Ignition-Resistant Construction Activities

These activities involve using non-combustible materials and technologies on new and existing structures. FEMA will only consider a subapplication for an ignition-resistant construction project when:

- The property owner has previously created defensible space and agrees to maintain the defensible space. The subapplicants must include a description of the defensible space for each property in the application. FEMA will provide funding for ignition-resistant construction projects only after the subapplicant has demonstrated that the defensible space activity is complete and has provided documentation (e.g., photographs and description of the defensible space) if requested by the Applicant; or
- The subapplication includes both the defensible space and ignition-resistant construction projects as part of the same project subapplication. The subapplicant must include a description

of the defensible space for each property in the subapplication. Each property owner must agree to maintain the defensible space in accordance with this policy.

Protection of homes, structures, and critical facilities through the use of ignition-resistant construction techniques or non-combustible building material are eligible if they meet or exceed local codes, and are in conformance with appropriate fire-related codes and standards. Eligible activities include:

- Installation of roof coverings, roof sheathing, roof flashing, roof skylights, roof and attic vents, and roof eaves and gutters that conform to any of the following ignition-resistant construction standards: 1) construction materials are fire-resistant in accordance with nationally recognized testing standards, 2) construction materials are non-combustible, and 3) construction materials constitute an assembly that has a minimum 1-hour-fire-resistant rating;
- Installation of wall components such as the fascia, windows, window glazing, doors, window frames, and insulation that conform to any of the following ignition-resistant construction standards: 1) construction materials are fire-resistant in accordance with nationally recognized testing standards, 2) construction materials are non-combustible, and 3) construction materials constitute an assembly that has a minimum 1-hour-fire-resistant rating;
- Protection of propane tanks or other external fuel sources; and
- Purchase and installation of external, structure-specific water hydration systems (sprinklers), a dedicated power source, and a dedicated cistern if no water source (e.g., lake, river, or swimming pool) is available. FEMA will only consider the project when assurances are provided in the operations and maintenance plan that a GIS system will be maintained to identify property addresses with wildfire sprinkler systems and that this information will be made available to the fire department.

#### **Hazardous Fuels Reduction Activities**

Hazardous fuels reduction may be accomplished using community-owned equipment, rental equipment, or use of contract resources and equipment for mechanical treatments such as disking, mowing, and/or chopping (e.g., chippers, saws, etc.). Equipment used by communities for hazardous fuels reduction activities must not pose an additional risk of fire ignition (i.e., spark arrestor). Eligible activities include:

- Community-level vegetation management;
- Vegetation removal;
- Vegetation clearing and/or thinning;
- Slash removal; and
- Vertical clearance of tree branches.

Such activities reduce the risk to human life and structures from future wildfires. Such activities may be no farther than 2 miles from structures and may include the following techniques:

- Chemical treatments, including herbicide applications with appropriate safeguards to ensure protection of human life, the environment, and watersheds;
- Grazing or biomass conversion;
- Mechanical treatments such as disking, mulching, grinding, mowing, chopping, and removal of such material; material left onsite must meet appropriate depth practices;
- Biomass removal including clearing straw, removing dead or dry vegetation, thinning, removing bush and pine straw, or removing blown-down timber from wind throw, ice, or a combination thereof; and
- Other industry-accepted techniques at the discretion of FEMA.

## **Ineligible Wildfire Activities**

Certain project activities and their associated costs are not eligible for funding:

- Projects that do not protect homes, neighborhoods, structures, or infrastructure;
- Projects on federally owned land, as well as on land adjacent to Federal lands, when the proposed project falls within the scope of other Federal agencies' grant authority;
- Projects for hazardous fuels reduction in excess of 2 miles from structures;
- Projects to address ecological or agricultural issues related to land and forest management (e.g., insects, diseases, weather-related damages, and infestations);
- Irrigation of vegetation to avoid disease or drought-related infestation;
- Projects to protect the environment, watersheds, or forest management;
- Projects for burning activities, such as prescribed burning or pile burning;
- Projects for clear-cutting;
- Projects for maintenance activities;
- Projects for the purchase of fire-related equipment (e.g., vehicles and fire trucks) or communications equipment;
- Projects for creation and maintenance of fire breaks, access roads, and staging areas;
- Purchase of equipment to accomplish eligible work (e.g., chainsaws, chippers);
- Projects for irrigation systems; and
- Development or enhancement of fire suppression capability through the purchase of equipment or resources (e.g., water supply or sources, dry hydrants, cisterns not related to water hydration systems, and dip ponds).