

**Action Minutes FOR A MEETING OF THE  
WILDFIRE MITIGATION COMMISSION  
Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
11:00AM to 1:00PM  
Conference Room, Ashland Fire Station #1  
455 Siskiyou Blvd**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Tim Bewley, Russ Silbiger, Eric Olson, Chris Chambers, Hugh Holden, Annette Herron

**II. INTRODUCTIONS**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**Tim made motion, Eric seconded, all in support**

**IV. PUBLIC FORUM**

**Chambers will find out if he can add the meeting time to the City main calendar.**

**V. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

**VI. BUSINESS**

**A. FAC Coordinator Position Interviews**

Interviews were conducted the day before and four candidates went through the process. The selection will be made by the end of the week after City Administration considered how to apply the grant awards from Title III to the dedicated City budget for the position at .6 FTE.

**B. Update on Fire Adapted Community Activities/Programs**

**a. Ready, Set, Go**

Chambers explained the CERT training coming up on Saturday and invited commission members to attend.

**b. Title III grants**

The Fire Dept secured 3 grants from Title III (Jackson County), two of which are for Firewise over the next two years and one is for the CWPP rewrite effort.

**c. Wildfire Hazard Zone**

Chief Karns, Chris Chambers, and Fire Marshal Margueritte Hickman gave a presentation to the Planning Commission in a study session about expansion of the wildfire hazard zone to include the whole city. The commission was interested in the proposal and Fire Department will bring it back in a formal session this summer.

**d. Regional and National FAC meeting**

Chambers attended a network meeting of national FAC communities in Colorado. The City has an opportunity to partner with the County to implement FAC work plans, and get funding to help implement it.

**e. INTTERRA project**

Chambers said the project is on hold due to time constraints, though the new coordinator position could spend some time on it. Bewley asked if there's a possibility to do the assessments via a volunteer group, even commissioners, or high school students. The

commission discussed how a high school program would work. Olson suggested a teacher needs to champion the project. Bewley will ask the High School about how that might happen.

f. Watershed Patrol

Consider signage to report suspicious activity to be put into the locking cases.

C. AFR Project Update

Chambers talked about operations wrapping up and planning amping up for the summer. He also mentioned a recent visit from two Washington D.C. Forest Service personnel that was successful in raising the AFR project as a priority for funding.

D. CWPP Update Process: Discussion and Process Design

Tim pointed to the Community Guide for CWPPs as a great resource that we can follow. He asked what the ultimate outcome of the CWPP is for Ashland. Chambers cited the experiences of the FAC network participants who have experienced fires recently. One of their big lessons was the understanding and relation to fire management teams who were put in place near or in their communities during the fire. Liaisons to the fire team were really important as a conduit of information.

E. Future Meeting Date and Time

Next month's meeting was switched to August 13<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

## **VII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

## **VIII. REVIEW AND SET COMMISSION CALENDAR / NEXT MEETING**

A. Next meeting August 13th, 2014

## **IX. ADJOURN: 1:00 PM**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Public Works Office at 488-5587 (TTY phone number 1 800 735 2900). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).*