

WILDLAND FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

6/27/2018

DNR SE Region Large Conference Room

713 Bowers Road

Ellensburg, WA

Committee Members Present:

Cody Desautel – Tribal Nations Representative
Gary Berndt – Wildland Fire Liaison, Chair
Dave Johnson – Fire Commissioner – *conference call*
Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt – State Land Trust Beneficiary
Tony Craven – Small Forest Landowner
J.D. Marshall – Industry Landowner (Timber)
Rodney Smoldon – Federal Fire Agency
Joe Gardner – County Commissioner (Westside) – *conference call*
Jim DeTro – County Commissioner (Eastside)

Committee Members Absent:

Dave LaFave – Fire Chief (Westside)
Chuck LeBlanc – State Fire Marshal
Tom Bugert – Statewide Environmental Representative
Randy Johnson – Fire Chief (Eastside)
Lee Hemmer – Industry Landowner (Range)

Guests/Other Attendees:

Hilary Franz – DNR Commissioner
George Geissler – DNR Wildfire Deputy and State Forester
Loren Torgerson – Wildfire Policy Advisor
Ken Elliott – Wildfire Division
Aaron Schmidt – Wildfire Assistant Division Manager
Hilary Lundgren – WA State Fire Adapted Community Learning Network
Esther Hernandez – *conference call*

I. Opening, Roll Call

Chair Berndt call the meeting of the Wildland Fire Advisory Committee to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 27th, 2018 in Ellensburg, WA.

II. Commissioner Hilary Franz and George Geissler, State Forester and Deputy Supervisor Wildfire Division

Commissioner Franz spoke briefly after giving an introduction, as did George Geissler, new State Forester and Deputy Supervisor for Wildfire Division. WFAC members gave introductions to George and Hilary.

III. Approval of Minutes

Chair Berndt called for approval of the minutes from the April 25th, 2018 committee meeting. Committee member Jim DeTro moved to approve the minutes, Committee member Tony Craven seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Wildland Firefighting Strategic Plan Consultant Update

- a. Loren Torgerson gave a PowerPoint presentation. Any and all input by WFAC members are due to Loren by 7/15/2018, and Loren will have an updated plan to present on the 7/25/2018 WFAC meeting.

V. Chairman Report

Chairman Berndt presented a verbal report of May activities.

VI. DNR Update

DNR Update presented by Aaron Schmidt, speaking about the successes with the Fire Training Academies and discussed the allocation of aerial resources and pre-positioning of fire engines.

VII. New Business

- a. Jim DeTro gave a report on positive results in regards to Okanogan County flood response. Gave thanks on behalf of Ed & Eddy Lewis, Ron Wonch and crew.
- b. Rodney Smolden spoke about doing a field day in Colville on July 24th. After discussion with the committee, it was decided to hold a day long tour on July 24th and a morning mill tour prior to the July 25th WFAC meeting in the armory building at the Northeast Regional Office in Colville.
- c. Cody Desautel spoke about an upcoming trip he is taking to Washington DC on July 9-11 to participate in discussions regarding reducing carbon footprint. He will present a report in the July WFAC meeting.

VIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting will be held at the Northeast Regional Office in the Armory building, 225 S Silke Rd, Colville, WA 99114.