

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OCTOBER 2013 SESSION**

Sixth Day

Monday, October 28, 2013

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 10:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Lawrence Schoen, Vice-Chairman Angenie McCleary, Commissioner Jacob Greenberg; Blaine County Land Use and Building Services Director Tom Bergin; Blaine County Communications GIS Specialist Chris Corwin; Code Compliance Specialist Diane Shay; Public Information Officer Bronwyn Nickel and Senior Deputy DiAnne Shrum.

Chairman Schoen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

BEAVER CREEK FIRE RECOVERY UPDATES, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Present were: Bureau of Land Management: Monument Manager Holly Crawford and Fire Ecologist Joe Russell; United States Army Corps of Engineers: Outreach Coordinator Ellen Berggren and Hydraulic Engineer Brandon Hobbs; Blaine County Disaster Services Coordinator Chuck Turner; Blaine County Sheriff Gene Ramsey; Sawtooth National Forest Natural Resources Staff Officer Sharon LaBrecque and Kurt Nelson; Creative Director at HMI Dori Topholm; Jay Sevy, Deer Creek Ranch; General Manager for Clarendon representing Donna Kelsey Cam Hair; Idaho Representative Steve Miller; Gary W. Davis; Win Miller; Chip Deffe', Sun Summit South; South Central Public Health District Environmental Health Specialist Bob Erickson; Galena Engineering Civil Engineer/Geologist Jim Zarubica; Wood River Fire Chief Bart Lassman; Natural Resources Conservation Service: Civil Engineer Doug Higbee and Biologist Deb Koziol; Jo Lowe, Greenhorn Homeowners Association; Dayle Ohlau, KECH Radio; The Nature Conservancy Associate Manager Silver Creek Sunny Healey; Jim Koonce, P.E., P.L.S.; Frederic Abt, Bureau of Homeland Security; Sun Valley Mayor Dewayne Briscoe; Will Miller; Kurt Eggers and by teleconference: United States Geological Survey Hydrologist Kenneth Skinner and Dave Evetts.

US Geological Survey Report

Power Point presentation of USGS hazard map showing high volume and probability of post fire debris flows by Kenneth Skinner and Dave Evetts. They proposed the installation of six precipitation gauges in predetermined risk areas. USGS would install and maintain the gauges. Blaine County would pay the largest share of cost.

US Army Corps of Engineers Report

Presentation of USACE Risk Map showing Risk Factors by Brandon Hobbs and Ellen Berggren. Blaine County Staff members accompanied Corps staff into the field to survey fire damage. The Corps is unable to provide funds.

General Recommendations were:

1. Identify and prioritize past and potential flood areas.
2. Develop response plans for these areas.
3. Monitor snow, weather and river conditions.
4. Respond quickly to localize floods and debris flows
5. Have equipment prepared to respond.

Natural Resources Conservation Service Report

Power Point presentation by Deb Koziol. NRCS is willing to cost share with the county for re-vegetation of burned areas with a proposed project cost up to \$1.6 million. Landowners can contact the Blaine County Commissioners or NRCS directly.

US Forest Service Report

Sawtooth National Forest Natural Resources Staff Officer Sharon LaBrecque informed the Board that due to the the Federal Employee furlough, they were two weeks behind in their reseeding program. They are coordinating with the BLM and contracts are being put out for bid. Kurt Nelson informed the public that they would have to make a separate contract with any contractors for reseeding on private lands.

Bureau of Land Management Report

Joe Russell, BLM, has a final approved emergency stabilization and rehabilitation plan for BLM land affected by the Beaver Creek Fire. Priority one will be Greenhorn Gulch area forest slash treatment. Second priority will be Democrat Gulch reseeding. Part of the plan is proposed rebuilding of fire damaged trails and noxious weed control.

BEAVER CREEK FIRE RECOVERY UPDATES, FINDINGS and RECOMMENDATIONS, continued

Continued Reports from Agencies

Dave Evetts: USGS is proposing six new precipitation gauges to be installed in the spring. They will also be relying on data from two year-round non-USGS gauges already installed on Dollarhide & Bald Mountain. No charge for gauges. Cost of installation for USGS gauges will be \$4,200 each. For Dollarhide Summit \$3,270 for installation of equipment. Operation maintenance for each gauge would be \$2,900. Dollarhide would be \$2,090. USGS could match up to 50% of operation and maintenance

costs up to \$10,000 this year. Total will be \$28,470 for installation of all equipment. Operation and maintenance will be \$19,630. Key part of the network is the ability to collect data and disseminate it to the public as quickly as possible.

Ellen Berggren, USACE: Their report will describe assessment of what they saw on the ground and make recommendations on what Blaine County can do.

Fred Abt, Bureau of Homeland Security: When an event is shaping up, the National Weather Service will contact the state and emergency coordinators encouraging request for flood fight.

Discussion of Next Steps for Blaine County

Deb Koziol, NRCS: Blaine County, as the sponsor, must approve the Damage Survey Report submitted and request assistance. They must have landowner approval. A licensed professional engineer must sign off on recommended work.

Blaine County Commissioners will have a working lunch during the Tuesday, October 29, 2013, meeting to continue discussion. Blaine County Board of Commissioners will be meeting November 6, 2013, to set priorities and projects.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 2:26 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved: _____
JoLynn Drage Lawrence Schoen
County Clerk Chairman