

Minutes of Meeting
Quarterly Fire Protection Districts
November 23, 2015
10:30 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green, Commissioner Marc Eberlein, and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Director Sandy Von Behren and Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present were Northern Lakes Fire Protection District Chief Patrick Riley, Kootenai County Fire & Rescue Post Falls Chief Warren Merritt, Hauser Lake Fire Protection District Chief Larry Simms, and Northern Lakes Fire Protection District Hayden Chief Dean Marcus.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- E. New Business:**

Discussion with all Fire Protection Districts regarding: Fire District Legislative Issues

Chairman Green stated that at the Legislative Luncheon the Board hosted they discussed the Net 9-1-1 program and that Sheriff Wolfinger does not support it. Chairman Green agreed with the Sheriff's assessment that as long as it was not mandated that everyone participate it was not going to work.

Northern Lakes Fire Protection District Hayden Chief Dean Marcus stated that the Chiefs would support the Sheriff.

Hauser Lake Fire Protection District Chief Larry Simms explained that the District Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB) was reviving and had scheduled their second meeting on December 10, 2015. He added that in the past DIGB had not been very productive and hoped that by changing the members from Governor appointed to local representation more would be accomplished. Chief Simms stated he would like to see fire and police represented on the new board.

Kootenai County Fire & Rescue Post Falls Chief Warren Merritt stated that a cooperative effort between the Fire Chiefs Association and the Emergency Operating Center (EOC) had resulted in a new way for the fire protection districts to assess situations in the field. He stated this could potentially cut down on the lag time between an event starting and the declaration of a disaster. He added he would like to test the new protocols in the June 2016, exercise OEM has scheduled.

OEM and Fire Protection Districts Discussion of Windstorm

Chief Marcus explained that there was a high demand for oxygen tanks during the storm as people on oxygen were at home stranded without power and health care providers were struggling to reach them. Northern Lakes Fire Protection District Chief Patrick Riley stated his office made an impromptu system to get oxygen tanks out but they had to stop as they were running out of resources. He also added that the Dispatch Center was overloaded but that the ProQA-AVL software system had made a positive impact on their efficiency.

OEM Director Sandy Von Behren said that the EOC set up a call center to assist with non emergency calls during the storm. She stated it took four hours to set up the call center and in order to set it up faster in the future her office would need to be called sooner.

Ms. Von Behren added that her office was gathering information from the various entities affected by the windstorm. She stated that at this time only Kootenai County had declared a disaster and that Kootenai Electric sustained \$1.4 million dollars in uninsured damages. She added that the Federal Government would only reimburse the County if the State of Idaho met the minimum dollar amount in damages, which she estimated was \$2.4 million dollars.

- F. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There were no public comments.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
