



# Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association

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## CSFCA Wildland Fire Section General Member Meeting

**Thursday, September 10, 2009**

Los Pinos Fire District Station 1  
Ignacio, CO

### Minutes [Corrected]

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Wildland Fire Section Vice-Chair Jeff Berino. Chief Larry Behrens of the Los Pinos Fire District welcomed the meeting participants, and self-introductions were done. There were 27 individuals in attendance (see attached meeting roster).

#### Presentation on the Narraguinnip Fire

Craig Goodell of the BLM and Rich Graeber, Chief, Upper Pine FPD made a presentation on the Narraguinnip Fire. The presentation is posted on the CSFCA website at:  
[http://www.colofirechiefs.org/Presentations/Narraguinnep\\_Fire.pdf](http://www.colofirechiefs.org/Presentations/Narraguinnep_Fire.pdf)

#### Approval of Minutes

Action on approval of the minutes of May 22, 2009 (deferred from July 24, 2009) and July 24, 2009 was tabled, as the minutes were not available for review.

#### Current Issues/New Business

- a. Conversion of the Incident Qualifications System to a Web Based Program. Pete Blume of the CSFS provided an update on the effort to convert IQS to a web-based program. Pete reported that local member agencies will be able to edit and maintain IQS for their personnel, including adding new people, training and experience. New certifications will still need to be added by the local CSFS office. The local CSFS office will also still be issuing Red Cards for single resource and above.
- b. Proposed Cooperative Agreement Between the CSFS and CSFCA Concerning NWCG Training Certificates. Pete Blume of the CSFS discussed Proposal to have a cooperative agreement between the CSFCA and the CSFS, which would officially allow participating departments to issue NWCG training certificates, when they follow all NWCG Course Guidelines. Currently NWCG only allows member agencies and organizations that have an MOU to issue certificates. It was the consensus that this should be pursued.

**"Serving the Chief Fire Officers of Colorado Since 1968"**

- c. Roadless Area Conservation Rule. Pete Blume of the CSFS reported that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an opinion upholding the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule (on August 5, 2009). The roadless rule protected approximately 58 million acres of national forest land from new roads, logging, and development. The roadless rule has been the subject of constant court battles since it went into effect. In addition, the Bush administration tried to replace the rule with a program allowing states to determine which portions of federal lands would be open to development and resource extraction. In the Ninth Circuit decision, the court wrote, "The Forest Service's use of a categorical exemption to repeal the nationwide protections of the Roadless Rule and to invite States to pursue varying rules for roadless area management was unreasonable. Pete reported that Governor Ritter has created a task force to recommend an updated state plan for managing national forest roadless areas.
- d. EFF Update. Clair Brown of the CSFS Fire Division reported that it has been a light year as far as EFF fires go. There have only been 4 EFF fires and \$800,000 has been spent. There is currently \$900,000 in the fund.
- e. Single Resource Assignment Requests for Reimbursements/Volunteer Reimbursement. Several members in attendance wished to discuss the volunteer and supplemental resource pay issues on federal wildfires and specifically the August 28th memo distributed by Rich Homann of the CSFS. Clair Brown requested that folks with questions send them in an email and he would seek answers. [Note: In a subsequent discussion with Wildland Section Board members it was the general feeling that a follow-up meeting to the Standardized Rates/Business Practices meeting with the CSFS should be scheduled]

## Old Business

- a. Wildfire Prevention Committee Update. Jeff Berino gave a report on behalf of Ron Biggers, Fire Marshal, Glenwood Springs FD, who could not be at the meeting. Below is a short overview of the responses to the survey Ron sent out several weeks ago to CSFCA members. In general the response was positive and a large number of the responders want to be involved in moving this committee's prevention/education projects forward.
- 37 Fire Departments Chiefs or staff members in charge of wildfire mitigation have responded.
  - 9 Contacts for citizen groups that are conducting mitigation education programs in their district or county
  - 23 Departments are doing some hazard fuels mitigation program
  - 12 other contacts provided the responders as other to contact in there area that are involved with wildfire prevention matters
  - Some of the Chiefs forwarded the survey on to their District Forester, Sheriff Department, County Emergency Manager and private contractors and they provided information as well.
  - Responses were limited or none were received from departments on the eastern plains or the southeast corner of the state.
  - 20 responders stated they wanted to be members of this committee.
  - Ron has spoken with Doug Paul with the BLM and he will get back to him on the best method to collect similar information from the BLM staff. He will also have similar discussion with Kelly Rogers, his District Forester, to see who the best contact is for their organization.

- Ron will be sending out an email to all the responders that want to be involved in this committee to start exploring the next steps to move the project forward.
- If anyone has questions or want to be involved in this committee please contact: Ron Biggers, Fire Marshal, G.S.F.D. at 970-384-6433 or email: [ron.biggers@cogs.us](mailto:ron.biggers@cogs.us).

b. Prescribed Fire Council Right to Burn Legislation. Paul Cooke reported that he has not heard anything more from the Prescribed Fire Council concerning their proposed "Right to Burn" legislation since the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. He indicated that he would follow-up with the Council regarding their plans.

### **Announcements**

Front Range Wildfire Symposium – Bruce Dikken, West Metro Fire Rescue announced the Front Range Wildfire Symposium to be held in West Metro's new training center on November 2-8, 2009. For more information and to register go to: <http://training.westmetrofire.org>.

Colorado Wildland Fire & Incident Management Academy, Jan 4 - 10, 2010, Aims Community College, Greeley, CO. For more information and to register go to: <http://www.cwfima.com>.

### **Adjournment**

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be the Section's First Annual Meeting and Election of Officers to be held on Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 09:30 AM at the Keystone Conference Center (the meeting will precede the CSFCA Annual Meeting & Luncheon).

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Cooke & Gary Green

**CSFCA Wildland Fire Section Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 10, 2009**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Email</b>
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Blair, David	Grand Valley FPD	gvfpd@sopris.net
Blume, Pete	CSFS	pblume@colostate.edu
Brown, Clair	CSFS	browncw@colostate.edu
Clay, Allen	Durango Fire & Rescue	clayaj@ci.durango.co.us
Cooke, Paul	Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Assoc.	paul@colofirechiefs.org
Dikken, Bruce	West Metro Fire Rescue	bdikken@westmetrofire.org
Doughty, Hal	Durango Fire & Rescue	doughtydh@durangofirerescue.org
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Farber, Tom	T. Charles Wilson Insurance	tfarber@wilsonins.com
Goodell, Sandy	Durango Fire & Rescue	goodellsj@durangofirerescue.org
Grant, Kent	CSFS	kgrant@lamar.colostate.edu
Green, Gary	Red, White & Blue FD	ggreen@rwbfire.org
Gustafson, Rich	BIA	richard.gustafson@bia.gov
Jensen, Einar	FLSEC	einar.jensen@southmetro.org
Kaufman, Tom	Durango Fire & Rescue	kaufmants@ci.durango.co.us
Lauria, Nick	Northeast Teller County Fire Dist.	nlauria@netellerfire.org
Long, Mike	Grand Lake FPD	mlong@grandlakefire.org
Marsh, Andrew	Federal Heights Fire	amarsh@ci.federal-heights.co.us
McBee, Doug	West Metro Fire Rescue	dmcbee@westmetrofire.org
Noonan, Dan	Durango Fire & Rescue	noonandj@ci.durango.co.us
Riley, Chris	City of Pueblo FD	criley@pueblo.us
Thompson, Ron	Pagosa Fire District	
Thorp, Rob	Chaffee County FPD	robthorp62@yahoo.com
Ury, David	Black Forest Fire Rescue	chief@bffire.org
Watkins, Ken	Grand Junction FD	kenw@gjcity.org