

UTAH STATE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
January 6, 2016

Attendees – A copy of those in attendance is included with the Minutes.

Welcome, Call to Order, and Introduction of Executive Committee and Guests – Mark Becraft, 1st Vice President, called to order the Annual Utah State Fire Chiefs Association Meeting beginning at 0900 on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, at the Sheraton City Centre, 150 West 500 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Review and Approval of September 16, 2015 Minutes – Motion was made to approve the September 16, 2015 Minutes as written with the following change - the new Western Chiefs appointment is Gil Rodriguez. Motion was made by Ted Black, seconded by Gil Rodriguez; motion passed.

Reports of Committees and Board Members –

President's Report – 1st Vice President, Mark Becraft, reported that the Executive Board has been reaching out to get more fire departments to be members, especially the smaller rural departments. He expressed appreciation to the departments for their service and all that they do. He recognized all of the sponsors and expressed appreciation to them.

Secretary/Treasurer Report – Jess Campbell reported that this event costs approximately \$20,000 and the sponsors are greatly appreciated. Treasurer report: account balance at the beginning of September, 2015 - \$35,452.13; expenses since that time - \$478.52; deposits - \$12,440.23; balance - \$48,370.88; projected sponsorship funds coming in - approximately \$27,000.

Utah EMS Report – The following information was given:

Guy Dansie and Jim Hansen reported on the following:

- There was a bill that went through cities and counties on cost, quality and access. They are working on a template to make it easy to submit. That will be due when doing the licensing from now on.
- Fiscal reporting guidance is available on the website. They have tried to make it easier to use. It will go to the EMS Committee next week for their input.
- Background criminal investigation rules that are being amended and are out for public comment at this time. They are trying to give more authority to the Peer Review Board.
- Bloodborne Pathogen Guidelines are out of date. House Bill 68 will address some of those issues.

Jim Hansen reported on the following:

- AEMT & Paramedics will be tested through the National Registry and will then be certified in the State.
- There is no grandfather into the National Registry. Individuals will need to be tested to be listed.
- When recertifying, individuals will need to go through the process.
- Instructors must attend a seminar once every two years - not on the day that they expire. For any that will have expired on April 1st, the first instructor seminar will be held March 4th in St.

George. Another seminar will be held at Snow College on April 1st and additional seminars will be held on August 19th or 20th at the Provo Marriott.

- BCI background checks will be done - DAX (cost is \$65) fingerprinting will be required for all providers. Recertification is \$115 - that includes the DAX fingerprinting. There are approximately 25 locations across the state where fingerprinting can be done. Training Officers will be sent a form for each individual that needs to be fingerprinted.
- Info regarding House Bill 100 (REPLICA) was discussed; a copy is included with the minutes. Interstate licensure increases the portability of being able to be licensed between states and crossing borders. REPLICA will allow those in the military to be licensed - their certifications will be transferred over.

Legislative Report – Dave Spatafore reported on the following:

- There is a big push to get the 2015 codes adopted.
- Dave recommended that all can go to the website to find out more information.
- The Joint Council meets every Thursday morning at 9 am. Session starts in a couple of weeks - it will be a busy session with Medicare expansion from last year.
- A suggestion was made to get familiar with what the bills are.
- Everyone is invited to the luncheon on February 8th at the Capitol, including the rural areas.
- Everyone was invited to contact their office if they have any questions.

The 2016 legislative items that the fire service is involved in was made available at the meeting and is included below.

2016 Legislative Items the Fire Service is involved in:

State Construction and Fire Code Adoption – Rep. Brad Wilson and Rep. Mike Schultz

This bill would adopt all construction codes as outlined in the 2015 International Code Council's set of codes (ie: Building Code, Mechanical Code, Plumbing Code, Fire Code, Electrical Code, Residential Code, etc.)

Building Code Review and Adoption Amendments – Rep. Brad Wilson

This bill would address having a different time frame for adoption of the International Residential Code (IRC) – would skip the next adoption cycle for the IRC in 2018 and not address it again until 2021.

Note: This bill was introduced in the 2015 session as H.B. 285 but did not get all the way through on the last night of the session.

Utah Retirement System Amendments – Rep. Rich Cunningham & Sen. Todd Weiler

- 1) 60 day separation prior to re-employment (with a different URS covered employer) for Law Enforcement, Fire and Educators
- 2) 60 day separation prior to re-employment for Educators only, would have to go to a school district in a county with population less than 10,000, may include Title 1 schools as well.
- 3) Increase the maximum of \$15,000 per year to \$20,000 (for that retiree who did not stay out the full year from time of retirement; typically has been school teachers)
- 4) Allow current Tier II Firefighters to move over to Tier 1, new hires would go directly to Tier 1

Current pre-filed bills:

HB 12 Disaster Recovery for Local Governments – Rep. Oda

HB 14 Emergency Services Account Loan Amendments – Rep. Oda
HB 33 Fire Prevention Board Membership Amendments – Rep. Jim Dunnigan
HB 47 Post Retirement Employment Rural and Title I School Exemptions – Rep. Cunningham
HB 50 Post-Retirement Re-employment Amendments – Rep. Rich Cunningham
HB 68 Post Exposure Blood Testing Amendments – Rep. Redd
HB 86 Post Retirement Employment Restrictions - Rep. Cunningham
HB 100 Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact – Rep. Schultz
SB 19 Phased Retirement – Sen. Todd Weiler
SB 29 Retirement Systems Amendments – Sen. Todd Weiler
SB 36 Post Retirement Employment Exceptions – Sen. Karen Mayne
SB 47 College Credit for Public Safety Officers - Sen. Mayne
SB 57 Public Safety Emergency Management Amendments – Sen. Mayne
Unmanned Aircraft Use Amendments – Rep. Lifferth
Unmanned Aircraft Amendments – Rep. Harper
Unmanned Aircraft Revisions (dealing with drones) – Rep. K Powell
Retirement Forfeiture Amendments – Sen. Todd Weiler
Political Subdivisions’ Fire Codes Amendments – Rep. Paul Ray
Wildfire Mitigation Amendments – Rep. Joel Briscoe / Sen. Evan Vickers
Line-of-Duty Death Benefit for Emergency Responders – Rep. Paul Ray

Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate CompAct (REPLICA) – HB 100 – Rep. Schultz

This bill would allow Utah to join other states in a compact so that an individual who is trained, certified and/or licensed has the legal ability to practice EMS skills under specified conditions between participating states who have also joined the compact.

Wildfire Mitigation Amendments – Rep. Joel Briscoe & Sen. Evan Vickers

This bill would allow municipalities which desire to opt-in to a state funded suppression fund to participate in that fund through direct payment of money or through a matching agreement and has other requirements for the city or town.

Fire Code Amendments – ??

- a) We are reviewing an issue related to Senior Housing and Assisted Living Facilities. It has come to our attention that there are at least three housing units that perhaps should be licensed by the state (either through the Health Dept. or Human Services). Discussions are continuing but it appears that there may be a gap between the statute and rules that would allow for certain senior facilities to operate without proper inspections and licensing. - Rep. Michael Kennedy?
- b) Some activity has begun by special service districts desiring to reduce minimum road widths for subdivision developments. Road widths do have a minimum “...width of not less than 20 feet...”(section 503.2.1), but the code allows for municipalities to make decisions relating to adoption of Appendix D of the Fire Code, “Fire Apparatus Access Roads” which makes additional requirements for geographic and site specific issues. We are currently working on this issue with the Utah Home Builders Association and the Utah League of Cities and Towns.

Utah Communications Authority Act Modifications – Sen. Wayne Harper

Utah Communications Authority Act Amendments – Sen. Wayne Harper

Updated: 05 January 2016

Communications Report – Tom Kuhlmann reported on the following:

- Potential bills will be coming dealing with UCA.
- An RPF went out for the communication needs - that is now on hold.
- Tom requested a group of Chiefs to put together a communications work group of the seven regions of what they feel are important issues that need to be presented to the UCA Board. Jess Campbell suggested that if anyone is interested to put radio next to their name on the roll to let us know that they are interested in being a part of that work group and then an email will be sent out for any others that might be interested.
- Radio systems are aging: 800, UHF, VHF.

WFCA / IAFC / Mutual Net Report - The following information was given:

Gil Rodriguez suggested departments to sign up with the Western Fire Chiefs Association; it allows them to get discounts at the bookstore.

Vice President of Western Chiefs, Doug Schreggie, commented on the following:

- He recognized and expressed appreciation was for those who help out with the quality of the Association, the vendors that are drawn, and the work that is done on the legislative agenda.
- He stated that participation is very important, looking for representation from all of the states - for input and feedback.
- He recognized Chief Dyke's passing and gave his best regards.
- They have many members because they are members of the IAFC.
- The WFCA wants to return values - the UFCA is paying about the same amount in dues as they are getting back from the services that are being provided.
- UFSCA has a link on the website to the WFCA.

State Fire Marshal's Report - Coy Porter reported on the following:

- Updated rosters need to be sent in.
- The funding for long term disability or on duty death is only allowed if a roster is turned in. The name of personnel and hire date is all that is needed.
- They have a new arson dog located in the Richfield area named "Oscar" and is. If there is a fire of some significance, they would like to be contacted so that he can help out. They would like to have him work on over 100 fires each year and would like rural areas to use him.

Standards & Training Report - Carl Leid reported on the following:

- In February, re-accreditation of non-affiliated training organizations it was recommended to FPB (BATL, DATL, WVFA). UFRA already completed re-accreditation of documents and procedures.
- There was a contractual audit in 2015. There is an audit of UFRA every third year (directed by FPB originally) of five groups: Administration, Training, Certification, Logistics and Financial. The audit indicated that all aspects of UFRA appear to meet the contractual obligations in each category.
- Class load has been increasing 30% a year.
- There are 264 fire departments in the state with 57 full or partially paid.

- Fire School is the only training element that UFRA actually charges for. Other training is free and on-location.
- The school follows the changes of the NFPA and National Standards - they provide training as necessary.
- The Recruit Academy serves 8,000 students annually; almost 100% of courses are delivered off-site. More online training is imminent.
- Certifications: Public Educator Certification, Life Safety, Company Inspector. The goal is to have officers be better inspectors and meet the requirement for Inspector I, a pre-requisite for Investigator. Technical writing courses are required for several certifications; an English requirement is needed.

Fire Marshal's Association of Utah Report - Dave Powers reported on the following:

- They are a preferred provider for ICC with three trainings per year: Fire School and training in the late spring and fall. Very valuable training that takes place.
- They have been active in dealing with different issues - food trucks and solar panels were high on the list this past year. Amendments have been made to the code regarding to solar panels. They are trying to look at it legislatively.
- They are working closely with the State Fire Marshall's Office and are working with building officials and other representatives to have some consistency.
- Fire Marshal's are coming to ask for assistance regarding the safety and security of the firefighters.

ICC Report - Scott Adams presented the International Code Council update. The information is listed below:

- ICC Preferred Provider Program: there are changes regarding CME - half of the credits will have to come from a preferred provider of ICC.
- Fire Code Hearings deadline is the end of January.
- The designated voters are to have access to the code hearings online and will be able to vote. Individuals will need to have the ICC jurisdiction membership up to date 30 days prior to the voting process in April. The deadline to revalidate the voters based on the jurisdiction's population will be mid March. Voters will be decided on and validated.
- Fire Marshal's Chapter will provide a list of the proposals that will be considered in Utah.
- Online webinars will be held on how to use the CDP access.
- They have the Fire Code Action Committee. There are a lot of talented and knowledgeable people on that committee.
- The fire code is made good by all of the participation and staff.

NFPA Report - Ray Bizal reported on the following:

- Information is given that can be taken home to the departments to be used to help perform the jobs.
- Jim Pauley is the new CEO; he has committed himself to the fire service.
- They just released a new mission statement.
- They are trying to provide tools of what can be used to be more efficient at what is done in the fire service.
- Contact Ray or visit the website for the list of new tools.

Utah Fire and Life Safety Educator Association / Burn Trailer - Dean Hunt reported on the following:

- They have worked with others this last year to develop a certification for Fire and Life Safety Educator. The next ISO will give significant points for having a certified individual. They are working to have a two day class at Fire School next year.
- Certification for PIO's will be available.
- They are looking towards providing another conference annually.
- The Fire Sprinkler Coalition is still quite active.
- The burn trailer is available and complete; they are going to put on graphics. A ¾ ton pickup truck will be required to pick it up at their facility. Go to their website for more information.
- South Jordan donated 80 sheets of sheet rock that is available for use on the trailer. It takes about 4-6 sheets.
- They have had about 12 burns since October. The cameras have failed on the use, but they are looking at getting it recorded.
- A Facebook page and a Twitter account will be made available. They are working to keep the information fresh and relevant with the goal being to educate the public on fire sprinklers.

Utah Emergency Management Association (UEMA) - Will Lusk was not able to attend. Jess Campbell reported that the biggest item is the upcoming UEMA Conference next week at the Meridian Center in West Jordan. A handout was available regarding the Emergency Management Activity Report. The information from that report is listed below.



Utah Emergency Management Association (UEMA) Emergency Management Activity Report January 6, 2016

Prepared for the Utah State Fire Chief's Association Fall Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah
Submitted September 16, 2015 by Assistant Chief Will Lusk - Logan Fire Department

Chiefs:

Emergency Management Activity for 2015 and future activity:

National Level

- FEMA continues to encourage Emergency Management agencies around the country towards more fully becoming accredited through the national Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) standards. (Emergency Management agencies within the state of Utah have begun to align their programs to meet these guidelines. EMAP uses NFPA 1600 as general guidelines.
- FEMA has also continued to encourage "Whole community" involvement in jurisdictional emergency response plans. Many non-governmental organizations have now been invited around the planning table to give input into processes as well as join hands in response activities.

Utah Division of Emergency Management (UDEM)

- Sponsored the Annual Public Safety Summit in May 2015 in Layton Utah. Provided training and networking for state Public Safety Personnel.

- UDEM continues support and funnel through funding for the Homeland Security Planning Grants for the purpose of maintaining equipment and continued support of funding through that program for Hazardous Materials response, Technical Rescue response, Statewide Bomb teams, and general community disaster preparedness and response activities.
- UDEM continues to support and develop guidance of Type III incident management teams in each of the Homeland Security regions of the state.
- UDEM continues to send out on a weekly basis a statewide situation report to all state Emergency managers on disaster activity from around the state of Utah. This information is shared with city and county emergency management to help coordinate response activities.
- UDEM continues to coordinate both state and regional training classes and exercise events. The state wide Training & Exercise Planning Workshop will be held next month (OCT. 6, 2015 in Richfield Utah). No longer will fund free lodging for training classes.
- NEW Utah Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) Program. State certification for emergency managers (requirements are similar to International Association of Emergency Managers CEM program). Emergency managers who qualify for the Utah certification complete the same requirements as that required by the international association.
- Governor Herbert has signed a monthly Executive Order to expedite the declaration process for wildfires.

Utah Emergency Management Association (UEMA) Activities

- Sponsored the annual UEMA conference in January 6-8, 2015 at the Viridian conference facility in West Valley Utah. EMA has experienced increased membership and Conference Attendance. Training was provided to over 190 participants in topics such as: CEM/AEM certification assistance, lessons Learned from the OSO Washington Landslide, Social media in Emergency management, Leadership tools, whole community involvement in planning, Emerging trends and the future of Emergency management.
- UEMA encourages and assists in the accreditation process of local Emergency Managers for the International Emergency Management Association's Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) Certification, as well as FEMA's Professional Development Series. Awards for recent graduates of the two programs will be awarded next month at the State City / County Directors conference in Richfield Utah.
- Partnering with UDEM to reimburse individuals/or agencies who obtain the AEM/CEM certification. Reimbursement grant application was accepted and program was initiated at the UEMA Conference last January. Also partnering with UDEM to reimburse IAEM conference registration for UEMA members who wish to go to IAEM conferences, (This year's conference is in Las Vegas Nevada on November 15th-19th).
- UEMA continues monthly training webinars and newsletters, and upgrades the association's website to keep local emergency managers more aware of emerging trends, disaster response actions, and provides other archived emergency response planning helps and guidance.

Other news of Note

- Utah public works Association (UPWA), and Water / Wastewater association response network (WARN) have both established statewide mutual aid agreements in their industries and are working on identifying resource management software systems.
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation plans developed by state and AOGs are being brought before City and County Councils for adoption. Locals need to adopt these plans so that post Disaster Public Assistance funds can be given to the jurisdiction by FEMA.

UEMA Goals & Priorities for 2016

- Annual UEMA Conference in January 12-13 2016 not on the same dates as Winter State Chief's meeting.
- Continue to encourage state emergency management personnel to pursue the Utah Certified Emergency Manager certification and International CEM certifications.
- Continued coordination and support with UDEM on training and national accreditation of local Emergency managers and their associated programs. (EMAP and CEM certifications)
- Continued development and support of Type III incident management teams in various regions of the state.
- Continued certification, outreach help & training for local Emergency Managers through conferences, regional workshops, monthly webinars, newsletters and hands-on training activities.
- Encouraging attendance at the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) annual conference.

Old Business

Wild Land Cost Share Program - Brian Cottam, Utah DNR reported on the following:

- The State foresters are extremely appreciative of the divisions that have been sent from Utah to help with the fires this year.
- Changes need to be made to be preventive in Utah.
- Tracy Dunford has been with the State of Utah for 31 years. They are now searching for a new Deputy Director. There are new staffing changes.
- Regional groups are working across the states.
- Additional study on the CatFire will be completed and participation in pre-suppression activities will begin, focusing on helping to reduce the risk in the communities.
- The County Fire Wardens and staff can provide help and answer questions.
- A copy of the information regarding the policy around CatFire is listed below. The goal is to strengthen our current system and work to make it better with the emphasis on pre-suppression.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE POLICY ADDRESSING UTAH'S CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE REDUCTION STRATEGY (CatFire)



Q: Why is this change being proposed?

A: The Utah State Legislature and Governor Herbert have both concurred in directing the Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands to develop a Comprehensive Statewide Wildland Fire Prevention, Preparedness and Suppression Policy. In addition, state statute contains potentially conflicting direction; currently, there is no way for the State of Utah to assist municipal governments financially. The policy change will enable the State to include all jurisdictions. With trends in wildfire costs, the current practices are not sustainable.

Q: Is participation mandatory or compulsory?

A: Participation is not required. Local governments are encouraged to learn the potential benefits and decide if participation is right for them. The system is opt-in.

Q:What is the “Participation Match” (PM)?

A: The PM is a calculated dollar amount that each city, town or county is responsible for meeting in order to fulfill their responsibility and receive State coverage for the payment of catastrophic wildfires that occur within their boundaries.

Q: Does the city/county pay the PM to the State?

A: No. The State does not require any payment of the PM. Participating governments conduct *prevention, preparedness and mitigation* actions and track the eligible expenses and provide documentation to satisfy their PM amount.

Q: How is the Participation Match calculated?

A: Two factors are used to calculate the PM: 1) Historic Wildfire Cost Average over 10 years with the highest and lowest cost years discarded. 2) Actual wildfire risk based on a wide-ranging and inclusive analysis using the State’s Risk Assessment Model.

Q: How can I reduce my Participation Match?

A: The types of activities you choose to carry out in satisfying your PM can actually cause your match amount to decline over time. As *prevention, preparedness and mitigation* work is done, your score in the Risk Assessment Model will go down and as your costs go down, your Historic Wildfire Cost Average will also decline.

Q: What are my city/town/county’s responsibilities when it comes to wildfire suppression?

A: All participating local governments are required to conduct initial attack, suppressing wildfires as aggressively as possible. As wildland fire training and apparatus are enhanced, your percent of wildfires caught in initial attack will also go up. This will result in a decline in Historic Wildfire Cost Average. Once a wildfire has outpaced local capacity, the fire costs can be delegated to the State.

Q: Who pays for initial attack? Can it be counted toward a city/town/county’s PM?

A: The city, town or county pays for its own initial attack along with its other emergency response costs. Initial attack costs cannot be counted toward PM. As part of participation, cities, towns and counties DO NOT PAY FOR ANY AIRCRAFT even if the aircraft is used in initial attack.

Q: When is a wildfire considered to be beyond “Initial Attack”?

A: There are 4 ways for a wildfire to transition into a delegation of financial responsibility to the State:

1. If the local government(s) decide to transition out of initial attack
2. If wildfire suppression resources are ordered through one of the Interagency Fire Centers
3. If a wildfire enters federally/state-managed land.
4. At the discretion of the State Forester

Q: How does this impact my city/town/county’s ability to participate in decision making during a wildfire?

A: Unified command will be established and local governments will be a valued partner in deciding objectives and strategies for wildfire suppression even after a delegation of financial authority has been executed.

Q: Once participation begins, can a city/town/county discontinue participation?

A: A participating government agency can discontinue participation at the conclusion of the current agreement year.

Q: How is this policy change going to affect my city/town/county’s wildfire costs?

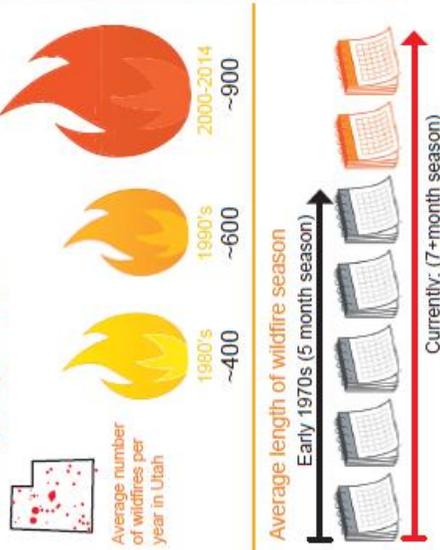
A: If the right type of work is done to satisfy the local government’s PM, wildfire risk WILL go down. With public cooperation, fewer human-caused wildfires will occur and initial attack will be more effective. These two results drive down risk which (all other factors remaining equal) will in turn cause the Risk Assessment calculation to decrease.

Additional questions can be directed to: 801-538-5555

- A copy of the Utah Wildland Fire Policy was distributed and a copy is included on the following pages.

WILDFIRE SIZE AND SEASON

Wildfires are **increasing** and wildfire season is getting **longer** in Utah.



DEFINITIONS

Wildfire Suppression – The actions taken to put out wildfire and stop its spread in undesirable areas. It includes everything from initial engine work to aerial firefighting.

Wildfire Prevention – The act of preventing fires from occurring using actions that modify human behavior reducing careless, complacent or ignorant actions.

Wildfire Preparedness- Preparing community, home and family for wildfire by doing a number of things: 1-Maintaining wildland fire capacity to respond to initial attack fire; 2-WUI codes upheld by local zoning and planning agencies; 3- Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP); 4- Fuel Reduction Projects

Initial Attack- Fire suppression actions taken by local resources and mutual aid usually within the first few hours of a fire's start.

Current State Wildland Fire Suppression Fund

County Pays

- Pay for initial attack
- Pays annual assessment to State
- Must budget for moving average to pay for extended attack
- Employ or help employ County Warden
- Participate in setting Warden's schedule and priorities
- Unified command staff for extended attack fires

State Pays

- Pays only for extended costs that exceed county wildland budget
- Provide wildland training for local departments
- Provide technical assistance
- Facilitate access to FEPP
- Resource ordering and coordination with federal wildland system

New Proposed Program

County and/or Municipal

- Pay for initial attack
- Conduct Fuel Mitigation, Preparation & Prevention Work to agreed amount
- Employ or help employ County Warden*
- Participate in setting Warden's schedule and priorities*
- Unified command staff for extended attack fires

State

- Pays for all extended attack costs
- Provide basic wildland training for local departments
- Provide technical assistance
- Facilitate access to FEPP
- Resource ordering and coordination with federal wildland system

*Cities & towns don't need to employ or help employ the warden



The **total cost** of a wildfire can be mitigated by fire-adapted communities. Investments in prevention and preparedness can save large sums of money. And, it can save lives, something we don't hear about very often when it comes to wildfire prevention and mitigation; or spending money on adequate fire suppression resources.

UTAH WILDLAND FIRE POLICY



- Safety of Firefighters and Public
- Fewer & Smaller Wildfires
- Local Governance
- Fire-Adapted Communities
- State Funding for Extended Wildfires
- Training & Equipment Standards



The Legislature and the Governor directs the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to coordinate the development of a Comprehensive Statewide Wildland Fire Prevention, Preparedness, and Suppression Policy. -SB 56



Conflicting interpretation of State Statute has resulted in unclear and inconsistent mechanisms for funding wildfire suppression.

UCA § 11-7-1(1) "The governing body of every incorporated municipality and the board of commissioners of every county shall provide adequate fire protection within their own territorial limits and shall cooperate with all continuous counties, municipal corporations, private corporations, fire districts, or federal governmental agencies to maintain adequate fire protection within their territorial limits." (**Counties & State maintain incorporated municipalities are responsible to provide for fire protection, including wildland fire suppression costs**)

UCA § 65a-8-202(4) "The actual costs of suppression action taken by the division on privately owned lands shall be a charge against the county in which the lands lie, unless otherwise provided by cooperative agreement" (**Municipalities can argue they are not responsible for paying for wildland fire suppression costs**)

The current dilemma is that statute does not **specifically discuss** wildland fire responsibility and **costs within incorporated** areas.

In pursuit of a rounded, consistent approach that can be tailored to fit individual counties and municipalities, these discussions are taking place.

COMPREHENSIVE FIRE POLICY IN :

Wildfire Prevention (Local Budget)
Local Prevention Programs aimed at prompting individual responsibility community-wide to reduce the number of human-caused fires.

Wildfire Preparedness (Local Budget)
Local Fire Departments Equipped and trained to respond and suppress wildfire
Public Education and engagement in Community Wildfire Protection Plans, homeowner action and responsibility
Wildland Urban Interface Code Upheld by local code enforcement and county.
Mitigation Projects planned with state assistance and grant programs
Cooperative Agreements including state-funded incentives for local wildland capacity and prevention/preparedness programs

Wildfire Suppression (State Budget)
State Funding of all Wildland Firefighting Costs Beyond Initial Attack
Local Decision-Making & Participation on any catastrophic fire.
County-Based Governance for County Fire Warden and wildfire prevention program
State Funding for Fire Warden Salary Equipment and Training Standards

RESULTS IN:

The fire warden still represents the county's wildland fire program
 Each local government is different; therefore, the county participates in setting the warden's schedule and priorities



Local FDs still catch 98% of all wildfires during Initial Attack
 As prevention programs take effect, fire occurrence is reduced; as preparedness programs and projects take effect, fire size is reduced.



Wildfire costs beyond initial attack are paid for by the State of Utah
 Previously budgeted fire suppression funds are re-allocated to initial attack capacity AND prevention/preparedness efforts.



Multiple studies show that every \$1 spent on prevention and preparedness efforts results in exponential savings in wildfire suppression



Fewer wildfires
 Prevention and preparedness programs like Community Wildfire Protection Plans, fuel reduction, firewise landscaping and homeowner incentives directly impact public safety and the security of the Wildland Urban Interface



CONTACT:
 Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
 1594 W. North Temple
 Salt Lake City, UT 84114
 801.538.5555
 www.forestry.utah.gov



Vote on Amending Articles III and X of Utah State Fire Chiefs Association By-laws. The following recommendations were presented for approval:

A proposal was made to amend Articles III and X of the Utah State Fire Chiefs Association By-laws:

- a. Discussion:** To create 3 year term for Sec. / Treasurer from 2 year term. This will allow for 1 year transition from old to new.
- b. Discussion:** To move 2nd Vice-President Election from even numbered to PRN; 2 yr. term. Movement of the remaining officers would conform to Section III in Article III; Vacancies and Resignations. This would allow for filling of the vacancies sooner.
- c. Discussion:** To allow for the outgoing President to become the USFCA Western Chiefs representative, a 2 year term and will be appointed by the Executive Committee should the outgoing President not wish to represent the association.
- d. Discussion:** To amend Article X Section I; eliminating verbiage: "No amendment shall be adopted at the time of presentation, but shall be held over until the next regular meeting at which time it shall be voted upon."

Motion to approve as written was made by Gary Jolley, seconded by Tom Kuhmann. Motion passed.

New Business

FILO Program Report - Martha Ellis reported on the following:

- The Fire Intelligence Liaison Officer (FILO) statewide network is being developed.
- The Salt Lake City Fire Department is partnering with the State Information and Analysis Center (SIAC) in developing a fire specific network designed for information sharing and intelligence dissemination. This is a nationally driven effort, as the federal agencies look for opportunities for partnership and create open lines of communication between local, state and tribal entities.
- They will be doing a four hour class during the 2017 Winter Fire School on the FILO program.
- The fire chiefs were asked to identify someone within their department who could possibly fulfill the role of participating in the program. Law enforcement credentialed firefighters, such as fire investigators, would be an ideal fit. If that is not an option, a firefighter who could partner effectively with local law enforcement would also work.
- The topic was covered in a recent article in Straight Tip.
- Anyone that has a law enforcement individual that could participate in the program or someone to partner would be good. It shouldn't just be handed over to law enforcement - they need to understand.
- They are working with the State Information Analysis Center for safety messages.
- Updates will be given as the program develops.

Lexipol - Fire Policy Program - Peter Roth gave the following information:

- They have been in Utah for about six years and launched the fire product in Utah about one year ago.
- There are 150 policies specific to Utah fire departments included that can be tweaked.
- The subscription is via the web, allowing for logging in and having easy searchable access to the policies from multiple locations.
- There is a training program for personnel, both full and part-time departments.
- They are wanting to collaborate with USFCA.
- Chief Jess Campbell of Saratoga Springs is a customer and commented that it is extremely cost effective. He said to get in touch with him with any questions about rolling it out locally.

SUSAR Program Update - Reed Thompson gave information on the following regarding Urban Search and Rescue in 2015:

- Task Force 1 is a Type 1 Task Force and is a state resource.
- Task Force 5 is a Type 4 Task Force at this time. They are trying to adopt the FEMA standard.
- They are working to get things captured at the State level and have them be the same across the board.
- The Board was created early in 2015 to establish charter, create policy, discover training needs, and credentialing and typing of resources.
- The Board represents the urban areas of the State of Utah.
- There are some who have members that have the credentials; they will do a bridge class to make sure that they have the same processes and that they have the same certifications that FEMA will recognize.
- They will bring in part-time personnel to help with tracking and maintaining the certification.
- The state has received several million dollars; they are working to bring the funding and resources to the individual departments.
- About \$50,000 is received from the State annually. They are looking to possibly tap into other funds.
- There is \$6.5 million worth of equipment.
- Information on classes will be sent out.

UFRA Report - The following information was given:

Brad Wardle reported that there is a new teaching platform called Lended Learning.

- They are working to reduce training time and teach firefighters online, blending traditional classroom development with online training. They are hoping to get this to help smaller, more rural departments.
- The goals are to improve training quality, reduce training time, and reduce fire department training costs.
- Get together with course developers to practice and pass things off.

Fire Officer Designation - Kevin Warden reported the following:

- 15 have been approved for Supervisory Fire Officer designations throughout the state.
- Go to UFRA Homepage to get more information

Proposed State Chiefs Meeting in May -

- The next State Chiefs Meeting will be held May 4th, 2016 at 0900, Venue TBD (North)

Good of the Order

- State Chiefs Annual Business Meeting - September 14th, 2016 at 0900, Venue TBD (Central)
- Utah State Chiefs Winter Meeting - January 4th, 2017, St. George, Utah (South)
- Leadership Training - January 5th, 2017 - 0900-1500 (lunch provided), St. George, Utah
- Winter Fire School - January 6th - 7th, 2017 in St. George

Adjournment