

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

FOSS *SF*

CHILCOTT *G*

IMAN *JR*

STOLTZ *R*

BURROWS *JB*

Members Present.....Commissioner Suzy Foss, Commissioner Greg Chilcott, Commissioner J.R. Iman, Commissioner Ron Stoltz and Commissioner Jeff Burrows

Date.....September 10, 2012

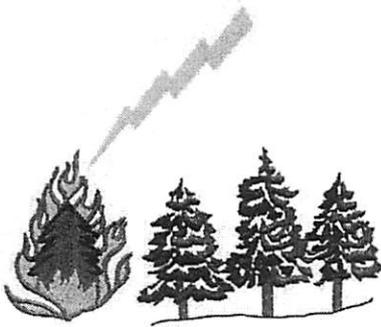
► Minutes: Glenda Wiles

► The Board met at 9:00 a.m. with Bitterroot National Forest Service Personnel and Emergency Services personnel for an update on the Sawtooth Fire (see attached). **After this briefing and in concert with the Sheriff and the Type One Incident Team, Commission Chair Foss declared a Disaster under Title 10 Chapter 3, by passing Resolution No. 2912. It was also agreed that the County will send a letter requesting assistance to the State of Montana.**

Fair Manager Deborah Rogalla stated the fairgrounds are open for holding animals but the owners will be responsible for care and custody of the animals. The owners just need to sign in at the fair office.

► **Due to the hour Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to continue the 9:30 a.m. meeting for the Highway 93 Projects Amenities Agreement until Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. Commissioner Stoltz seconded the motion and all voted "aye". (5-0)**

► The Board met at 10:10 a.m. for an interview of an applicant for the Road Operations Manger position. Present at this interview was Road Administrator Eric Anderson and Deputy County Attorney Howard Recht.



Northern Rockies
Incident Management Team

Tom Heintz,
Incident Commander

SAWTOOTH
DAILY INFORMATION FACT SHEET

Date: September 10, 2012

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Incident: Sawtooth Wildland Fire

Information Phone: 406-363-3556
7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. ←→

Location: Sawtooth Fire is about 7 miles west southwest of Hamilton, MT

Approximate Size: 1,300 acres estimated

Containment: 5%

Incident Commander: Tom Heintz, Northern Rockies Type-II Incident Management Team

Resources: Hand Crews: (2) Type I crews; (5) Type II crews **Equipment:** (10) Engines, (2) Dozers, (4) Water Tenders

Air Support: (1) Type 1 helicopter; (3) Type 3 helicopters.

Total personnel: 252

Injuries: 3

Cost to Date: \$1,566,000

Fire Update: A stage 1 evacuation notice has been issued for the following area:

All residential and commercial properties West of Westside Road; South of Paradise Trail and Blodgett Camp Road; and North of North Gold Creek Loop. This means there is a high probability of the need to evacuate. Residents are responsible to make arrangements to move property and livestock. Some residents, primarily those with special health needs or other concerns, should relocate during this stage. The Ravalli County Emergency Operations Center has a public information phone number that interested parties may call; **Ravalli County EOC 406-375-6650** ✓

The fire was flown last night using infrared detection and that information transferred to an updated perimeter map. It is actually moving in two, possibly 3 fronts. Based on that infrared information we know the fire has spotted over into the head of Barley Creek and the North Fork of Owings Creek on the Northeast edge. The fire is also moving in a Southeasterly direction in Sawtooth Creek.

Helicopters were used yesterday to drop retardant and water where that was effective, however air operations had to be suspended due to the high winds over the fire area. The winds are not being experienced at the lower elevations in the valley and that can be confusing observers. Fire Operations are planning to resume the use of helicopters to utilize the retardant being made at our portable retardant plant located at the ICP. The winds will of course will dictate that use. Wind also has an impact on the effectiveness of the retardant application. Retardant is generally not effective in winds above 25 mph as it breaks up and you do not get a good application at the target.

We expect the dry cold front weather to continue today. A **RED FLAG WARNING** is in place from noon on today. Winds are forecast to 40-50 mph over the fire area with humidity actually increasing slightly. Engines and crews will be lined out along the contingency line to provide structure protection. The Westside Road and those feeding off of it from Roaring Lion Road on the South and Paradise Trail and Blodgett Camp Road on the North will be closed to all but local resident traffic to provide for the public safety as they deal with necessary work they have to do in preparation for an evacuation order if it should come.

An information trailer on Highway 93 at Roaring Lion Road will be staffed from noon until 7 pm each day.

Closures: Sawtooth Creek Trail #123, Roaring Lion Trail #124, and Canyon Creek Trail #525 are closed due to fire activity.

Special Concerns: New fire starts! Attention: Stage 1 Fire Restrictions remain in effect for this area.

Information on fire restrictions can be found at <http://firerestrictions.us/mt/>.

More Information: Visit Inciweb at www.inciweb.org, email sawtoothfire@gmail.com or call fire information 406-363-3556. Ravalli County EOC has established a recorded phone line with current evacuation information at 406-375-6650.