

ULCT & FFSL Wildfire Meeting
Logan City Offices
5/27/2015

Presentation given by Jason Curry and Blain Hamp of FFSL

Initial Questions:

- Is this required for cities to participate? NO, it is optional
- What about contracting cities/special services districts? The ULCT Policy Work Group is working on this.
- What is the historic cost formula going to look like?
 - o Better initial attack is better
 - o Answer: Formula will take into account extended attack

Initial Comments:

- Devil is in the details
- WUI requirements are going to be a big deal – what are the costs to builders, etc.?
- Afraid the “in-kind” ends up going by the wayside and charges will take their place resulting in the need to lay off a firefighter
- Can’t do 100% Red Card
- Other requirements may not be possible
- Become an operational cost instead of emergency dollars
- Those who were responsible when annexing can only bare so much burden for those who were not responsible when annexing.

Continuing Discussion:

- If your city opts out, what is the options?
 - o They Pay
- Eliminating county involvement can put a heavier tax on volunteer firefighter time
- What about a fire district covering 3 cities?
- Costs – who decides who is paying what?
 - o Answer – GIS research to show risks (fire history or benchmark)
- Will communities need to have a CWPP to participate?
 - o Yes, but what that looks like is driven by local authorities
- Will each city know their cost before they join?
 - o Yes
- What about fires on state lands?
 - o State will pay majority (if not all, depending on circumstances)
- What matches can be made?
 - o Policy Work Group will be addressing this
- This is a great plan for ALL counties, but may not be right for all cities and towns
- When it comes time to assess the rural areas and they have a small budget, and the cost is higher than they can afford, are they left taking the risk?
 - o Mr. Curry said if the decision to join or not is a hard one, than the process was structured wrong. It should be easy to make the decision of whether or not to join
- County assessment goes away –
 - o Initial attack covered by the city?
 - Inconsequential, state might pay the whole thing...

- Property value will not be as heavily weighted in future equations
- Unincorporated is not currently taken into account
- Good program, but devil is in the details
 - o Afraid of being dragged into something they don't want to be
 - Emphasized that it is an optional program
- Detailed set of rules on Cost Share Negotiations
- Is this a done deal?
 - o NO, but if the work/participation is done right and a good product that is supported by everyone comes forward it will be easier to make it happen