

**MINUTES
EMERGENCY
EAGAR & SPRINGERVILLE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING
Eagar Police Training Room – 174 S. Main Street, Eagar, AZ
June 4, 2011 – 10:00 A.M.**

EAGAR COUNCIL PRESENT: Kim Holaway, Mayor
 James Nelson, Jr. Vice Mayor
 Byron Smith
 Tim Rasmussen
 Debbie Rogers
 Steve Erhart
 Gary Finch

SPRINGERVILLE COUNCIL PRESENT: Susie Silva
 Daniel Muth

SPRINGERVILLE COUNCIL ABSENT: Eric Baca, Mayor
 Connie Hunt
 Ron Thebeau

EAGAR STAFF PRESENT: Bill Greenwood, Town Manager
 Howard Carlson, Fire Chief
 Mike Hogan, Police Chief
 Eva Wilson, Town Clerk
 Bruce Ray, Community Development Director
 Steve Christensen, Public Works Administrator
 Fred Frazier, Police Lieutenant
 Jason Casillas, Police Officer

SPRINGERVILLE STAFF PRESENT: Steve West, Town Manager
 Max Sadler, Fire Chief
 Mike Nuttall, Police Chief
 Ellis Hicks, Police Officer
 Fisher, Fire Fighter

ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Kim Holaway called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. Introductions were made around the room with representative from other agencies to include but not limited to: Apache County Sheriff's Office, Navajo County Sheriff's Office, Stuart Bishop, Type 1 Team Liaison, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Round Valley Unified School District, CellularOne, Apache County Health Department, and various departments that work with the Emergency Management Team, and Incident Command.

ITEM #2: NEW BUSINESS

A. WALLOW FIRE

Eagar Fire Chief Howard Carlson gave a brief update on the progress of the Wallow Fire. The fire has burned approximately 140,000 acres with zero containment. The perimeter is approximately 150 miles. The Type 1 Team came in on June 3, 2011, and the Type 2 Team is still engaged with the fire. The fire will be fought on the north and south perimeters. The Incident Command Center has been moved from Luna Lake to the Eagar Event Center (Blue Building at the rodeo grounds). The fire moved over County Road 249 last night. The fire is not being hindered by the grassy ciengas as hoped but is moving over the grasslands.

There may be a chance of moisture on Sunday and dry thunderstorms are expected.

Any evacuation orders will depend on the movement of the fire today.

Springerville Fire Chief Max Sadler stated that the fire is moving north; concern is if winds carry fire through Saffell Canyon. A line needs to be decided upon when the evacuation order is given.

Chief Deputy Brannon Eagar stated that the evacuation order would initially come from the Incident Management Team (IMT).

Type 1 Team Liaison Stuart Bishop reported that the IMT would work on the Management Action Points (MAP) today. MAPs are predetermined points when fire reaches those points the pre-evacuation and evacuation orders are given.

Alpine and Nutrioso are under evacuation orders. Greer is under pre-evacuation order and if Greer is evacuated so will Sunrise.

Citizens that have health issues breathing because of the smoke need to leave now because the smoke will not get any better. Also any persons that need extra help, such as disabled also need to move now, as help to evacuate them may not be available later. Apache County Health Department will notify special need homes and special need patients to give them information on where to evacuate. Blue Ridge is not accepting these types of evacuees.

Coordinating agency meetings will be held daily at 10:00 a.m. at the Round Valley Middle School. These meetings are for coordinating agencies only and information will be distributed out from these community leaders.

A community meeting will be held today at 4:00 p.m. at Round Valley High School Auditorium. Lists of items that should be taken with evacuees will be handed out at this meeting. Citizens are encouraged to call the 593-information hotline. Use 593 if using a Frontier landline or CellularOne phone, all other phones can call 928-333-3412. It is expected that the 593 will be open 24 hours soon and if the lines have to move because of evacuation they will remain open but will be moved to Lakeside and then Holbrook.

Chief Carlson recommends that citizens clean up any debris that will catch fire around their homes in case of spot fires and blowing embers. Irrigation has helped green up some area fields.

Stuart Bishop, and Chief Deputy Eagar will work hand-in-hand with local police chiefs. Chief Mike Hogan stated that evacuations will be for safety reasons and that fire personnel need to focus on the fire and not trying to answer calls from citizens that refused to evacuate. If citizens refuse to evacuate they shall stay on their property, if they are found off their property they will be escorted out of town. Mr. Bishop stated that the local police and fire chiefs would have up to date official information.

Chief Deputy Eagar stressed that citizens need to use the information lines set. There is also a Facebook account set up. Officials are asked to give out only credible information.

Debbie Muir from the Round Valley Animal Rescue advised officials that kennels and space for horses and livestock have been set up at the Apache County Fairgrounds in St. Johns and in Concho.

Jim Pitts with the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest Service office advised that the local forest service office would be closed on Sunday. He reported that to date Alpine has fared well. They will be open for business again on Monday.

Chief Carlson advised that maps of local streets would be handed out to assisting area law enforcement. Chief Deputy Eagar stated that if an evacuation is called for; law enforcement will be going door to door and will continue to do so until they receive a response. Law enforcement tape will be used to mark those residences.

ITEM #4: ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Gary Finch moved to adjourn the Joint Council Meeting at 11:00 a.m. Councilor Susie Silva seconded; all were in favor and the meeting adjourned.