

Date: December 6, 2018
To: Oregon Board of Forestry
From: Marvin J. Vetter, Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator
Subject: Hearing Officer's Report on Bakeoven-Shaniko Landowner Hearing ORS 477.320(1)

Hearing Information

Proposed Area: Southern Wasco County
Hearing Date & Time: December 5, 2018 6:00 PM
Hearing Location: Shaniko Ranch, Shaniko Oregon
Written Comments Due: December 5, 2018
Hearing Authorized: Board of Forestry meeting, *November 7, 2018*
Hearing Officer: Marvin J. Vetter, Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator

The Public Hearing for the proposal to bring the Bakeoven-Shaniko area into the Oregon Protection System was formally convened at 6:16 p.m. in the Shaniko Ranch Lodge after a discussion regarding the proposal. Registration forms were available for people who wished to provide oral and written comments on the proposed formation. The hearing was closed at 6:23 p.m.

There were 13 people in attendance and 12 of them were local landowners, 10 landowners signed up to provide oral comments on the participation record. One county commissioner provided oral and written testimony on behalf of the County Court, Commissioner Krammer also submitted written comments from Wasco County Sherriff Lane Magill in support of the Bakeoven-Shaniko RFPA being brought into the Oregon Protection System. Sherriff Magill could not be present due to another meeting.

Summary of Oral Comments

Community interest in the formation of the proposed Bakeoven-Shaniko Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) is high and is strongly supported by landowners and County Court in Wasco County. A Board of Directors has been established. Additionally, a set of by-laws has been established, corporate legal status has been applied for and received, a bank account has been established, funds have been raised, and commitments of time and equipment have been received for them to be ready by the 2019 fire season.

Landowners and residents of the area are increasingly worried in the aftermath of the 2018 fire season in Central Oregon and want to be part of the solution to protect their private property and actively take part in the protection of their lands. The Bakeoven-Shaniko RFPA has set a date of February 19th and 20th to receive basic firefighting training in preparation of the 2019 fire season. The increased level of protection for this area can be achieved by bringing it into the Oregon Protection System and forming a Rangeland Fire Protection Association.

No local residents opposed the proposed RFPA formation. Oral testimony was in full support of bringing these lands into the Rangeland Protection System and forming a Rangeland Fire Protection Association.

Summary of Written Comments

Attached are copies of the written comments from:
Wasco County Commissioners
Wasco County Sheriff Lane Magill

/s/ Marvin J. Vetter
Marvin J. Vetter
Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator
Eastern Oregon Area