

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: HFD DEPT. HEAD SIGNATURE: MC 

**SUBJECT:** *Presentation of A New Disaster Recovery Program*

**AUTHORITY:**  ID Code \_\_\_\_\_  IAR \_\_\_\_\_  City Ordinance/Code \_\_\_\_\_  
(IF APPLICABLE)

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

*See ATTACHED DRAFT Press Release.*

**FISCAL IMPACT / PROJECT FINANCIAL ANALYSIS:**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY OTHER AFFECTED CITY DEPARTMENTS:** (IF APPLICABLE)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Library             | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor               | <input type="checkbox"/> Streets            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Clerk         | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning            | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building           | <input type="checkbox"/> Police              | _____                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineer           | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works, Parks | _____                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Dept.         | <input type="checkbox"/> P & Z Commission    | _____                                       |

**RECOMMENDATION FROM APPLICABLE DEPARTMENT HEAD:**

*This program has been fully funded by the Hailey Vol. F.F. Association. It is anticipated that after 1 year, an evaluation of the program is conducted and if effective, the City or County LEAC will cover the annual cost of \$400.*

**ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL:**

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOW-UP:**

\*Ord./Res./Agrmt./Order Originals: Record  
Copies (all info.): \_\_\_\_\_  
Instrument # \_\_\_\_\_

\*Additional/Exceptional Originals to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Copies (AIS only)

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### **Community Disaster Response Personnel Needed**

One of the most challenging issues in emergency and disaster response is providing timely assistance to the victims of these events. While our local emergency response agencies are well equipped, staffed and prepared for most emergencies in our county, there are times when these agencies are stretched beyond their capabilities.

While we do have access to state and federal resources, the greatest asset in our community is the people within it who come together in times of emergency. Once the fires are put out, the electricity back on and the outside resources leave, our community is still faced with the lingering problems of the disaster; flooding, displaced families and clean up. The lesson we took from past events like Castle Rock and the Whiskey Jacques fire was the difficulty of matching and tracking our local volunteer resources. City officials and staff are frequently overloaded with donations and requests, and unfortunately, many generous offers of shelter, unique skills, food and time can be lost due to the lack of coordination of these donations.

This is where the Hailey Volunteer Fire Association can help. For over 30 years the members of the association have maintained a "Burn-out" fund to assist those affected by disaster. These funds were donated by many generous citizens in our community through annual fundraising drives and events. While historically these funds have been helpful after the fact, in the wake of Castle Rock, the association has been looking for ways to prepare the community for such large scale events and better organize the efforts of the community, matching needs with offers of assistance.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> The Hailey Volunteer Fire Association provided funding and, in partnership with the Wood River Amateur Radio Club and the Hailey Public Library launched a website in conjunction with Recovers.org that allows coordination of recovery efforts online. Citizens of the community are able to register online with any skills, resources, items or monetary donations they are willing or able to provide. Victims are also able to register with their needs. Website administrators are then able to match need to donor in an organized fashion.

All of this can be accomplished in real time and remotely, without the need for the donor or recipient to go to a physical donation center or sign up on a list and hope someone gets back to them. It also allows both donor and recipient to be vetted ensuring the safety of these transactions. This type of system helps bridge the gap, connecting donors with recipients and giving members of our community an easy way to register online so emergency response coordinators can effortlessly manage this type of spontaneous volunteer assistance.

The website also holds great potential to announce community not-for-profit fundraising events, and assist people in coordinating efforts to help others in the community. Other portions of our website

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provide pertinent information on disaster preparedness and updates from members of the community on hazards, mitigation or resources that might otherwise be overlooked.

Our goal is to have at least 250 people from our community pre-register this year on our website prior to an emergency at <http://hailey.recovers.org> and familiarize themselves with the site. Our administrators will be monitoring donor and recipient lists daily for messages during normal use times and continuously during emergency.

For more information regarding this program, you can view a short video overview of Recovers.org at the following link <https://recovers.org/about> or you can contact the Hailey Fire department at 208-788-3147 during normal office hours.

For more information, please contact;

Mike Chapman, Hailey Fire Chief at 208-788-3147

