

Governor's Fire Service Policy Council

1:00 p.m. • Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Special Districts Office/OFCA Conference Room

Minutes

Welcome/Introductions

Chair Gary Marshall called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. All members introduced themselves. Present were:

Members	Representation
Gary Marshall, City of Bend Fire Dept.	Oregon Fire Marshals Association
Ed Wilson, Lake Oswego Fire & Rescue	Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
Pat West, Past President	Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
George Warren, Clackamas County FD	Oregon Fire District Directors Association
Tammy Fitch, Wilson & Heirgood	League of Oregon Cities
Ron Murray, Local 290	General Public
Sarah Colvin, Deputy State Fire Marshal	Employees of the Office of State Fire Marshal
Ex Officio	
Eriks Gabliks, Deputy Director	Dept. of Public Safety Standards & Training
Executive Director, Staff	
Nancy Orr, State Fire Marshal	Office of State Fire Marshal
Laura Drager, Staff	Office of State Fire Marshal
Visitors	
Dave McTeague	Clackamas County Fire District #1 Board of Directors
Donna Disch, Sr. Policy Analyst	Office of State Fire Marshal

Absent: Scott Mullen, Bob Borra, Supt. Tim McLain and Joe O'Leary.

Minutes:

Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and a **motion was made by Ed Wilson to accept them as presented. Tammy Fitch seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Communications:

Letter to Ed Lindsey was sent by Chair Gary Marshall, thanking him and letting him know we would not be hosting another summit in 2007. It will be considered in 2008.

Guest/Visitor Input

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Appendix P Amendment to 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code

Nancy Orr explained the proposal – to adopt Appendix P in the 2008 Residential Specialty Code to give local communities the option of requiring fire sprinklers in new residential construction. The Residential Structures Board makes the final decision so OSFM staff is meeting with members of the Residential Code Review Committee to explain the benefits of it, then on to the Residential Structures Board. There's a lot of misunderstanding out there about what sprinklers do and don't do. Staff have also met with the Homebuilders Association (HBA). The HBA is

concerned about losing alternatives given for sprinklered homes. They want to defer the discussion for three years (2011). We're forging ahead to get the votes we need.

At this time, three votes are confirmed, just one more is needed (seven on committee). The Residential Code Review Committee is meeting June 28. The decision to support Appendix P has to pass through them prior to the Residential Structures Board.

Wilson shared, OFCA had a teleconference call last week and their overall concern is that the letter writing campaign will alienate those we want to persuade. The decision was made by OFCA to give them input with the realization that this may be a long term project. Initially it was going to be a joint letter from OFMA and OFCA.

Two groups have been working independently on this. The Coalition for Local Control and the coalition working on the fire-safer cigarette bill moved its attention to this issue. There's a lot to be said for putting pressure on those on the fence, if we can all work together and communicate. We want to be one voice, not fractured. We are on different paths with one goal, the timing is the problem.

Input from the Governor has more "stroke" to the board than any other because he can overrule an advisory board. Suggestion was made to make the Governor aware of this now. A call from the Governor would be more helpful than waiting for him to overturn it after it's done. It could circumvent a lot of grief. The next opportunity won't be until 2011.

Wilson made a motion that the two coalitions meet and come to one united front, and that the GFSPC draft a letter of support to the Governor to adopt Appendix P. Warren seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Action: Wilson will contact the Coalition for Local Control. Chair Marshall will draft a letter of support to the Governor.

Charters for Code 3 Emergency Responders Task Force and Citizen Drivers Education Task Force

Two charters were presented, the first regarding emergency responders best practices and the second for citizen drivers education. **Fitch made a motion to accept the charters and Warren seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Action: Chair Marshall will contact George Dunkel regarding possible names for the chair of the Code 3 Emergency Responders Task Force.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal to mitigate structural fire protection risks on or near forest lands

Currently ODF is reviewing and classifying forest lands. There is now a lot of forest land where the forest has been logged and become urban, yet remains classified as forest land. ODF assesses these lands to fund the administrative functions of running the forest, and in combination with General Fund for fire suppression. It seems like an opportunity to move forward with reducing structure risk with strategic fuel mitigation. Federal funds are drying up. We've also been facing the raid on the FIPT for the conflagration act reimbursement, so another goal is to establish funding. The third goal gives fire executives more voice in managing fire on dual protected lands. SFM Orr reported on a meeting with ODF where she presented the three

goals in the proposal to mitigate structural fire protection risks on or near forest lands. ODF agrees with the goals but not sharing funding.

Council suggestion was that we need to give the Governor guidance on this issue as well.

Fitch made a motion to support the three goals and further encourage dialogue to reach agreement on said goals. Motion seconded by West. Motion carried unanimously.

Action: Chair Marshall to draft a letter to the Governor to raise awareness and request support for the structural fire mitigation goals.

Voluntary State Standard for Firefighter Entry Physical Fitness Testing

The council was asked to propose a minimum standard for testing. The CPAT equipment is very expensive; most fire departments don't have the funding for it. Could one organization in the state (such as DPSST) have the equipment and do the testing? Discussion brought concerns.

Per Gabliks, DPSST is implementing physical fitness testing for law enforcement--Oregon Physical Ability Test (ORPAT) effective July 1, 2007. Wilson reported that Lake Oswego Fire tests their own and in California the community colleges do testing. However, prior to testing, there's significant training and education. It's important to maintain records for tracking purposes. Another concern expressed is there is no incumbent testing (a firefighter passes the test once in their career and is not re-tested).

Consensus of the council was not to task this out.

OTHER BUSINESS

Joint Fire Service Legislative Committee – key issues

Donna Disch reported on recent legislation:

- HB 3432 amendment 9 regarding members of the board of DPSST. There is also a -10 amendment that will be in a minority report. Per Eriks, it is still being worked on. Included in hand-outs is testimony by BPSST Chair Harold Burke-Sivers that discusses the moral fitness for duty issue.
- SB 270 deals with tax credits
- SB 560 was narrowed to 7 cancers, smokers excluded.
- SB 10 regarding ethics, a new amendment excludes fire depts. and volunteers.
- SB 605 regarding licensing of chimney sweeps so they become licensed contractors.
- SB 772 morphed into SB 1051 regarding use of exclusive farmlands for fireworks storage.
- SB 3044 regarding fire cost of funding for ODF. The bill raises forestland assessments.

Reports of current association/member activities:

OFCA - George Godson, age 43, inspector with Portland Fire, died yesterday, just didn't wake up. Wilson attended the Western Fire Chiefs Association meeting in Las Vegas and there were many positive comments on Oregon's OSFM programs. OFCA is working on the stratification matrix; it will be ready to present at the fall conference.

OFDDA – Warren reported on funeral for Tiny. Their new board member is from Milwaukie.

LOC – Fitch stated they are working on SB 10 and monitoring many bills.

SFM – Orr had hoped to have the annual report for distribution and instead passed out the OSFM budget testimony. The annual report is near completion and it is looking great! She announced the OSFM's 90th anniversary celebration plans coming in October.

DPSST – Gabliks was pleased they have picked up two additional positions for fire training in the new biennial budget and funding for regulatory streamlining. He thanked SFM Orr for her support throughout the process. Regarding FIPT, although didn't get enhancements, still did a good job of educating people what it is used for. Sept 15 is the date set for the Fallen Firefighter ceremony at DPSST.

Adjourn

Warren moved to adjourn. Fitch seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next meeting dates: September 25, November 27, 1:00 p.m., same location.