

Governor's Fire Service Policy Council

1:00 p.m. • Tuesday, September 25, 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
Scott Mullen, Stayton Fire Department	Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association
Pat West, Past President	Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
George Warren, Clackamas County FD	Oregon Fire District Directors Association
Sarah Colvin, Deputy State Fire Marshal	Employees of the Office of State Fire Marshal

Ex Officio

Executive Director, Staff

Nancy Orr, State Fire Marshal	Office of State Fire Marshal
Laura Drager, Staff	Office of State Fire Marshal

Visitors

Scott Magers, Asst. Chief	McMinnville Fire Department
Terry Riley, Fire Training Director	Dept of Public Safety Standards and Training
Randy Simpson, Chief Deputy SFM	Office of State Fire Marshal
Donna Disch, Sr. Policy Analyst	Office of State Fire Marshal

Absent: Ed Wilson, Bob Borra, Tammy Fitch, Ron Murray, Supt. Tim McLain, Joe O'Leary and Eriks Gabliks.

Minutes:

Minutes from the June meeting were reviewed and two corrections were made. **George Warren made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Sarah Colvin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

Communications:

Chair Marshall sent letters dated August 1 to Governor Kulongoski and the members of the Residential Structures Board regarding Appendix P. He received an email response from Joe O'Leary, Governor's Sr. Policy Advisor and a letter from Ray Miller, Chair of the Residential Structures Board.

Guest/Visitor Input

Donna Disch has been dedicating her time to working on funding alternatives for conflagration expenses.

OLD BUSINESS

Appendix P Amendment Update

Chair Marshall stated it has been a presidential year – the fire service has worked very hard and the accomplishments are many: fire safe cigarettes legislation passed, code changes that would

require all apartments to be sprinkled, and now the Appendix P amendment is moving more quickly than expected toward adoption.

- At the June 28 meeting of the Residential Code Review Committee, Appendix P was presented. The committee rejected the proposal.
- On July 27, Gary Marshall, SFM Orr and Chief Deputy Simpson met with Corey Streisinger, Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services and Mark Long, Administrator of the Building Codes Division. Streisinger and Long understood the GFSPC's goals to provide for fire protection infrastructure and reduce fire deaths. They understood that the fire service is very passionate and determined in wanting the ability to adopt residential sprinklers.
- At the August 29 meeting of the Residential Structures Board, 19 fire service representatives gave testimony eliminating myths and presenting facts. That testimony seemed to turn the tide and the board realized the fire service is very serious about this.
- Marshall, Simpson, John Caul and Eric McMullen attended a Sept. 18 meeting with the Home Builders' Association (HBA). They were pleasantly surprised the HBA came with a proposal. Their document didn't meet all our needs but there's a possibility we may have consensus before the end of the year. Marshall reviewed the major issues in the proposal.

George Warren asked that a record of the Appendix P meetings be sent to the council.

Action: Laura will gather information (the proposal, minutes and Q&As) and email it to the council.

Warren thanked Marshall and Orr for the work of the coalition and SFM employees. All of Oregon's fire service is watching this. In addition, Marshall wanted to extend a sincere appreciation to Eric McMullen of TVF&R for his expertise and hard work in this matter.

Code 3 Emergency Responders Task Force Update

Chair Marshall reported that George Dunkel is meeting with the fire chiefs on October 13 and will get the fire representatives for the task force squared away at that time. He has the list of members from the former committee who were interested in continuing. He wants to contact each of them to see if they are still interested and will then report back to the council.

Chair Marshall tabled this item until the next meeting.

Citizen Drivers Education Task Force Update

SFM Orr explained that the work of this task force was not part of the OSFM's business plan for this biennium. The OSFM will work on it if there's time at the end of the biennium and will put it on next biennium's agenda.

IMT Qualification Standards Work Group Recommendations

Assistant Chief Scott Magers handed out the final report and recommendations of the Incident Management Team Task Force.

The task force was charged with looking for or developing requirements for type 2 and type 3 teams. After 9/11 everyone got into the IMT business, with different ideas. The National Incident Management Center through FEMA developed standards for type 3 All-Hazard Incident Management Teams. The task force looked at and adopted the national standard for type 3 teams, then looked at type 2 and recommended adding position specific training.

Discussion ensued regarding training and certification. Some classes are offered by the National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) and task books are required. Classes are located all over the U.S. causing competition to get into the classes. The cycle runs three years, therefore classes are offered once every three years. These are roadblocks to completion.

The next thing the task force looked at was crosswalks to current standards. They are recommending DPSST do that.

Pat West described an incident in Washington where they watched the fire come over the hill and only had 750 gallons to fight it with. They were able to create a fire line and survived a harrowing experience. The Leavenworth event helped us see the need for better incident management.

The OSFM has updated the State Fire Mobilization Plan to require minimum training prior to responding on conflagrations. In the event of accidents, which can happen, it reduces our risk as incident commanders. When we do go to court we can show objectivity and that we're following standards.

Warren asked if we would be taking this to the groups we represent first. It would go next to the DPSST fire policy committee. The Mob Plan is where we define the requirements for type 2 and 3. The group discussed the responsibility of the GFSPC.

Pat West made a motion to accept the report and all three recommendations, George Warren seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Magers went through the recommendations to identify actions needed. The council suggested a letter be sent to the governor and superintendent saying we recommend integrating all responders' training standards. Consensus was to send the letter after the TOPOFF statewide exercise.

Action: SFM Orr and Terry Riley will draft a letter to the governor and superintendent for the council's approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Mandatory training for firefighters

George Warren wondered why, after touring DPSST's training facility, the police academy is a requirement, while training for fire is voluntary.

Chair Marshall responded that the majority of police are career. The majority of the fire service is volunteer. It's difficult for volunteers to take vacation and come to a statewide training center. Even though it's hard to recruit volunteers, it would make it harder and even if their fire department will pay, they still can't give up the time. It may be OK for career departments, but not for many volunteer departments. On a regional basis the fire departments are coming together to train.

Warren's department puts on their own academy but what if there's only one individual who needs training? Collectively it would be helpful if there was an academy available.

Riley commented, in Monmouth (at DPSST) there was not enough room. Currently there's money in the budget for looking at the feasibility of doing an academy at the new location.

OR-OSHA

Warren brought an issue from OFDDA about OR-OSHA's new director who seems to be citing and fining, rather than working with us to correct problems. Council discussion produced information about a specific consultant who has worked with them on issues - Ron Haverkost. There's also a joint OSHA firefighter advisory committee that meets twice a year. If fines become a statewide issue, we can ask OFCA to take it up. It was agreed the first step would be to invite Haverkost to the next OFDDA meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Preparation for council member terminations effective 12/31/2007

Chair Marshall reminded the affected members to ask their associations for nominations for replacements. OFMA is recommending Ken Johnson from JCFD #3 to replace Marshall as their representative.

Reports of current association/member activities:

OSFM Employees - Sarah Colvin reported she is working in the Salem office until October 1 clarifying AG directives on fire departments and their statutory authority.

OVFA was awarded a safety grant of \$350,000. They have rolling billboards that can be loaned and two fire safety commercials. Check their website: www.ovfa.org (may be in grants link) to see the commercial. A grant was received last year for recruitment and retention, see information about it also on the website. Contact is Steve Schneiderman.

Chief Deputy Simpson commended Sarah on her project. She did a lot of research and partnering with federal and state entities. He is chairing a committee to condense and reformat the State Fire Mobilization Plan.

SFM Orr reported that toy-like lighters (formerly called novelty lighters) campaign is taking off. Bill Webb, coordinator of US Congressional Fire Caucus Institute, met with Orr and Judy Okulitch regarding a national coalition. We're starting to get more data regarding incidents; cases of when children have used toy-like lighters to start fires. It's the only dangerous liquid put into containers the shape of toys. The International Association of Arson Investigators is making toy-like lighters the theme of Arson Awareness Week.

DPSST - Terry Riley described the Sept. 15 second annual fallen firefighter memorial event hosted by DPSST. The turn-out was less than last year and we'd like to see more come. This Saturday at 9 a.m. John Sullivan of Worcester, Massachusetts will speak on lessons learned from the cold storage warehouse fire in Jersey City. John's engine was the third engine to respond and half of his crew was lost. Jan 11-13 is OFIA's Firefighter Safety and Survival Symposium. Go to OFIA.net for details.

OFDDA - Warren announced the upcoming joint conference of OFDDA and OFCA at the Bend Riverhouse Resort and Convention Center November 8-10, 2007. George gave a glowing report on the attributes of the new facility.

Chair Marshall reminded all of the 90th Anniversary Celebration being held at the Office of State Fire Marshal October 23 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Adjourn

Scott Mullen moved to adjourn. Pat West seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Next meeting date: November 27, 1:00 p.m.