

Governor's Fire Service Policy Council

1:00 p.m. • Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Special Districts Office/OFCA Conference Room

Minutes

Members

- Greg Keller, OFCA (Chair)
- Scott Mullen, OVFA (V Chr)
- Kelly Bach, SFFC
- Bob Borra, Insurance Providers
- Tammy Fitch, League of Oregon Cities
- Eric McMullen, OFMA
- Tad Pedersen, OSFM
- John Stein, General Public
- George Warren, OFDDA

Ex Officio

- Tim McLain, OSP
- Joe O'Leary, Governor's Office
- Eriks Gabliks, DPSST

Executive Staff

- Randy Simpson, State Fire Marshal
- Laura Drager, Staff
- Sue Garfoot, Staff

Visitors

- Mark Ayers, DPSST
- Allen Forster, OFDDA
- Genoa Ingram, OFDDA
- Connie Barton, OFDDA
- Bob Reeves, OFDDA
- Mariana Ruiz-Temple, OSFM
- Donna Disch-Curtis, OSFM

Welcome/Introductions

Chair George Warren called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He changed the order of the agenda to move up Joe O'Leary's presentation of the Governor's Public Safety Budget. The description of his presentation is under New Business. The meeting continued with all members and visitors introducing themselves. Present were:

Changes to the agenda:

Chair Warren moved Joe O'Leary's presentation to the front of the agenda.

Minutes:

Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed. **Kelly Bach made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Tad Pedersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

Communications:

None

Guest/Visitor Input

Chair Warren congratulated Bob Reeves on becoming a member of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association board.

OLD BUSINESS

Structural fire air monitoring task force update

Randy Simpson reported that TVF&R is working with an air monitoring company and OHSU to develop an air monitor that will test several different gases at fire scenes. The monitor will set parameters for hot and cold zones. The monitor is close to "firefighter proof" after two trials with TVF&R. There is no other monitor on the market that provides enough sensors to correctly test for this type of hazard. The company is willing to design a monitor that will be portable enough to take into a fire scene.

IMT Type 3 task force update

OSFM staff is surveying emergency managers and county emergency departments to obtain a baseline of what is currently available on the local level. The Mobilization Plan is being updated

to include a Field Operations Guide (FOG) to meet national requirements. Also, staff is working on increasing all hazard training through DPSST. A committee including OSP and OSFM is working to establish Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMATs).

NEW BUSINESS

Governor's Public Safety Budget

Joe O'Leary presented the Governor's Recommended Budget on Public Safety to the group. The December 2008 revenue forecast showed a \$1.2 billion shortfall, which has since grown to \$2 billion plus. Increases in these numbers have occurred and continue to daily. It's a prioritization budget; some budgets see more cuts than others. The governor is committed to not tapping the reserve account (\$700 million) and has asked the legislature not to touch this fund until at least 2010. The next revenue forecast is in March.

The shortfall for the remainder of this (07-09) biennium is \$450 - \$750 million. The governor and legislature are discussing how to handle the statute that requires reductions across the board.

HR 6172, the Federal Tax Intercept proposal, is being heard in Congress right now. This would allow the states to tap into federal income tax returns of people who owe criminal fines and fees. With this program, the state could see an increase of \$60 million a biennium. O'Leary asked for support from any associations and/or individuals to build a coalition. Joe will be sending contact information when he gets it.

Action: O'Leary will send contact information regarding the Federal Tax Intercept proposal.

Larry Hatch of Oregon APCO referred to a letter sent to the governor regarding the long term impact of taking 9-1-1 funds. Per O'Leary, the governor's General Counsel reviewed this and the way the federal law is written, the preliminary review says it will not trigger the loss of more money.

Scott Mullen conveyed his observation regarding DOC's terminology of "advanced" health care. General citizens can't afford it and the trickle down will affect the smaller fire departments and their ability to serve their citizens. Per O'Leary, the federal constitution sets a certain level of care. If we don't meet it, we subject the state to federal lawsuits. DOC is aware of this and is working on taking more cuts.

John Stein asked if there will be enhancements to services or new programs proposed with the 54% increase to Education. O'Leary reported Headstart will receive an enhancement of \$6 million. K-12 will lose \$50 million; Community Colleges will increase tuition because of decrease in enrollments. The governor feels strongly about protecting education even more now during the recession. After it's over, we'll have a trained workforce ready.

Chair Warren asked if any attention is being given to the vocational education cuts.

Action: O'Leary will get an answer from the Education Advisor.

Members and visitors expressed appreciation to O'Leary for his presentation.

For detailed information on the Governor's recommended budget refer to the PowerPoint presentation attached in this email.

Legislative update

Genoa Ingram reported the Joint Fire Service Legislative Committee met January 26th at the OFDDA office. Approximately 75 bills are being tracked.

Action: Ingram will send a copy of the tracking documents to Laura for distribution. These documents include live links to each bill.

- The novelty lighter bill is moving quickly. The first hearing was held on January 23rd and the work session is scheduled for January 28th.
- SB 325 regarding weddings and large events in exclusive farm use zones raises concerns regarding fire marshal oversight.

REPORTS

SFM Budget, Policy option packages, legislation

The OSFM budget as submitted to GHQ went forward with two Policy Option Packages. One was a General Fund request for Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) and the other was for the recognition program for fire certification. The General Fund request for US&R was cut, however they came back with the suggestion to use FIPT funds. The rest of the budget is being supported but cuts may come.

Donna Disch-Curtis reported all of our bills were read on the first day of the legislative session.

Hand-outs describing upcoming hearings and bills being tracked by the OSFM were distributed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Reports

OVFA – Scott Mullen reported OVFA is entering into a formal agreement with the OFCA and OFDDA to add rolling stocks to OVFA's surplus program. Districts are now giving their surplus inventory to those who need it. The OVFA conference is set for June 24-27, 2009 in White City at Jackson County Fire Department #3. JCFD #3 is providing instructors and classes.

General Public – John Stein is keeping an ear open for citizen issues.

OSFM – Tad Pedersen reported the Office of State Fire Marshal is anxiously awaiting the announcement of the new state fire marshal. The OSFM is also watching the financial impact of the state budget and the bargaining of the labor contract.

OSP – Superintendent Tim McLain reported the interviews for the new state fire marshal were held today, January 27th. The interview panel will be giving him a recommendation that he'd like to take to the governor.

DPSST – Mark Ayers had nothing to report. DPSST is ramping up hiring and programs.

OFCA – Greg Keller, attending his first meeting, had nothing to report.

Insurance Providers – Bob Borra reported the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating system for Washington County changed from a 2 to a 3. Greg Keller reported the fire chiefs are looking at this issue. Simpson stated the ISO system hasn't changed for 60 years. There are still equipment requested needs to be rated. The Western Fire Chiefs Association is pushing to credit fire departments that do fire prevention. ISO has solicited the fire service for input over the last year and has distributed a draft with changes that are more relevant.

Mark Ayers announced DPSST is hosting a seminar by Volunteer & Combination Officers Section (VCOS) on ISO. This is the fourth seminar delivered across the United States. It is scheduled for March 21st, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at DPSST. The cost is \$60 (lunch included) and you may pre-register with Thelma Denney at 503.378.2408 or email thelma.denney@state.or.us.

Odd-year nominations for chair and vice chair, per charter

Chair Warren opened nominations for vice chair. Hearing none **Warren made a motion to re-elect Scott Mullen for a full term. John Stein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

Nominations were opened for chair. **Tad Pedersen made a motion to nominate Chief Greg Keller. The motion was seconded by Warren and passed unanimously.**

The gavel passed to Greg Keller who thanked George Warren for his leadership of the group.

Meeting location

Consensus of the group was to continue to meet at the SDAO office at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn

George Warren moved to adjourn and Scott Mullen seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next meeting date: Greg Keller suggested we set the schedule for the year.

The dates are:

March 10, 2009

April 28, 2009

July 28, 2009

October 27, 2009

January 26, 2010

For a copy of the recording of this meeting, please contact Sue Garfoot at 503.934.8205 or email sue.garfoot@state.or.us.