

**Fire Policy Committee
Minutes
August 26, 2008**

The Fire Policy Committee of the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training held a special telephonic meeting at 9:00 a.m. on August 26, 2008 from the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem, Oregon. Chair Jim Whelan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendees via Telephone Conference Call

Committee Members:

James Whelan, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters' Association, Chair
Charles Chaffin, Oregon State Fire Marshal's Association
Kevin Gray, Non-Management Firefighter
William Klein, Community College Fire Programs
John Klum, Portland Fire & Rescue
William Lafferty, Oregon Department of Forestry
Nancy Orr, Oregon State Fire Marshal
Rod Smith, Oregon Fire Instructors Association

Committee Members Absent:

Kelly Bach, Oregon State Fire Fighters Council, Vice Chair
Larry Goff, Oregon Fire District Directors' Association
Mark Prince, Oregon Fire Chiefs' Association

DPSST Staff:

Eriks Gabliks, Deputy Director
Julie Olsen-Fink, Senior Fire Certification Coordinator
Tina Diehl, Fire Certification Specialist



1. Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Submissions

On May 16, 2008 the Fire Policy Committee approved to add 12 fallen firefighter names to the Oregon Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial located on the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training campus in Salem.

Since that time, nine more firefighter deaths have occurred. We have the opportunity to add those names to the memorial wall for the ceremony that will be held in September. They all meet the criteria for the memorial that was established by the Fire Fighter Memorial Committee on November 7, 2005. In order to do that, we need your permission to move forward. We are bringing these new nominations to the Fire Policy Committee for review and approval.

Upon committee approval, we will have those names engraved onto the memorial wall before the next Oregon Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Ceremony on September 18, 2008 and work with the agencies so they can reach any family members that may be interested in attending the memorial ceremony.

There was discussion on what meets the Foundation's criteria as stated in #2 of the Line-of-duty deaths standards:

While PSOB guidelines cover only public safety officers, the Foundation's criteria also includes contract firefighters and firefighters employed by a private company, such as those in an industrial brigade, provided the deaths meet the standards listed above.

Action: This item will be put on the next FPC meeting agenda September 19, 2008 for further discussion.

Submissions for Memorial Inclusion

Robert Hales

Incident Date: August 17, 2008
Agency: Scappoose Fire District
Incident Location: City of Scappoose
Incident Information: Firefighter Hales had worked a twelve hour shift on three outdoor fires caused by lightning. While in his personal vehicle, it left the roadway and crashed after (according to the autopsy report) Hales suffered a cardiac arrest. Firefighter Hales did not recover and passed away.

Shawn Blazer – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Scott Charlson – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Edrik Gomez – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Matt Hammer – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Steve 'Caleb' Renno – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Bryan Rich – Grayback Forestry Inc.
David Steele – Grayback Forestry Inc.
Roark Schwanenberg – Carson Helicopters

Incident Date: August 5, 2008
Incident Location: Trinity Alps Wilderness
Incident Information: The pilot and seven firefighters assigned to the Iron 44 Complex fire in California's Trinity Alps Wilderness perished in a helicopter crash as they were taking off from a helispot.

Staff recommends that the names be approved for the Oregon Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

Bill Lafferty made a motion to put onto the memorial wall the names submitted for inclusion from DPSST staff. Bill Klein seconded the motion. The motion carried in a majority vote of seven to one.

Jim Whalen thanked everyone for getting together at such short notice to take care of this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.