



OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 19, 2015
Mt. Hood Room, Office of State Fire Marshal
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Attendees/Representing

Burns, David - US CPSC
Cranford, Jeff - McMinnville FD (Yamhill)
Emmert, Bethany - OSFM
Fennison, Shawna - OSFM
Hallman, Les - Newberg FD (OFCA)
Hatch, Joanne - TVF&R (Clackamas)
Hoover, Rich - OSFM
Kusz, Jim - North Lincoln Fire (Lincoln)
Law, Nancy - McMinnville FD (Yamhill)
Linder, Amy and Casey - Eugene Springfield Fire (Lane)
Maniscalco, Susie - Bend Fire (Deschutes/OFMA) teleconference
McGrew, Claire - OSFM
Omdahl, Wanda - Albany F&R
Roach, Amy - OSFM
Rouse, Ron - Portland F&R (Multnomah) teleconference
Sauermann, Lora - Albany F&R (Linn)
Slavens, Ginger - Nestucca Fire (Tillamook)
Stafford, Stephanie - OSFM
Storms, Anne-Marie - Keizer FD (Marion)
Whitehouse, Jamie - OSFM
Zinck, Jaime - OSFM

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Stephanie Stafford. Introductions were made.

Changing American Families...Fire Service...Times? - Wanda Omdahl – Albany Fire Department

Wanda talked about defining a family in today's world and, how the dynamic has changed over the last 20 years and changes seen in the fire service. Families are split, many homes are multi-generational (adults living with their aging parents and their children), and many more minority households than there were 20 years, ago. Single parent families, gay families, are also more prevalent than they were. Pets have become a part of the family now for many people.

Conversation about social media and its impact on today's society was had. Wanda stated that if you weren't using social media as an agency, you are missing an opportunity to spread your message. Many people were concerned with the retention laws, but Oregon now has laws that cover social media software and retention laws. Wanda encourages starting small. Get a Facebook account for your agency and grow from there.

As the age of our population gets older, the way we teach becomes different. Older adults are more technology savvy and use social media much more than they did several years ago. Families are staying in touch and grandparents can keep up with family photos by using sites like Facebook.

Fire service is changing as well. Nationwide 88,000 acts of violence occur against fire service yearly. Things that didn't used to happen now are things that we need to be concerned with. Flashover times have changed from 11 minutes to 2.5 minutes and now our message is imperative to explain to people that everything burns faster.

Fire service response calls have more than doubled since 1980 and in 2011 only 5% of all fire stations responses were to fires. The remaining were for medical aid. Only 5-6% of your community will call 911 in any given year, so you as an agency need to ask yourself "What do I mean to that other 95%?" As money becomes scarce and resources slim things, how does your agency meet the needs of the community? We need to be flexible and relevant in our neighborhoods. "Adapt or Die".

Nearly 49 million people (and 51% of school aged children) are living in poverty in the U.S. As an agency you need to put aside assumptions and learn to work without judgment and with empathy if we are to be effective.

Be a more visible piece of your community. You can help your agency become more relevant in the changing times by building relationships within your community, accessing social media, using empathy, and resources to help those that are living in poverty or disadvantaged, build partnerships with other agencies in your community.

Families, fire service, and times are changing, are you ready to change with them?

***** **10 minute break** *****

2014 OLST Report – Stephanie Stafford – OSFM

Stephanie shared an overview of 2014 with the group, which contained the following items:

2014 fire casualties

- 50 fatalities (the most since 2008 – 53 fatalities)
- 214 injuries
- 35 males, 15 females
- Adults 50 and older accounted for more than half (28) of the fatalities
- 34 were residential fatalities

- Top causes of residential fatalities: smoking, combustibles too close to heat sources, and cooking.
- This is data reported by local Oregon fire agencies as of February 17, 2015. The numbers can and will likely change as more data comes in or is updated.

OLST Survey

- 19 responses
- Valuable topics (60 % or above): Oregon Fire Casualty Review Updates, Fire is Everyone's Fight (Jim Crawford), and Fire Prevention Week.
- 73% do not want time to provide regional/association reports.
- 92% are ok with the current meeting date/time.
- We will be planning topics of interest for the year.

Strategic plan

- 2012 – needs to be revised – OSFM will be working on this over the next couple months.

2014 Quarterly Education Topics

- Smoke alarms completed
- Behind schedule: Attempt to control a fire & home fire escape planning (combined)

Recruitment/retention

- 2014 – 31 most attended, 14 least attended
- June – I removed members who had not attended in two years.
- Recruiting for several counties

April meeting

- Window fall safety

Other projects

- Branding guide is now completed and with P&D.
- SAIP program evaluation is underway and will take several weeks to complete.
- Take the Right Steps – fire and fall prevention & safety for older adults evaluation is underway.
- Oregon smoke and CO alarm laws training – Oregon Real Estate Agency
- Ready, Set, Go training (Get ready, be prepared, act early) – 98 attendees, future plans include traveling around the state and attending Co-op meetings in various counties.
- Educational messaging, NFPA messaging
- Inventory/scanning system for materials orders – We are purchasing a barcode scanning system to assist us in better inventory control.

Regional and Association Report

David Burns talked about the carbon monoxide poster contest that U.S. Consumer Safety Commission is hosting for middle school aged students. David also shared with the group recent recall notices. For further information, please contact David at 360-949-6851 or dburns@cpsc.gov

Meeting Adjourned

3:30 p.m.