

Fire Service Policy Council

1:00 p.m. • Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Office of State Fire Marshal • Mt. Hood Conference Room

Minutes

Members

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

Ex Officio

- Cameron Smith, Gov's Office
- Chris Brown, OSP
- Eriks Gabliks, DPSST

Executive Director/Staff

- Mark Wallace, State Fire Marshal
- Jim Walker, Chief Deputy SFM
- Sally Cravinho, Staff

Visitors

- Connie Dalke, OSFM
- Donna Disch, OSFM
- Joel Lujan, OSP
- Claire McGrew, OSP
- Sue Otjen, OSFM
- Mariana Ruiz-Temple
- David Sellers, OVFA
- Stacy Warner, OSFM

Welcome/Introductions

Chair Keller welcomed the council and stated that he is pleased with today's large attendance. Jim Walker introduced State Fire Marshal Mark Wallace, who came on board July 1. Welcome Mark, we look forward to working with you.

Minutes

Jim Walker noted that paragraph one, line three, on page four should read 6,200 businesses were impacted by changes to the CR2K program (not 62). Also, other parts of the minutes need slight re-wording.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update from Jim

We were unable to restore POP package #70, which eliminated four positions from the CR2K program; all three of the Planning and Training Assistance staff (PATA), plus a Compliance Specialist. We started the layoff process last week.

We also had a reduction of about \$1.9 million for that program. Of that \$820,000 was personnel costs. We're looking at our current Revenue Forecast to see what we might do further with that program to meet the public safety need. There was a lot of support from the Legislature and the businesses impacted, but when you look at all of the fee based programs vying for support, we were just a little further down on the priority list.

We were given budget authority for one additional FTE, a deputy for the Health Care program.

Legislative Update from Donna

Donna provided two hand-outs that summarize our work this session (attached).

PASSED

HB 2078 cleaned up ORS 479; repealed language that was outdated or already covered in the Oregon Fire Code pertaining to fire escapes and other fire safety features.

HB 2726 relates to smoke shops and the Indoor Clean Air Act. Thanks to Senator Telfer from Bend, this bill shifted the responsibility for ventilation in cigar bars from OSFM to Building Codes Division.

HB 3672 extended the tax credit for Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT) to the year 2018.

HB 5537 was our budget bill.

SB 878 passed as well. Eriks said this will require people who monitor fire and medical alarms to be licensed. It does not impact process alarms (high water, sewage, etc). DPSST will work with OSFM and OFMA on developing regulations.

Action Item

Donna will add SB 878 to our list of bills of interest, and post an updated list to our web.

FAILED

SB 69 was our illegal fireworks bill. It generated a lot of awareness and we anticipate some Legislators may bring it up again during the interim session. We'll attempt to tighten up the "relating to" clause to focus on the issue of illegal fireworks.

OTHER BUSINESS

District Annexation Task Force update from Jim

Jim explained that there are inconsistencies in the process and cost for annexing into a fire district, and a task force has formed to address the issues. Greg read their Mission Statement:

To analyze the process and cost to annex into a fire district and/or city for fire protection. To review if there is a need to establish possible legislation to assist the process for the citizens of Oregon.

It came to the attention of OFCA and this group through a situation in the Florence area, where citizens wanted to self-annex. The county got involved, independent of the fire district, and said it was possible through the county process, but would cost \$3,000-\$5,000 for a single family dwelling. The thought is, if someone wants to annex into a district for public safety, the process should be as easy as possible and not be a financial burden.

If you have questions, contact Jim Walker.

Operation Vigilant Guard exercise update from Eriks and Mariana

For the last six months the public safety groups have been discussing an exercise involving the Oregon National Guard (ONG) that will test the state's preparedness for incidents other than flood or fire. They're moving into a chemical biological response and will stand up their operations center to deal with urban search and rescue (USAR) efforts.

Part of the exercise is a mass casualty incident where they'll manage 1,000 people.

ONG will build a rubble pile to simulate a collapsed four story building with a parking deck under it with vehicles in it. They need a place to build it that is secure and accessible. DPSST has property on their city streets training venue that they can allocate.

It's expensive to decommission the site. DPSST and OSFM are very interested in retaining the site for confined space rescue exercises. This isn't part of the national model, but the feds agreed to do it for us. They budgeted to replace pieces that are cut, broken, breached, etc. Discussions will continue to determine what it will take to reset the pieces that are needed for on-going training. We will bring power out to the site and use it for the long term.

Representatives from the Pentagon were here two weeks ago to do a walk-through.

There have been 9 similar exercises in other states. Ours will be the largest, with 7 or 8 different modules. The Guard's main objective is to test the new Citizen Emergency Reaction Team (CERT) component (similar to the CST component), with mass decon, search and rescue, etc.

The first two days will be a hazmat response. We're working on a scope and budget for this piece. There should be shadow opportunities for USAR personnel. The USAR component will occur **May 1-6, 2012**.

Mariana said all the players (including HazMat, USAR, OSFM, and DPSST) will be at the first planning conference August 11-12 to talk about objectives. The exercise will last 4-5 months and something is happening every two weeks. They will be an exercise with Tillamook County involving hoof and mouth disease, and an event with University of Oregon.

Tammy asked whether county and city representatives can see the exercise, so they can take it back to their own planning groups.

Action Item

Mariana said there will be opportunities for observers. She'll bring it up at the planning conference in August.

OSFM Update from SFM Wallace

Mark is putting together a 90-day transition plan for himself, to meet his own staff and our partners in the fire service. He's met with the managers; next are the deputy supervisors, then remaining staff.

Mark went to Bend for the annual Oregon Building Officials meeting; to Columbia County for to train with their volunteers and attend their FDBC meeting; to Gresham for hazmat training with our new monitoring equipment; and to lunch with OFMA at DPSST. He's planning a few looping trips to the further reaches of the state.

His goal is to get involved, represent our office, and build relationships. Please invite him to your meetings and other gatherings.

He's very pleased with what he's found in the organization. This group (GFSPC) is not something other states do as effectively.

Major Lujan is now head of OSP Public Safety Services, which OSFM is a part of. This is a positive arrangement. As a person who has consulted on organizational effectiveness, and continues to do so, Mark applauds the changes; they allow for opportunities to mesh with OSP and include a more effective span of control.

Please feel free to contact Mark if you have questions or wish to discuss anything with him.

REPORTS

Council Member Reports

Air Monitoring Report / Best Practices White Paper

Greg spoke with Captain Dave Phillips, who chairs the OFCA Safety Section and has control of the air monitoring report. The report was put together by TVF&R, presented to OFCA, who handed off to their Safety Section to be used to develop a best practices / white paper.

The Safety Section will meet in September and Greg has asked Dave Phillips to attend future GFSPC meetings and report to this group.

Greg said the best practices document will eventually come back to GFSPC for endorsement. There's no time-line on completing it. It's uncharted territory and the process is as important as the conclusion; slower is better. The Safety Section includes a cross-section of the fire service. They want to involve everyone and get buy-in.

They will take a very complex 30-page document and distill it down to a user-friendly best practices that can be disseminated far and wide. There won't be a single state-wide policy. Individual organizations can use it to adopt their own policies and procedures, that are practical and applicable to their department.

Mark noted, it's a very complex issue. He agrees that it's smart to take our time to lay out the safety and mitigation processes.

Action Items

Mariana said there've been requests for the air monitoring report. It's a public document and if anyone wants a copy they can contact OSFM.

Mariana will email a copy of the report to the GFSPC members and Genoa Ingram (Executive Director of Oregon District Directors Association).

Around the Room

Tad Pedersen mentioned that a tentative agreement has been reached between AFSCME and DAS on a contract for 2011-13 that will include a maximum of 14 furlough days based on salary level (same as last biennium).

Eric McMullen announced the OFMA President is Troy Buzalsky (Canby RFPD) as of July 1. Genoa will serve as general staff again this year. OFMA is looking to consolidate some of their educational offerings through their events in May and October (Round Table). They've been taking turns with Washington and this year is Oregon's turn to host the fall event. They're focusing on creating tools and props for educating their own. They have so much contact with the public, they want to develop props and visuals to use in training.

Tammy Fitch announced that the Oregon's Cities Conference will be held in September.

Action Item

Mariana agreed to attend the Oregon's Cities Conference and give an update on the Oregon National Guard exercise *Operation Vigilant Guard*, and talk about opportunities to observe.

Cameron Smith welcomed Mark. We're very fortunate to have him, not only for the breadth of his experience, but his depth within the fire service - emergency management, teaching, management and organization in general, and former police.

Kelly Bach says their legislative efforts were generally successful:

- They're working hard on getting stable funding for the fire folks for Employment Relations Board. Their legislative director Bob Lewis is on the interim task force.
- They were able to eliminate the sunset date on Fill the Boot, so those efforts will continue.
- The 911 tax on prepaid cell phones did not pass, so their work will continue. The impact just to his employer alone is \$300,000.

Cameron said the 911 community met with Senator Olson last week to discuss a broad range of issues. The revenue from a 911 tax on pre-paid cell phones is a consideration. There are also concerns about any interest in consolidating the 49 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs); whether revenue could be re-directed to support other police and fire needs; and ways to deliver services more efficiently. Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) will publish a report in December, before the start of session, which may affect future discussions or decisions.

Eriks Gabliks thanked the State Fire Marshal for speaking at NFPA Fire Fighter I graduation last week. DPSST trained another 32 people; all volunteers, who attended the training nights and week-ends at DPSST. Some of the volunteers were the first in their departments trained at NFPA Firefighter I level, and they're going back and training others. DPSST will continue their efforts to get everyone certified at least to the national baseline.

The Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be held at DPSST at 1:00 P.M. on September 15; happy to report that no new names will be added this year.

David Sellers introduced himself. He was a director at Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association (OVFA) and is now First Vice. Dave will transition into Scott's position on the GFSPC in October.

Scott Mullen reported that the OVFA conference this year was successful. Like OFMA, they're in contact with other training outfits and looking to combine offerings. The new OVFA officers are:

- President, Dave Butler (Lebanon FD)
- First Vice President, Dave Sellers (Hillsboro F&R)
- Secretary/Treasurer, Stella Hickey (Hermiston Fire & EMS)
- Director, Peter Robertson (North Lincoln F&R District #1)
- Director, Kirt Hickey (Hermiston Fire & EMS)

Good of the Order

Kelly Bach let everyone know we lost a TVF&R firefighter on Monday in a rock climbing accident at Beacon Rock. Nate Turner was a great guy, great at his job - it's been hard for their department. (Services were held Monday, August 1.)

Adjourn

Greg thanked everyone for coming. Meeting adjourned at 2:09 P.M.

Next meeting dates

October 25, 2011

January 24, 2012

Meeting location

Office of State Fire Marshal

Mt. Hood Conference Room

Meeting time

1:00 pm