

Fire and Life Safety Competency Recognition Advisory Committee Minutes

1:00 PM ♦ Wednesday, October 15, 2008

Office of State Fire Marshal/Mt Hood Room

Members Present

Stacy Warner, Asst. Chief Deputy OSFM

Bill Bench, Fire Marshal, Forest Grove Fire Dept

Mike Thrapp, Fire Marshal, Eugene Fire & EMS

Ed Wilson, Fire Chief, Lake Oswego Fire Dept

Gene Durnin, Salem Fire Alarm, NW Automatic Fire Alarm Assoc

Representation

Office of State Fire Marshal

Exempt Jurisdictions

Exempt Jurisdictions

Oregon Fire Chiefs Assoc / GFSPC

Industry

Others

Connie Dalke, staff

Office of State Fire Marshal

Members Absent

Chuck Chaffin, Deputy Fire Marshal, Lake Oswego Fire Dept

Oregon Fire Marshals Assoc

Traci Cooper, Fire Marshal, Redmond Fire & Rescue

Non-exempt Jurisdictions

Mark Wilson, Fire Marshal, Lebanon Fire Dept

Non-exempt Jurisdictions

Welcome/Introductions

Stacy Warner called the meeting to order and welcomed Gene Durnin from Salem Fire Alarm, representing the industry (NW Automatic Fire Alarm Association). Ed Wilson moved to approve the minutes from the June 10 meeting; Mike Thrapp seconded; motion carried.

Training Equivalencies for Basic Mechanical Code

Stacy explained training in the basic elements of the mechanical code is one of the general requirements for obtaining a competency recognition certificate for Fire & Life Safety Specialist I, II, and Fire Marshal. The committee met with representatives from the fire service and industry to identify content for the mechanical code training. We agreed to make it available and affordable. OSFM developed the curriculum and test, created an interactive CD, and arranged to have it beta tested.

Next, we need to identify what we will accept as a training equivalent. Stacy provided a flow chart that lists three options for meeting this requirement and asked the committee for their input:

- Option 1 Complete the OSFM Mechanical Code training and test
- Option 2 Submit a letter describing other training attended, and complete the OSFM test
- Option 3 Complete accredited college course on ICC Mechanical Code or obtain ICC Commercial Mechanical Inspector Certification

Gene asked whether the equivalency in Option 2 would be reviewed and approved by the committee. Stacy said yes, in all instances.

Mike suggested that OSFM create a sample letter or a list of information (detail) that must be included in the letter in Option 2 (e.g. course content, sponsor, number of classroom hours, etc). This may clarify what's required and assist people in putting their information together for our review.

Mike asked if there is an outline of the Basic Mechanical code training. Stacy said, yes, we'll send it with the minutes from today's meeting.

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Status update on E-LMS (iLearnOREGON)

Oregon is developing an online learning and knowledge management system that integrates general learning management functions (course catalog, registration, enrollments, transcripts and administration) as well as advanced tools such as knowledge mapping, collaboration and performance management.

The Office of State Fire Marshal is one of the organizations chosen to be first on board with this program. The pilot went live in October and DAS is doing some fine tuning. Once ready, the test that accompanies our basic mechanical code course will be available online.

The Basic Mechanical Code test is there, we're just waiting for iLearnOREGON to make it available.

Good of the Order

Ed asked if there's anything we'd like for him to carry forward to the chief's conference next month.

Stacy said we're recruiting to fill the Training & Development Specialist II position that was vacated by Mary Olson. Job announcements went out through the Daily Dispatch, DPSST Fire Bulletin, and on Craig's List. In the interim, we have a temporary support person maintaining the program. All the program components are in place and our deadlines are on track. Once we get a TDS II, we'll move forward in developing the Basic Building Codes curriculum. We're considering putting the Fire & Life Safety Specialist I, II and Fire Marshal training online. We've been talking to DPSST about creating a Fire Marshal Academy, which would meet all of the education components of the inspector task book. He'll keep us posted as that progresses.

Stacy said the deadline for Company Inspector is January 1, 2009 per OAR 837-039-0120(1)(a)(A).

Ed said he will let us know who will replace him on the advisory committee as the representative for Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and Oregon Governor's Fire Service Policy Council. He thinks it may be Greg Keller, Salem Fire Department.

Adjourn and Next Meeting

Stacy adjourned the meeting at 2:00.

The next meeting will be Wednesday February 11, 2009 at 1:00 PM at OSFM in Salem.