



OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM

A multi-agency team that emphasizes community risk reduction, shares best practices, coordinates, develops and implements consistent statewide fire prevention and life safety education.

OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 01.19.23

1300-1500

OSP-OSFM General Headquarters

3565 Trelstad Ave SE

Salem, OR 973017

CP Pray Room

Attendees/Representing

*Ashenden, Bill- American Red Cross, Cascades Region	*Kusz, Jim- Rescue 8 Media
*Chaffey, Laura- OSFM	*Mendez, Alfredo- Albany Fire Department (Linn)
Cross, Amber- OSFM	*Nelson, Barbara- Stayton Fire District (Marion)
Dunn, John- Oregon Fire District Directors Association	*Pich, Piseth- Hillsboro Fire Department (Washington)
*Goff, Scott- Umatilla County Fire District #1 (Umatilla)	*Roberts, Sandy- Albany Fire Department (Linn)
*Hatch, Joanne- Retired Fire Service	*Robinson, Kevin- Central Oregon Fire Management Service
*Harrison, Merrill B- Eugene Springfield Fire (Lane)	Ryun, Curtis RN- Oregon Burn Center
*Hendricks, Johnathan- OSFM	Sexton, Shawna- OSFM
*Heidt, Cody- North Lincoln Fire & Rescue Fire (Lincoln)	*Shanklin, Kari- Clackamas Fire District #1 (Clackamas)
*Houston, Laura- Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators/ Stayton Fire District (Marion)	Slavins, Ginger- Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District (Tillamook)
Jasmin, Sara- OSFM	*Sykes, Megan- Oregon Fire Service Museum
*Johnson, Cheryl- Oregon Fire District Directors Association/Illinois Valley Fire District (Josephine)	Traudt, Susi- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue
*Kosmas, Kim- Portland Fire & Rescue (Multnomah)	

**indicates attendance via teleconference*

Welcome/Introductions/Updates- Sara Jasmin, OSFM-FLSE, Fire Prevention Programs Coordinator

The meeting was brought to order at 1308. Sara had members/attendees provide an introduction. New members/attendees included Cheryl Johnson, who will be representing OFDDA as John Dunn will be retiring; Sandy Roberts, who will be representing Albany Fire Department; & Susi Traudt, who will be representing Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

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OSFM Updates- Assistant Chief Deputy Amber Cross, OSFM-FLSE Division Manager

Amber provided updates regarding OSFM as a whole & the FLSE division specifically.

- OSFM is continuing to grow & that includes a great deal of hiring. The agency will become a stand-alone state agency in July 2023, with the new location for headquarters to be announced.
- Applications for [the Oregon Fire Service Capacity Grant](#) are currently under review. This grant will help to add permanent firefighters as well as fire prevention staff.
- The Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant closes the end of the month. Funding from the grant can be used for wildfire risk reduction projects, equipment, as well as project staffing. [The application can be found here.](#)
- The 2023 Legislative session has started. Of the over 1800 bills being introduced, around 400 relate to or impact OSFM or fire service in some way.
- In FLSE, the Prevention & Education Unit is currently in the beginning stages of a restructuring. Connie Biggs & Laura Caffey, both former trainers in the unit, will be working out of class as program coordinators & one additional coordinator will be hired. They will be looking at programs, data, & top causes all through the lens of a CRR framework. During this restructuring, the unit will be looking for feedback from local fire agencies on how OSFM can assist them with educating the public about fire safety
 - John asked if what we are looking for is information on tools local agencies need. Amber confirmed that this is what the unit is looking for.

Fire Safe 2023 Rollout- Sara Jasmin, OSFM-FLSE, Fire Prevention Programs Coordinator

[The webpage for Fire Safe](#), the monthly fire prevention education plans, has been slightly updated. Topics from last year still available. Updates will be coming

OLST Moving Forward- Call for Committee/Planning Members

Sara provided an overview of how OSFM is looking to restructure the format of OLST meetings, reengage the membership, & return them to the original purpose & values.

OLST was originally developed after Oregon adopted Life Safety 2000 as its model plan to reduce risk from fire & related emergencies for Oregon residents. The Life Safety 200 task force recommended a team be organized to change society's perception about fire, increase personal responsibility related to fire safety, & coordinate statewide fire prevention efforts.

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The intent of OLST is to bring multiple agencies together, including OSFM, fire service associations, federal, state, local, non-profit & private agencies, to share best practices, develop consistent statewide fire prevention & life safety education with an emphasis on community risk reduction, & take it back to communities.

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OLST will be restructured in an effort to meet its original purpose:

- Members will be asked to commit to a membership period of two years,
- Subcommittees will be established. Once membership is established, the first meetings of the subcommittees will be used to develop group structure, goals, meeting schedule, & other basic frameworks. The subcommittees will include:
 - OLST Advisory Committee (bylaws, mission statement, event planning, ect)
 - Youth Fire Safety Committee
 - Top Causes & Campaigns Committee
 - Smoke & CO Alarms, Home Fire Sprinkler, Extinguishers Committee
- Meeting will be changed to a quarterly summit format
 - The next summit/meeting will be in April. The location & exact date is still to be determined. Karen Berard-Reed from NFPA will be a guest speaker & presenting on community risk reduction. There will also be an opportunity for subcommittee work sessions & report-outs.
- Members will be able to:
 - provide a meaningful contribution & have a voice at the table to influence the impact of fire prevention efforts statewide.
 - have first opportunity for subcommittee assignments.
 - participate in training & networking opportunities.
 - be eligible for scholarships for national training & conference participation.

Current members will be sent a membership form to complete. This will give them the opportunity to opt-in or opt-out of OLST, as well as sign up for participation in subcommittees. OSFM is also looking for assistance in recruiting new membership & members are welcome to provide the application to anyone in their agency or are who may be interested in joining.

Overall, members were receptive & reacted positively to idea of restructuring OLST.

Other Business/Good of the Order

TVFR: Susi mentioned that there will be a Scout Day at TVFR in April, which will include Junior Firefighter activities. They are continuing fire safety training for multifamily housing. They will be partnering with Red Cross for the Sound the Alarm campaign in March.

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OFDDA/Tangent Fire: For Tangent Fire, John D shared they are onboarding a group of recruits that just graduated & will be applying for some grants opportunities. He is advocating in the legislative session that just started, specifically campaigning for some bills that did not pass last year that would help fire service, especially with recruitment & retention. As he is leaving OLST just as changes are being made, he said to keep in mind: "if you're not going forward, you stand still."

Oregon Burn Center: Curtis said that new management is currently getting settled. They have seen an increase in people suffering from frostbite as the weather has changed & are preparing for National Burn Awareness Week in February. Additionally, he will be mentoring/training a replacement over the next year as he prepares to retire.

Nestucca RFPD: Ginger said that, like many fire agencies, recruitment & retention has been a challenge for the agency, but new people & volunteers are joining.

American Red Cross: Bill said that his agency's main focus currently is Sound the Alarm, which is happening in March. They will be partnering with local agencies Webinar later this month. He will be a guest speaker for an OSFM webinar later this month.

OSFM:

- Laura C let members know that she appreciates the response to training & fire safety events. She is focused on promoting cooking fire safety, one of the top fire causes in Oregon. As a reminder, Ag Fest will be at the end of April & OSFM is looking for volunteers from fire agencies to help at the event.
- John H- said he is glad to help us with resource creation & distribution.

OFDDA/Illinois Valley Fire: Cheryl let members know she is glad to join & represent both OFDDA & Josephine County.

Eugene Springfield Fire: Merrill said that his agency is close to fully staffed, including hiring a new fire marshal. This has allowed them to revamp & provide more community outreach.

Portland Fire: Kim shared that they have continued to work on onboarding more Firewise Communities & provide outreach & training throughout their community. They are working with the World Forestry Center for an event in May. Additionally, they are bringing on a new wildland fire coordinator.

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OFSOA/Stayton Fire: For OFSOA, Laura mentioned that they are developing a new website, have voted to restructure their board & leadership, & are working on planning their next event planning. For Stayton Fire, she said they are looking at applying for the CRR grant, are applying for the FEMA AFG grant, & have some new staff starting.

Oregon Fire Service Museum: Megan shared that they had appointed new board members & are looking to reopen in the spring. She would be interested to see data on COVID symptoms & fire safety- for example is there a connection between "brain fog" & stoves being left on.

Albany Fire: Sandy said her agency has been preparing & participating in community outreach, including an open house, "Firefighter Friendly" presentations in kindergartens, the Sound Off program for third grade classes, & CPR training in middle schools. They are in conversations with Chemeketa Community College to start a program for credits for volunteering & plan to leverage that for a "Knock & Check" program.

Hillsboro Fire: Piseth said there is new staff at the agency. They've been conducting school visits & CPR & fire safety training

Central Oregon Fire Management Service: Kevin said his agency is planning for educational & school events. They are working on a media campaign & teaming with Deschutes County for a Project Wildfire campaign.

Umatilla County FD #1: Scott shared that his agency has seen an increase in monthly & yearly call volumes. They are applying for grants to help them better serve the community. There has been a lot of activity with regulation & code enforcement in new construction in the area & the annexation of some properties in partnership with local tribes. They are also looking to restart & reengage the local fire safety cooperative.

Clackamas FD #1: Kari said her agency has been providing fire & life safety education presentations, including CPR for schools. They will be participating in a local career fair & preparing for the next Wildfire Preparedness Month, as well as the Hilltop Safety Fair in September.

Meeting adjourned/Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 1454. The next meeting will be in April. Date, time & location are still being finalized. More information will be provided when available.