



# 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 July 21, 2022  
1300-1500

Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST)  
4190 Aumsville Highway  
Salem, Oregon 97317  
Room: C127

### Attendees/Representing

*Bill Ashenden- American Red Cross Cascades Region	*Allison McMurtrey- Office of State Fire Marshal
*Heather Carpenter- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (Clackamas/Washington/Yamhill)	Alfredo Mendez- Albany Fire Dept (Linn)
*Chuck Chapin- Tangent Fire District	*Samantha Metheny- Medford Fire & Rescue (Jackson)
Troy Crafton- Polk County Fire District #1 (Polk)	*Tammy Owen- Clackamas Fire District #1 (Clackamas)
*John Dunn- Oregon Fire Chiefs Association	*Piseth Pich- Hillsboro Fire & Rescue (Washington)
*Alison Green- Office of State Fire Marshal	*Rich Saalsaa- Philomath Fire Dept (Benton)
*Scott Goff- Umatilla County Fire District #1 (Umatilla)	Shawna Sexton- Office of State Fire Marshal
*Merrill Harrison- Eugene Springfield Fire (Lane)	*Kari Shanklin- Clackamas Fire District #1 (Clackamas)
Laura Houston- Stayton Fire District (Marion) & Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators Association	Ginger Slavens- Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District (Tillamook)
Sara Jasmin- Office of State Fire Marshal	Anne-Marie Storms- Keizer Fire Department (Marion)
*Kim Kosmas- Portland Fire & Rescue (Multnomah)	*Megan Sykes- Oregon Fire Service Museum

*\*Indicates attendance via teleconference*

### Welcome/Introductions/Updates

The meeting was brought to order at 1300. Sara Jasmin welcomed everyone & had them introduce themselves with their name & the agency they represent.

### OSFM Updates and Fire Map Tool Kit Overview- Alison Green, Public Affairs Director- Office of State Fire Marshal

Alison provided a brief update on activities at OSFM. The Office continues to work through the implementation of HB2518 (bill that establishes OSFM as a standalone agency) & SB762 (omnibus).

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One of the major components of HB2518 is the creation of a defensible space code. The code is still in development. Review & recommendation is being done by the Oregon Fire Code Advisory Board (OFCAB). Adoption must be complete by December 2022, with the code taking effect in 2023.

Recently, the wildfire risk map, created by Oregon State University & the Oregon Department of Forestry as part of the development of the defensible space code was released. The code will apply to homes & businesses located in areas identified on the map as in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and high or extreme risk for wildfires. For homes & business that are not in both high or extreme risk areas & the WUI, OSFM still recommends following defensible space best practices. These include removing combustible materials (such as dry leaves & needles) from your building, using non-combustible landscaping materials like gravel near your building, & trimming bushes & trees.

The inspection requirements & assessment tools for the code are still being developed. It will be enforced by OSFM & their assistants (ORS 476.060).

A Fire Map Tool Kit was recently emailed to local agencies. It included FAQs on defensible space & the defensible space code, as well as a list of contacts for partners who are assisting with the development of the code. These items can be found on [OSFM's Defensible Space Code page](#). For further questions or assistance, [contact Alison Green](#)

Chuck Chapin ask for clarification on what the foundation at the nation level was for the defensible space code. Allison explained it was ICC 603-604 with best practice messaging.

**Summer Events and Survey Project-** *Sara Jasmin- Fire Prevention Programs Coordinator, Office of State Fire Marshal*

Sara provided an overview of the plans for summer events that FLSE will be providing information & educational materials at. These events include county fairs & local festivals, & some National Night Out events. FLSE staff will be partnering with OSFM field staff including Deputies, Fire Risk Reduction Specialists, & Mobilization Specialists for these events.

At these events, OSFM & their partners will be providing attendees the chance to participate in a five-question survey of their understanding of common fire prevention practices, topics that can be challenging to capture in NFIRS reporting:

- How often do you practice a home fire escape plan?

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- How often do you test your smoke alarms?
- How do you put out a grease fire in a pan on the stove?
- What type of smoke alarms do you use?
- How many minutes do you have to escape a house fire?

The events will have a survey code, which will help identify the event the attendee was at & interacted with OSFM staff or their partners. A QR code that can be scanned by phone to complete the survey will be available. They will also be able to provide contact information to enter a raffle for Bigfoot shirts & hats.

Sara will provide a follow-up regarding the survey process at the September meeting. OSFM is hoping to provide a similar survey during Fire Prevention Month & distribute it with the help of fire service agency partners.

**2022 Fire Prevention Month-** *Sara Jasmin, Fire Prevention Programs Coordinator, Office of State Fire Marshal*

Sara provided information on this year's Fire Prevention Month theme. This year will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fire Prevention Week/Month, making it the longest running public health observance in the country. The theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape." As today's homes burn faster than in the past, the key to surviving a fire are advanced planning & early warning systems (such as smoke alarms). NFPA's items have also become more adaptable so that they can be used by fire agencies for their specific needs & when they need them (ie: not including the year in the title/messaging).

[The Fire Prevention Week/Month Toolkit Website](#) includes:

- Information on "Out of the Box Ideas" for promoting Fire Prevention Month
- A link to the message desk reference
- A press release template
- A "Plug & Play" event flyer

A video about home escape planning is available on the [NFPA Kids YouTube channel](#).

[Sparky's Schoolhouse](#) has teaching resources including:

- Videos
- Games
- An anchor chart

NFPA has also partnered with [Kahoot to create four interactive quizzes](#) that can be used in the classroom by teachers & fire service. The group then had the chance to try using Kahoot.

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OSFM is working on providing resources for Fire Prevention Month as well. Planned resources include:

- A Fire Prevention Month Website with:
  - The proclamation
  - Messaging
  - Community events
  - Classroom visits
  - Downloadables
- A social media package including:
  - Themes for each week of Fire Prevention Month
  - Facebook & Instagram images
- A Fire Prevention Month Resource Box:
  - One-hundred twenty-five boxes containing 150 of each promotional item will be available & will be shipped to fire agencies on or before 09.15.22. A link to a form to complete to request a box will be distributed on the OLST & #firePrevention listservs.
  - Items that are being developed include:
    - Stopwatches/timers
    - Lollipops
    - Coffee sleeves
    - General Home Fire Safety Pamphlets with an open-door design containing planning prompts
    - Sticker rolls
    - Fire safety randomizers
    - Youth Guide to Home Escape Planning
    - Survey cards

## **OLST Member Updates/Good of the Order**

- Members had the opportunity to provide updates on what has been happening & upcoming events in their agency's area. Many had had or were planning to have open houses, station tours & participation at local safety fairs after several years of having them on-hold due to the pandemic. Several had provided education on fireworks safety in the weeks leading up to the Independence Day holiday. Several were planning block parties. Some were planning events for National Night Out. Many have been promoting OSFM's "Bigfoot- Believe in Fire Safety" campaign, using Bigfoot as a fire safety ambassador in outreach to children as well as adults.

Some other agency highlights included:

- Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District: Ginger Slavens said her agency would be participating in a total of three local parades by the end of July.

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- Polk County Fire District #1: Troy Crafton said that there were approximately 25000 people in Independence over the Independence Day holiday week & it provided an excellent opportunity for outreach & education.
- Stayton Fire District: Laura Houston said that her agency was able to participate in a premiere event in town that provided an excellent outreach opportunity. They are hoping the event will grow in coming years. They will also be participating in Summerfest at the end of July.
- Clackamas Fire District #1: Tammy Owen & Kari Shanklin said their agency was able to provide education at a festival in Gladstone. They had also received grants funds for a chipper program which had all been distributed.
- Keizer Fire Department: As Cody Heidt has moved to a new agency, Anne-Marie Storms has assumed the community education duties at her agency for the time being. They will be participating in KeizerFest in August.
- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue: Heather Carpenter said her agency had been able to participate in several “fun runs” that were great opportunities for community outreach.
- Tangent Fire District: Chuck Chapin & John Dunn said that there would be a new fire chief starting with their agency mid-August. They had a pancake feed in June, are prepping for Fire Prevention Month in October.
- Eugene Springfield Fire: Sara provided an update from Merrill Harrison, who had to leave the meeting early. His agency will be participating in the Sound Off Program. They will be partnering with OSFM at AsiaFest & the Lane County Fair.
- Portland Fire & Rescue: Kim Kosmas said that they were able to bring on a fourth Firewise Community in early July & a fifth was in process. They partnered with Red Cross for a smoke alarm installation event for mobile home parks & other at-risk communities. They would be participating in a blood drive in September & have been doing outreaches for houseless populations.
- Oregon Fire Service Museum: Megan Sykes said the Oregon Fire Service Museum will be participating in the Great Oregon Steam-Up in late July/early August, showcasing antique fire vehicles.
- Hillsboro Fire & Rescue: Piseth Pich said his agency has been partnering with a local Spanish language television channel for fire safety outreach. They are working on an outreach for the deaf & hard of hearing population along with the Text-211 campaign.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was dismissed at 1445.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, September 15, 2022, 1300-1500. It will be held both in person at DPSST & virtually via Microsoft Teams.

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