

# OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 15, 2014  
Mt. Hood Room, Office of State Fire Marshal  
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.



### Attendees/Representing

Diment, Earl – Pioneer Technology Corp.  
Fenison, Shawna - OSFM  
Fischer, Krista – OSFM  
Gulledge, Dave – OSFM  
Hallman, Les – OFCA  
Houston, Laura – Stayton FD/OFSOA (Marion)  
Knudson, Dennis – West Valley Fire District (Polk)  
McGrew, Claire – OSFM  
Mendez, Alfredo – Marion County Fire District #1 (Marion)  
Roach, Amy – OSFM  
Sauermann, Lora – Albany F&R (Linn)  
Slavens, Ginger – Nestucca Fire (Tillamook)  
Stafford, Stephanie – OSFM  
Stewart, Jim – Salem Fire (Marion)  
Zinck, Jaime – OSFM

### Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Stephanie Stafford. We went around the room and everyone introduced themselves.

### Educational Cookbook for Community Fire Safety Recipes to help reduce cooking fires

Earl Diment gave a presentation about Cooking Fire Safety, and the Curriculum Educational cookbook for community fire safety *recipes to help reduce cooking fires*. Earl gave an overview of the Cooking Safety Curriculum and materials available. The Educational Cookbook for Community Fire Safety – *Recipes to help reduce cooking fires* that Earl presented can be found at <http://www.live-safe.org/stopcookingfires/> . Earl can be reached at ediment@pioneeringtech.com

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

### Oregon Fire Casualty Review Update

Dave Gulledge gave a power point presentation on the data statistics for deaths and injuries in Oregon from fire. Dave's presentation gave numbers for Oregon Fire Casualties from 2004-2013 as well as 2010-2013 Human Factor Casualty Information. Please see attached document for details. If you are interested in Oregon Fire Bridge or

NFIRS training please contact the OSFM Data Unit at 877-588-8787 (toll free), 503-934-8250, or [osfm.data@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.data@state.or.us) .

## **Regional/Association Reports**

- 1) Amy Roach – Nothing to report
- 2) Susie Maniscalco (via email to Amy) – We kicked off Wildfire Community Preparedness Day and Wildfire Awareness Month with FireFree recycling events. In Deschutes County alone, 7,164 vehicles brought in 20,447 cubic yards which equates to 2,555 tons of yard debris. It was great to see such happy residents take advantage of a free program and reduce the risk of wildfire in their communities at the same time. FireFree continues in Crook and Jefferson counties this week.

We had a great turnout at our one day Wildfire Assessment Workshop. Approximately 30 Home Owners Association leaders, landscapers and arborists turned out to learn more about what steps to take to reduce wildfire and learn more about becoming a Fire Adapted Community and Firewise. In the afternoon we bused folks to the origin of the Awbrey Hall fire in 1990 in a community that lost 15 homes and have done a tremendous job ever since of property clean up. It was interesting to see that only three folks were around for the Awbrey Hall and Skeleton Fires. Almost all were new to the area.

Three youths graduate this week from ALERT. Youths are referred to ALERT by their juvenile court counselor if they are cited or charged on a fire-related incident and have completed a fire setter screening. The goal of the ALERT program is to intervene in a youth's fire setting behavior. Youths are educated and given skills that will help them eliminate and redirect their fire setting impulses. What they learn in the ALERT program will benefit them as they mature.

We finished up in the Bend Elementary schools with Team Teaching – Smokey Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog's match & lighter safety program, and reached approximately 1,600 first graders.

A public presentation called "The Fireline" – A community discussion on living in a Fire Dependent Ecosystem takes place in Bend on June 19<sup>th</sup>. A panel discussion with local professionals on the topic of wildland fire & forestland management hosted by Central Oregon Fire Management Services, Oregon Department of Forestry, Deschutes County 9-1-1, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office and Bend Fire Department.

- 3) Earl Diment – Offered to email his presentation if anyone is interested. The Educational Cookbook for Community Fire Safety – *Recipes to help reduce cooking*

fires that Earl presented can be found at <http://www.live-safe.org/stopcookingfires/> . Earl can be reached at [ediment@pioneeringtech.com](mailto:ediment@pioneeringtech.com)

- 4) Alfredo Mendez – Kicking off a new Smoke alarm campaign. They are targeting an older mobile home park with 130 residences.
- 5) Lora Sauermann – Albany is holding a Safety Camp. It will take an entire week in June and one entire week in July. The target is at risk kids and they hold it at the high school where there are different events focusing on fire and life safety.
- 6) Ginger has been doing training for wildland fires and getting recertification done for that. Their agency helped out with an Easter egg hunt in their area. The focus was the “get out, stay out” message. They have a lot of things coming up in the near future and will keep us updated.
- 7) Dennis Knudson – Their department held an open house with a focus on wildland fires. They also have been heavily involved in a recent arson investigation, and had a near miss where seven people made it out of a 1950 mobile home with some add-ons that made it very unsafe, and blocked the main exit. There were smoke alarms present in the house.
- 8) Les Hallman – The 360 task force is still being worked on. The latest update on the website is posted. Les encourages all agencies to look at that, for guidelines on volunteerism. Les talked about consistent messaging for evacuations throughout Oregon. Douglas County Emergency manager is starting an effort and the Sheriff’s office is supporting that effort to have consistent messaging. They are following the national model for “Ready, Set, Go”, and will have that in place before this year’s fire season kicks off. Claire asked if that included re-entry to homes after an evacuation. Les told the group that the initial focus is evacuation, but they are currently working on re-entry as well. Les provided the Evacuation Proposal from the Oregon State Sheriffs Association. Please see attached. Chief Hallman can be reached at [les.hallman@newbergoregon.gov](mailto:les.hallman@newbergoregon.gov) or by calling 503-537-1230, Ext. 2.
- 9) Jaime Zinck – Working on new educational materials as well as program evaluations.
- 10) Jim Stewart – Nothing to report.
- 11) Dave Gullede – talked about new capabilities we have in the data unit with a program that shows mapping. If you have the state system, you can log on and you are able to map out numerous different things related to anything your department is doing that has been put into the state system. Trainings, staffing, and incidents are all things that can be mapped. You can also call the data section and have them map items for your department.

- 12) Laura Houston – Stayton is doing a kids first aid and outdoor safety class for area third graders. They bus the children out to a farm, and do many hands on activities, including campfire and outdoor safety. Sublimity FD has their Emergency Services Expo Day coming up in June.
- 13) Krista Fischer – New iLearn Oregon class (Course name: OSFM – Juvenile with Fire Screening Tool) available. Krista talked about under-reporting in juvenile fire setting, so she is working to get all agencies to report consistently to improve data. JFSI class in September in The Dalles. JFSI 2 class is going to be in June and is already full.
- 14) Claire McGrew – We are continuing to hire new staff and hope to soon have full staffing. Talked about Colleen's retirement and filling her position soon, and invited those present to join us for Colleen's retirement party on Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm, and to leave a note for Colleen on the papers on the back table to be placed in a scrap book that is being made. Claire also talked about the position of State Fire Marshal, and Jim Walker being the interim. The position has been posted and is actively being recruited for.
- 15) Stephanie talked about established quarterly education topics. We are slightly behind, but want to get out smoke alarm education out sometime in early June. Jaime is working on a new handout now. Please feel free to give us suggestions or feedback on the materials.

**Meeting Adjourned**

3:40 p.m.

## **Oregon Fire Casualties 2004-2013**

Over this 10 year period, 348 people died and 2,572 people were injured as a result of a fire. 62% of all fire related deaths and injuries occurred in single and multi-family dwellings.

Just over half of all fatal residential fires occurred where smoke alarms were present. Those detectors only operated in about a third of those incidents. The primary reason smoke alarms did not operate was because the power source was missing or disconnected.

Smoke alarms were present in just over two thirds of residential fires that resulted in injuries. In incidents where detectors were present, they operated in three of every five fires. The primary reason smoke alarms did not operate was because the battery was missing or dead.

In fires that resulted in either a death or injury where smoke alarms were present, they operated in four out of every five fires. Conversely, in every fire where the smoke alarm failed to operate, a dead or missing battery was the cause in eight out of every ten of those fires.

During this period, nearly two out of every three people killed as a result of a fire were age 50 or older. Where activity at time of death was determined, three out of every five victims were either trying to escape or were asleep.

The majority of people injured by fire were persons age 20-50. This age group accounted for just over half of all injuries. Where determined or reported, actions of attempting to control the fire accounted for nearly half of all fire related injuries, but just one out of every five injuries occurred while escaping.

### **2010-2013 Human Factor Casualty Information**

The following data represents reported human factors that were identified as contributing to a fire related death or injury between 2010 and 2013.

Being physically disabled or physically restrained were the leading human factors that resulted in the deaths of persons over the age of 50. Two out of every five persons under the age of 50 who died as a result of a fire were asleep, and one out of every three was possibly impaired by drugs or alcohol.

Half of all people under the age of 50 injured by fire were possibly mentally disabled, while one out of every three was asleep. Possible mental disability accounted for just under half of all fire related injuries to persons over the age of 50. In those particular cases, re-entering the building and improper use of cooking equipment were the leading additional factors that caused the injuries.

**Evacuation Proposal  
Oregon State Sheriffs Association  
2014**

**LEVEL 1:** A Level 1 Evacuation means “**BE READY**” for potential evacuation.

Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

**LEVEL 2:** A Level 2 Evacuation means “**BE SET**” to evacuate.

YOU MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE AT A MOMENTS NOTICE

This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready to evacuate at a moment’s notice.

Residents **MAY** have time to gather necessary items, but doing so is at their own risk.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE

Emergency services cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.

**LEVEL 3:** A Level 3 Evacuation means “**GO**” Evacuate NOW

LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!

Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further. DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home.

THIS WILL BE THE LAST NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE

Entry to evacuated areas may be denied until conditions are safe.

Area radio and TV stations have been asked to broadcast periodic updates.