



## OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2017

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chemeketa Brooks Regional Training Center

4910 Brooklake Rd. NE

Salem, OR 97305

Building 2 Room 102B

### **Attendees/Representing**

Birr, Tim – OFSC

Blair, Sara – Baker City FD (Baker)\*

Burns, David –USCPSC

Candela, Steve – McMinnville Fire Dept. (Yamhill)

Dunn, John – OFDDA

Gulledge, Dave – OSFM

Hatch, Joanne – Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (Washington/Clackamas)

Hoover, Rich – OFSM

Houston, Laura – OFSOA

Jasmin, Sara – OSFM

Kusz, Jim – North Lincoln Fire & Rescue (Lincoln)

McGrew, Claire – OSFM

Mendez, Alfredo – Albany Fire Department (Linn)

Miller, Tony – Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue (Lane)

Montgomery, Bruce – Hillsboro Fire & Rescue (Washington)

Nelson, Barbara – Stayton Fire District (Marion)

Ratcliff, Lora – Albany Fire Department (Linn)

Roach, Amy – OSFM

Rouse, Ron – Portland Fire & Rescue (Multnomah)

Slavens, Ginger – Nestucca Fire (Tillamook)

Stafford, Stephanie – OSFM

Ward, Mitch – Banks Fire Department (Washington)\*

*\*indicates attendance via teleconference*

### **Welcome/Introductions/Updates**

Stephanie welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Cupcakes were provided in celebration of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OLST. Stephanie provided a short history of the OLST. Stephanie asked that if anyone wanted a copy of the Life Safety 2000 book, to please let Amy or Stephanie know. OLST Patches are available as well.

Stephanie provided information that talks about why OLST started. Rich Hoover will be doing an article in the Gated Wye in December about the anniversary of the OLST and took a group photo today.

## **Review September Minutes**

Please have any changes to Amy by close of business Friday.

### **Fighting Fire with Facts – Dave Gullledge, OSFM**

Dave talked about the annual report data and how important it is to get as many departments reporting as possible. There were 316 fire agencies in Oregon in 2016, with 92% of all agencies currently reporting which accounts for approximately 99% of the population of the state. Agencies that don't report diminish the data. Coding is important, because if agencies list "cause undetermined" then it only gives us a partial picture.

Dave explained that there are certain fields that are required to consider a report valid. If there are any missing fields, we have an invalid report. Oregon had 348,000 incidents in 2016, with about 70% of those incidents being EMS calls. Claire said that EMS calls are a great opportunity to reach out and provide education and do things like check alarms, check fall risks, and teach the public about home safety.

Analytics and Intelligence can break down statistics by agency and give fire agencies data on how often fires occur in their local communities. This chart is called Oregon Fire Clock. Chronological data is available as well. When running the reports, it's important to remember that residential fires include military barracks, hotels and motels, college dorms, multi-family housing and 1-2 family dwellings.

Fire cause is determined by several factors, and there are codes in the report that will tell us if the fire is intentional or not. Exposure is when fire moves from one thing to another, and exposure two is a fire such as a burn pile that spreads to other items or areas.

Data is used at a state level as well as a national level, so it is imperative that agencies fill out the incident report correctly. Marijuana fires are currently very much discussed, as there is not a way to report those currently. Bark dust fires, which account for 10-25% of all fires in Oregon, are a west coast problem and there is currently no standard code for this. Dave talked about the Oregon incident reporting advisory committee which is a committee that will help make changes on incident reporting on a national level.

Cooking, heating and smoking are top causes for residential fires. The unknown category is always among top causes with an average of about 30% of fields being "unknown". Many of the unknown codes are due to incorrect coding. NFPA 921 has been a reason so many people list unknown. This is because NFPA 921 requires the application of the scientific method, which most firefighters are not trained to do.

Under national standard, you can go back and change the codes to correct information after the fact, so Dave encouraged the group to go back and fill in the correct information as it became available.

Dave talked about how youth with fire data intervention can happen without a fire occurring. Data shows the number of interventions, not the fires. Claire thanked agencies that are currently reporting on youth fire information, as this information is very important to show our need for current youth intervention.

Related to firefighter injuries and fatalities from fire, the graphs show 116 firefighter injuries in 2016. NFIRS is where firefighter injuries are reported, and Dave said that fire agencies are doing a very poor job of reporting firefighter injuries.

Dave ended the presentation by talking about the appendices going into detail about each one.

### **Photo with Rich and 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary message from Jim Walker**

The group paused to take photos for the Gated Wye article that will be published in December celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Oregon Life Safety Team. During this time Claire also read a message to the group from the Oregon State Fire Marshal, Jim Walker.

### **Smoke Alarm Installation Program – Dave Gullledge, OSFM**

Dave discussed the SAIP and the way it has been run with Excel spreadsheets and requiring a lot of staff time. Dave added a code to the Elite software to be able to address smoke alarm installations. By using the incident report form on Elite, you can put in the location information, time of install, and all fields that are currently on the smoke alarm installation forms.

All agencies can use this online program; it doesn't have to be a state run smoke alarm project. Saves will be easier to find if they are listed in NFIRS. Data is real time vs. time of entry due to manual entry. American Red Cross (ARC) will be testing the new system and will be doing some troubleshooting, which will give us a chance to fine tune the program. Stephanie pointed out that all fields on the online form are the same as the forms that OSFM currently offers.

Claire added that the new piece Dave created does a couple of things; it helps monitor the state program for saves, it saves staffing time for data input, and it also helps track agency alarms and projects not funded by the state installation program. The data entered by fire agencies could then be tracked locally, and see a history of installs, great for board reports, and for Insurance Service Office (ISO) ratings.

If we can show success on a state level, then the add-on could be used on a national level. David Burns asked if this could be used for recall information as well, based on the data from the installation. This opens the possibility of tracking saves due to recall, as well as fire saves.

### **Other Business and Agency Reports**

**Bruce-** Hillsboro has been teaching hands on CPR. Hillsboro also has a new chief David Downy. Chief Downy wants to reach out to the deaf and hard of hearing community in his area and offer DHH alarms.

**Steve Candela** – McMinnville partnered with ARC to do a smoke alarm installation project where they installed 200 alarms in two senior mobile parks.

**Joanne Hatch** – On November 7, 2017, voters approved to merge Newberg and Newberg Rural with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

TVF&R had several open houses last month. Stations 64 and 69 celebrated their updates with open houses as well. Station 64 had over 1,000 people show up at the open house to see the updated station. TVF&R typically runs about 700 events a year, but they have already reached 733 events so far this year. TVF&R has also now taught hands only CPR in all middle schools.

**Alfredo Mendez** – Alfredo shared with the group that Albany has a new fire station, and invited the group to stop by and see if it.

**Claire McGrew** – Claire encouraged people to register now for the 2018 Oregon Fire Prevention Workshop in February. The workshop is only taking 125 registrants.

The OSFM Analytics & Intelligence section has a position open for a research analyst that will be posted soon.

This year is a short Legislative session which is coming up in February. OSFM is working on increasing fire funding due to the high costs of the 2017 fire season.

Claire reminded everyone that Gated Wye went mobile and that the code corner and data connection articles are a great resource.

**John Dunn** – Oregon Fire District Directors conference was held in Ashland in October. Thirty five to forty percent of chiefs and assistant chiefs join the conference.

**David Burns** – David talked about the TLC project which teaches people to test the alarm, look at the alarm, check the alarm, and change the batteries

David also offered a reminder that hover board fires are still happening due to the lithium batteries. Hover boards are still being recalled, so if you have any in your area, please contact David Burns at 360-949-6851 or [dburns@cpsc.gov](mailto:dburns@cpsc.gov). For all recall information, please visit <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls>.

**Ginger Slavens** – Stated that Tillamook County had the lowest number of water rescues in years. Nestucca partnered on handing out the Just Add Water Safety (JAWS) brochures with Lincoln County, and Ginger feels like education was one of the reasons the water rescue events were so low.

**Jim Kusz** – Stated that North Lincoln Fire and Rescue had only 12 water rescues in 2017 and five of those were mutual aid calls for Nestucca and Depot Bay. This is the lowest recorded annual number since the Water Rescue Team started in 1983.

There are several newspaper articles and space heater public service announcements coming out in December on Yaquina Bay radio stations featuring the Lincoln County District Attorney on Monday, November 20, 2017.

Jim is once again teaching Disaster Preparedness for the Pacific Northwest courses at Oregon Coast Community College. This two-session course was held November 9 & 16, and will be held again March 1 & 8, 2018.

**Stephanie Stafford** – Stephanie said that the new OLST logo was sent out for review, and she would like members to submit comments to her.

The Hydroflasks that are being produced for incentives will have the 15 year anniversary logo on them.

The new OSU/UO branded reusable bags will be coming and will be sent to fire agencies in limited quantities.

Stephanie sent out an email asking for some feedback on fire extinguisher messaging for the NFPA Educational Messaging Advisory Committee. The feedback will be compiled and submitted by Stephanie.

Stephanie thanked the group for their travel safety messaging feedback.

Stephanie gave one final workshop reminder to make sure you sign up now for the 2017 Oregon Fire Prevention Workshop. The cost for the workshop is \$50 for the “early bird” sign up and \$75.00 if you register after mid-January.

**Ron Rouse** – Portland Fire and Rescue is handing out dog waste bags in small hydrant shaped containers that had their branding on them.

**Laura Houston** – The Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators conference was held last month, and had a great turn out.

Stayton Fire District wrapped up their Fire Prevention Month with a Halloween open house. Laura said it was great to have positive interaction with both children and adults. Stayton used the online quiz from the NFPA website, and Laura was amazed at the level of involvement adults had with the quiz and what a great chance it was to educate people as they went through the quiz. Stayton continues to teach kitchen safety at the high school, with a new class coming up in the new semester.

**Sara Jasmin** – Brought *Insight* workbooks, which are an intervention tool for youth ages 13 through 17. This workbook is currently being piloted with four youth at Clackamas County Juvenile Department. Youth is in the beginning stages of setting up training opportunity for the *Learn Not to Burn* program which is a prevention tool for early elementary aged youth.

**Meeting adjourned: 3:51**