



OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 20, 2017
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Chemeketa Brooks Regional Training Facility
4910 Brooklake Rd. NE
Salem, OR 97305
Building 2, Room 102B

Attendees/Representing

Blair, Sara – Baker City Fire Department (Baker)*
Donahue, Jeff – National Fire Protection Association*
Dunn, John – Oregon Fire District Directors Association
Graves, Susan – Lincoln County School District (Presenter)
Greer, Howard – Oregon State Police (Presenter)
Hatch, Joanne – Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (Clackamas/Washington)
Houston, Laura – Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators
Jasmin, Sara – OSFM
Kettering, Cindy – Bend Fire & Rescue (Deschutes)*
Kusz, Jim – North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District #1 (Lincoln)
Leipfert, Rich – Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
Mendez, Alfredo – Albany Fire Department (Linn)
Nelson, Barbara – Stayton Fire District (Marion)
Patton, Jim – Corvallis Fire Department (Benton)
Ratcliff, Lora – Albany Fire Department (Linn)
Roach, Amy – OSFM
Slavens, Ginger – Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District (Tillamook)
Stafford, Stephanie – OSFM
Storms, Anne-Marie – Keizer Fire District (Marion)
Upton, Jeneanne – Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District (Tillamook)
Wells, Devon – Hood River Fire (Hood River)*

**indicates attendance via teleconference*

Welcome/Introductions/Updates

Stephanie welcomed everyone, and talked about our new meeting location at the Chemeketa Brooks Training Center. The meetings for the remainder of 2017 will be held at the training center and we will ask for feedback from members to see if the location is a good location for future meetings. Introductions were made.

Review of Minutes

Stephanie asked everyone to review the June 2017 meeting minutes and submit changes by Friday, July 21, 2017.

Marijuana Extraction Process Recognition and Investigation – Howard Greer, Oregon State Police

Howard Greer, a trooper with Oregon State Police Arson and Explosives Unit, introduced himself and talked about the increase seen in hash oil explosions in Oregon. Hash oil is relatively easy to extract from the marijuana plant when solvent is added to ground marijuana that would otherwise be considered waste. The ground marijuana is flushed through a filter, which takes the THC through with it. The solvent is then evaporated and the end product is a dark, honey looking substance. There are legal ways to manufacture hash oil using a closed loop system and obtaining the proper permits, which is the safer way to make the oil.

Howard talked about the chemicals used, and the benefits and down sides from each of the chemicals. The most commonly used chemical in extraction is butane. Butane is used because it is easily available, has a high vapor pressure and a low flashpoint, leaving almost no residue, but it causes a fuel air explosion, due to the volatility. A fuel air explosion packs a lot of energy. There is no blast crater; it pushes out large sections of the building.

Stephanie noted that on a recent visit to the Oregon Burn Center, Curtis Ryun said that people involved in hash oils fires are the number one patient in the burn center. Howard stated that most hash oil explosions tend to be small and persons involved receive relatively minor injuries, generally flash burns to the face, forearms, and neck, but with inhalation, death can result.

Howard talked about the differences in fire blasts depending on the cause. Natural gas fires tend to cause damage to the top of the structure, due to the fact that natural gas is lighter than air. Gasses that are heavier than air will cause bottom damage, but a hash oil explosion will take out a large section of the wall which is good information when investigating a fire/explosion. Extraction components will generally survive a hash oil blast, as there is no crater, you will find them in the center with destruction around it. If the explosion comes before the fire, a closer look should be taken for telltale signs of a hash oil fire. Signs may include many empty solvent cans lying about, extraction equipment, or the blast pattern.

OSP Arson and Explosives personnel will respond to assist upon request, even if just by phone or to exchange photos for consultation. Ask dispatch to call OSP dispatch for the unit supervisor. The number one goal is to keep our fire service and law enforcement persons safe through education, scene safety and documentation, so if there is any question, please don't hesitate to call.

Lincoln County Teen Community Emergency Response Team – Susan Graves, Lincoln County School District

Susan introduced herself and talked about her job with the school district. The purpose of the teen CERT team is to teach teens how to help during a disaster while in school. Teens learn about hazards and threats in their geographical area, in the home, and in the school. The class lasts half a year and is an elective for grades 9-12. CERT is taught by a school teacher and engages guest speakers such as emergency management professionals, fire, police, Emergency Medical Services, American Red Cross, public works employees, and geologists.

The priority is safety and working together in a buddy system. The CERT program emphasizes safety while teaching skills that include utility shut-off procedures, patient triage, disaster medical care, hygiene, minor disaster first aid, triage, light search and rescue, and damage assessment. The teens also prepare a home disaster kit, and learn fire safety as well as being trained in disaster psychology. The CERT is organized in an Incident Command System (ICS) to teach the teens effective leadership and management structure.

The final exercise is a realistic scenario all-school earthquake drill using actor victims. The CERT is activated using ICS structure, and the team practices skills in the controlled environment; they have staffed stations set up to test the skills of the CERT members as well. Once the teens have passed the final drill, they have a graduation ceremony. Susan noted the positive change in kids after graduation from the class.

Susan talked about the cost to run a program like this in the schools. There are the startup costs to buy protective gear, training aides, manuals, and a set of CERT kits. There is also instructor training. After startup costs, there are some ongoing costs such as instructor wages, replenishing gloves and masks, and refilling the fire extinguishers.

The benefits to the students range from learning responsibility and accountability, to organizational skills, improved self-image and a greater self-awareness. The school benefits as well by having improved school safety, peer role models and many schools have seen a reduction in school violence. The community benefits because they have more people trained in disaster relief, and they have more supplies available.

Other schools around Oregon have started CERT programs, but many are hampered by time available in the school day. For more information on Teen CERT, please visit http://lincoln.k12.or.us/dept_programs/safety.php or contact Sue at Susan.graves@Lincoln.k12.or.us

Other Business

Stephanie Stafford - The August OLST meeting has been cancelled due to the solar eclipse on August 21st. All remaining meetings for 2017 will be held at the Chemeketa Brooks Training Center.

There will be another National Fire Academy class June 4-5, 2018 and the topic selected is Campus Fire and Life Safety: Risk Assessment (F0193). The class will be marketed late winter or early spring 2018.

The 2018 Oregon Fire Prevention workshop will be held February 13-15, 2018 in Ashland at the Ashland Hills Hotel and Suites. The agenda is being worked out and details will be coming out. The committee wants to keep costs low.

The OSFM is working on some new items for Fire Prevention Month. Joanne is on the Fire Prevention Month committee. The items currently being developed are coasters, and stickers.

The OSFM received the solar eclipse glasses that were ordered and 86 orders were shipped in one day. The glasses were distributed to many small fire agencies that wouldn't otherwise have been able to obtain them.

The solar eclipse flier is being redone as a travel flier after this year's solar eclipse. The flier contains some great travel information.

Sara Jasmin – The youth program is busy redoing many of the educational materials and bringing the program up to date. Sara and Andrei have implemented the youth advisory council again. This week the team started a subcommittee for intervention. Some of the things being worked on are a curriculum workbook, parent legal responsibility guide, they are bringing the items more up to date, with the hopes to have more parents involved. Please connect with Sara at Sara.Jasmin@state.or.us for youth related questions.

Ginger Slavens – Nestucca RFPD had a dune climb event during the local Dory Days Festival. First place climbed the dune in under nine minutes. The event is a fundraiser for muscular dystrophy.

Rich Leipfert – The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association had their election in May and Chief Tim Moor was elected as the 2017-2018 OFCA president.

Joanne Hatch – Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is busy doing summer outreach, day camps, and large community events such as the old fashioned fair.

Jim Patton – Things are quiet around the campus due to summer break. The station is gearing up for the eclipse, and there will be an astrological event at the college. For more information on the OSU150 Space Grant Festival: A Total Eclipse Experience, please visit <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/eclipselodging/>.

Stephanie, Rich and Jim received a Campus Fire Safety Proclamation for September which was signed by the Governor.

John Dunn – The OFDDA continues working on signatures for the Oregon State income tax check off.

Alfredo Mendez – Albany Fire Department is building a new fire station. The station is anticipated to have a September opening.

Anne-Marie Storms – Keizer Fire District has many events happening in the area this summer. The solar eclipse continues to be a focus of the department. Keizer Fire District has a yearly September 11 remembrance, more details at a later date. Anne-Marie has been hired as the new Deputy Fire Marshal.

Laura Houston – The Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators is preparing for their fall conference, which will take place October 18-20 in Lebanon. There is also a new website being developed for the OFSOA. Details will be shared when available.

Barbara Nelson – The Santiam Summerfest will be held July 29. Stayton Fire District will attend and will be focusing on reaching out to parents at this event. Stayton Fire will be educating people on this year's solar eclipse.

Jim Kusz – Jim developed a PowerPoint about education on eclipses, what to do to prepare, and what businesses in his local area will be doing on the day of the eclipse. Jim said if any other agencies wanted to use the PowerPoint, he will happily share the PowerPoint.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.