

MEETING MINUTES

Oregon Fire Casualty Review Committee



Meeting Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Location: Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal
Mt. Hood Conference Room
4760 Portland Rd. NE
Salem, OR 97305

Attendees:

Claire McGrew, OSFM Fire & Life Safety Education
Dave Gullede, OSFM Data Unit
Krista Fischer, OSFM Youth Fire Intervention
Troy Buzalsky, OFCA
Curtis Ryun, Oregon Burn Center
Bryan Emmons, Public at Large
John Phillips, OSFM Data Unit
Renee' Stryker, OSFM Fire & Life Safety Education

Introduction:

- Claire introduced the new chair for OFCRC, Dave Gullede. Dave called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- There were no changes to the March 1, 2012, meeting minutes.

Agenda Items:

Committee Charter:

A draft copy of the Committee Charter was distributed that Claire and Dave have been working on. This includes the recommendations presented to Claire from the committee. Dave compiled this information and it was distributed in the email along with today's meeting agenda and attachments. The committee was asked to review and if they have any questions, changes, or suggestions to please present those via email to Dave by June 1, 2012. The committee discussed the items on the draft copy of the charter and agreed it looks good.

Oregon Fire Injury Report:

Dave and Claire worked on this report. John has made the updates, implemented the recommendations sent from this committee. Not only did they implement the recommendations into the report that members supplied, they also added additional information, and applied formatting changes to ensure clarity. Dave asked the committee to review the report and if there are any additional questions, concerns or to possibly put a different spin on it to let him know.

Claire mentioned the "Home Escape Planning" was an issue, were exits blocked? The Home Escape Planning Committee came up with ideas, which were identified in the original report and how to implement this into the report.

Troy informed the group that the Residential Fire Sprinkler Coalition put together fact sheets and one of the elements with residential fire sprinklers was the demographical section. They identified the specifics of those who need home fire sprinklers, basically what the real needs are is to have the information out there for everyone and whether or not home fire sprinkler system are needed as identified. The data can be analyzed. It was recommended by providing information to the public all persons should have home fire sprinkler systems and not focus on the demographics. Do we want the data on the front to be out there, it might be better to encourage all homes to have residential sprinkler systems? With the data supplied the committee can continue to review this and encourage further evaluation and recommendations in the future. It's important to have the information to compile from burn or injured persons and whether or not they were trained in dealing with the fire that injured them. Compiling this data gives the ability to look forward on what additional training and information is needed so it can be put out there in public education and what to do when someone is in these types of situations. Continuing to use the data that is gathered can be a much needed resource for future education.

Claire: The last sentence at the bottom of page 6 should be reviewed and possibly changed. She doesn't believe people should think they need to try to put the fire out, we should educate that its okay to walk away, just to get out of the house and allow the professionals do it. She would like the committee to review this and send any changes or suggestions via email to Dave by June 1.

Claire: Recommended stats be summarized to provide a brief fact sheet for fire fatalities/injuries to give to the Oregon Life Safety Team, to give that committee an idea of what is happening. This is part of the purpose of OFCRC committee, to provide helpful information and data to present to the OLST. Dave agreed a summary would be very helpful and beneficial to identify trends and any valuable information to provide to OLST.

Other Documents:

Dave: Tim Birr had created a letter quite a while back "Dear Oregon Fire Service Leader", which was updated and had originally been designated to go out with the Injury Report. If anyone has any comment or input for this letter send an email to Dave or Renee'.

Dave passed around a draft of the "Recruitment Letter" for this committee's future recruitment to review. The purpose of this letter is the ability for this committee to send it out to a person who may want to participate and to be invited to become a member. If anyone knows of someone let Dave or Renee' know so it can be sent out to them. Currently Dave has spoken with Ester Moe, PhD, MPH, Research Assistant Professor of OHSU and she is interested in attending the next meeting in August.

Committee Discussion: The group discussed the number of burn centers and their locations throughout the United States, the amount of beds available for burn victims in the event of a major emergency.

Committee Roster: The roster has been updated and if any members have contact information which needs updated or changed let Renee' know. She will correct Curtis cell phone number. Claire invited Gary Honold the Regional Education Advisor of NFPA. Claire recommended we email or contact those who have not attended to verify if they want to continue to be a member of OFCRC or possibly they want to be a resource contact only via email?

Back to the list of Recommendations: Troy asked if we want to be more pin-pointed on these. Does the committee want to possibly include new technologies to reduce the stovetop injuries? The committee has opinions but how far does this committee go, currently we work with data driven information. Again, everything we recommend has a solid foundation and the supporting documentation supporting the data given out. Troy asked if we want to expand further on each of the recommended actions on the list handed out. Continue to keep the recommendations "data driven" or to expand on the scope of these?

Dave: Explained to the committee about data that comes from the NFIRS. What other data could be used, currently use NFIRS, media, analytical reports, and other data outside of NFIRS. Are there other sources to be used, NBA (National Burn Association Registry) and the ABA websites are accessible and would provide data that is available. Dave wants this committee to be accountable for the data and where and why they have it. It needs to be accurate, reliable and captured data.

Krista: Recommended to add another sentence in the charter, to identify that the “information and data is accurate reliable”. Looking at Oregon data would be a “recommendation” or a “scope of” and it could be either way, the group agreed with this. The other data could be identified by this group. Dave will change the scope and members can provide comment within one week via email to Dave.

Tim: Suggested to add “other resources” also. The information and data can be brought in and the committee can reject it if so deemed. The group agreed that it all looks good with the exception of the last sentence.

Troy: Said it might be interesting to include this year’s campaign “Fight or Flight” to be incorporated in as a message from the state, a nice tie-in.

Claire: Said SFM used to do a lot more follow-up on smoke alarms, they would do call backs and in-depth conversations on reporting of smoke alarms.

Troy: Asked Dave and John if on section 4, if there is a way to separate the injuries from the fatalities to review the percentages.

Curtis: It would be very beneficial if the information from patients at the Burn Center could be used to identify how the fire started, what were the circumstances, etc. without violating the HIPAA laws. To have the ability to break down the statistics and data to compile further important data. A lot of information and data comes from the doctors notes. This is how the doctors and nurses get the whole story of the incident and how the burn injury happened. He is talking with and wants to have further discussion with the person at the Burn Center who does what they call the TRACS system. He’s not sure if this information is broken down state by state or compiles all state statistics together.

Dave: Update on the juvenile database project. Judy Okulitch has attended several meetings that deal with developing a national juvenile database to collect juvenile data and how they relate to fire, how the fire was set, to collect juvenile intervention information and how can this be done nationally. Judy has been working with American Burn Association (ABA) and International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to develop this national database. He doesn’t see this as being completed anytime soon, possibly not within the next 5 years.

Other Business: none

Good of the order:

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting is August 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at OSFM, Mt. Hood Conference Room.