

# Governor's Fire Service Policy Council

1:00 p.m. • Tuesday, October 26, 2010

Office of State Fire Marshal • Mt. Hood Conference Room

## Minutes

### Members

- Greg Keller, OFCA (Chair)
- Scott Mullen, OVFA (V Chr)
- Kelly Bach, SFFC
- Bob Borra, Insurance Providers
- Tammy Fitch, League of Oregon Cities
- Eric McMullen, OFMA
- Tad Pedersen, OSFM
- Bob Reeves, OFDDA
- John Stein, General Public

### Ex Officio

- Cameron Smith, Gov's Office
- Chris Brown, OSP
- Eriks Gabliks, DPSST

### Visitors

- Jeff Miller
- Jim Walker, OSFM
- John Caul, OSFM
- Donna Disch
- Mariana Ruiz-Temple

### Executive Director/Staff

- Randy Simpson, State Fire Marshal
- Sally Cravinho, Staff
- Polly Kiser, Staff

- Anita Phillips
- Bob Leopold
- Maureen Bedell
- Kyle Romey

### **Welcome/Introductions**

Chair Greg Keller called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The roster was passed around for any changes.

### **Changes to the agenda:**

Chair Keller asked if any changes needed to be made. Tammy moved for approval.

### **Minutes:**

Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed. Tammy Fitch motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Bob Reeves-seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Communications:**

None

### **Guest/Visitor Input**

Maureen Bedell sat in for Chris Brown and updated the committee on Rich Evans' promotion. Captain promoted to the Command Center and Randy will continue to report to Superintendent.

Jeff Miller introduced his guest, Kermit McCarthy, Lab Manager. A follow up on the rough draft was shared also, there is still work that needs to be done on finalizing the statistics on the probability of chemicals and numbers. The statistics person with the Tualatin Valley fire group continues to work on the project and that we can expect to receive Kermit McCarthy's opinions on the final product.

Randy asked Jeff if he had looked in to the Cincinnati study and Jeff informed the council they had found the same correlations as Tualatin Valley Fire Rescue. The questions were asked if there were enough findings to use. Jeff defined chemicals found in the study and felt he could make recommendations on them, but felt more comfortable with the opinions of the Lab manager, McCarthy.

Tammy Fitch wanted to know how long it took from the moment of testing until finding out the results to determine what they are dealing with. Jeff informed the council they can know

instantly and could make a recommendation based on the equipment they used. Then McCarthy explained future goals, and how they could take the information from this study and move forward to the next study. Randy mentioned best findings and what the best practices would be after the study is completed.

Chair Keller also asked how involved and sophisticated it would need to be if this was at every fire station, as well as what equipment would be needed, recommendations and costs involved. Jeff Miller said, "It would depend on the agency budget." Greg mentioned that each fire District needs to discuss their budget and see what would be practical for them.

Eric Mullen asked for expansion on the statistics and Jeff went over how they compared the readings of the testing for the equipment. The monitoring would establish some sort of trend, or norms to be the goal. Eriks was concerned about jumping the gun on what the conclusion would be from the testing, and Randy commented on the fire services using common sense, and making sure safety is first.

Jeff Miller informed the committee that the types of equipment used can detect chemicals before and after the fire. McCarthy talked about the evidence the group found, and the fact it would be very helpful to the public. Eriks and Chair Keller asked where we would take this information to next, if it should be published, and if so, how? Do we continue the investigation? John Stein's concern was how the information should be completed before it's released to the public, so we don't cause an "unnecessary" stir and addressed the liability issue. Chair Keller said, "Releasing this information should be done when appropriate, and it wouldn't necessarily drive a change to the next levels, just because of this new data being out there."

Jeff asked what our goal was in regards to getting the results of the test out and Eriks stated he can get it out fairly quickly, but would like some sort of a goal for timeline. Chair Keller wanted to know what the report would look like, ie; graphs, reports etc. and what format would it be put in. He would like it to be presented in a certain format to make sure all information is carefully entered and to be cautious on wording.

Mariana mentioned the second piece of this study should go to the fire service. Eriks suggested keeping the technical report technical and just that. To provide a 1-2 page document for the fire service which would be simple to understand and Eric agreed the report should come out as sterile and as is, ie; "Here are our findings" and hand over to the Fire Fighters Board. Randy mentioned the best practices would come from TVFR, as they have already begun to make changes. Donna spoke of making sure that we get the reports out in a timely manner and not letting them "Loose their life."

**Action:**

- Tammy suggested that they have the final report by the January meeting. Technical with no conclusions.
- Jeff mentioned having Dr. Holcomb attend the next meeting and have them explain more detail about what is happening in the reports.
- The next steps were discussed and when it would go to the OFCA. Eriks suggested it go to the Chiefs meeting.

- Chair Keller suggested best practices be taken to the board in February in Eugene.
- Report Finalization. What's the next step? Working with other groups or grants to enlarge the database?
- Randy mentioned concern of the report causing budget worries for the rural fire departments and brought up common sense practices, also that fireman safety is always #1.
- The final report would be sent to Sally and she will disseminate to the committee.
- Ericks feels there would be a benefit to having those individuals who were involved in the study to be at the next meeting, so we are able to put faces with names. He discussed the intellectual property of the study and not allowing just anyone to have it. We want to have ownership of it and choose what is released and what's not.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Structural fire air monitoring task force update**

#### **Fireworks law review update**

#### **Carbon monoxide program update**

John went over the temporary rule from the last meeting. File the temporary rule and make it a permanent rule. Donna and John are working on the finalized rule. Only changes being made are the things they missed, i.e.: definitions.

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the date the legislators are notified. November 24<sup>th</sup> is the hearing. December 1<sup>st</sup> will be the file date for permanent rule, and will become effective Dec 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Oregon Sprinkler Task Force update**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Keller talked about the meeting dates being difficult during the summer meeting. He suggested removing the July meeting. Condense the fall meetings, and possibly expanding in the summer months.

Bob Reeves suggested September would be a better time and Randy reminded the committee the policy of meeting at least **every quarter**.

### **Action:**

Chair Keller will work with staff and come up with a new schedule and recommendation.

### **NFPA meeting coming up:**

Is in the beginning of January and Chair Keller asked if there was anything the committee would like him to take to this forum, and he would carry it forward.

### **Annexation in to Fire Districts**

Randy spoke about the proposed legislation and format. The group looked at the Task Force Charter for this as he went over the goals and objectives, selecting member of council, identifying road blocks and establishing incentives, etc. (Refer to the charter document) Randy asked if any others had suggestions of who should be included in Task Force. Tammy suggested the (CCIS) City and County Insurances, and Association of Counties be involved.

Chair Keller asked John Stein's opinion which will be discussed in more detail after the reporting comes out. He asked, "Is there any time a citizen would want to become part of an ASA for medical response?" The reply was, "The counter rep would take care of that."

**Action:** Randy will put together the task force members with the added parties.

**Tammy moved that the Oregon Annexation Task Force be moved and Bob Reeves seconded it. All agreed unanimously.**

John Stein will be a member from the council.

#### **Budget Update:**

Randy updated the committee on the budget. The Fire Marshals funding is FIPT, Petroleum Load Fee & Fee Increases.

Randy went over the definition of the petroleum load to possibly redefine to include mixed fuels in the future. He updated the committee on CR2K's fee increase defeat, on a temporary rule, internally trying to fund the program and being creative by using funds elsewhere.

Maureen Bedell spoke about the appeal, and that they won't be informed until February. Randy then thanked OSP for their support.

#### **Legislative Update:**

Donna went over the Carbon Monoxide rule and over the house bills and fireworks law review. OSFM came up with some things that OSP / Law enforcement would be able to enforce.

Some people are having confusion on the smoke alarm batteries regarding the ten year battery vs. hard wired. Eriks asked if she was concerned by opening up that statute and would cause more problems/issues.

Randy mentioned the confusion for the local fire marshals and that it gives us the opportunity to fix the issues.

#### **Fire Sprinklers:**

Eric advised the committee of a more streamline process being accomplished and adopting a sprinkler requirement as of next July, in which a true local adoption will exist.

Chair Keller referred to the letter, from Nicole Armstrong (see handout). She has asked this group for a letter of endorsement for the legislature. He shared his letter of response to the council and Randy agreed this would violate our charter. He wanted to remind the committee of our responsibility as the council.

**No action to be taken on this.**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Review Council Charter**

#### **Action:**

In the interest of time, this conversation will be continued at the next meeting.

## **REPORTS**

### **Council Member Reports**

Eriks spoke of the “Code 3 Driving” training program and possible problems in smaller rural areas that do not have the space available to do this testing.

He worked with the Idaho post and was able to do partnerships with them. (Web site) the program has been implemented with success.

He represented the NFDS and the question was asked: “How do we get several hundred firefighters mobilized in an emergency?” All agreed this would be merit to the concept. How do we make this happen? Backfill would be a big problem.

Tammy Fitch suggested that each city determine what they would be able to take on.

Randy Simpson reminded everyone of the Chiefs conference in November. Also, that he and Chief Deputy Walker will be representing this office.

#### **Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

#### **Next meeting dates:**

October 26, 2010,

January 25, 2011

April 26, 2011

#### **Meeting location:**

Office of State Fire Marshal

Mt. Hood Conference Room