

OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes - March 16, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mike Mitchell. The location was Labor & Industries Building, Conference Room A. An attendance sheet was passed around, copies of the agenda were distributed, and introductions made. Eleven people were at the meeting, representing five organizations:

<u>Attendee</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Ed Wilson	Large Fire Departments
Ty Walters	Large Fire Departments
Don Stauffer	Large Fire Departments
Eriks Gblik	DPSST
Mark Ayers	DPSST
Paul Esselstyn	Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Daryl Rozendal	Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Jim Kusz	Mid Size & Coast Fire Departments
Jason Jantzi	Oregon OSHA
Marilyn Schuster	Oregon OSHA
Mike Mitchell	Oregon OSHA

The following invited organizations did not have representatives at the meeting: Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Small Fire Departments, Oregon Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Chemeketa Community College Emergency Services, and Oregon Fire District Directors Association.

**History of Committee:** A brief historical review of the OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee and its role was presented by Marilyn Schuster. It was pointed out that the committee played an integral part in the development of Division 2, Subdivision L, OAR 182, Oregon Rules for Fire Fighters. It is important that the committee remain active and membership up-to-date. Mike Mitchell commented that he often consults individual committee members on matters related to fire fighting.

**Purpose of meeting is live fire training rules:** This meeting was called for the purpose of beginning the process of changing live fire training requirements. OAR 437-002-0182(10)(c) refers to a State Fire Marshal's standard that no longer exists. Copies of the Oregon Rules for Fire Fighters, draft language of a suggested replacement rule, and copies of the DPSST's Guidelines for Conducting Live Fire Training were passed out for members

to refer to. The committee then reviewed and discussed the pros and cons of the DPSST document. Issues discussed included water supply, how the rules will be updated, removal of hazardous materials from structures before burning, DEQ requirements, making the rules clear, specific and enforceable, and possible use of NFPA 1403. **The committee decided that each member should develop a list of the minimum requirements (clearly written) that need to be followed during live fire training to ensure a high level of occupational safety and health. Then e-mail the list, by April 16<sup>th</sup>, to Mike Mitchell.** Mike will consolidate the lists and forward them to everyone within the following week. The lists will then be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

**Wearing of chaps during chain saw use:** Two additional topics were briefly discussed: (1) When chain saws are used during emergencies, fire fighters are not required to wear chaps as long as turnout trousers are worn. Questions concerning the use of chaps when wearing other attire, or during non-emergencies will be researched and reported back to the committee at the next meeting; and

**Carbide tipped circular saw blades:** (2) The April 7, 2003 OR-OSHA Hazard Alert (located in the News Room on Oregon OSHA's web site) was reviewed. It addresses carbide tipped, wood-cutting saw blades (not recommended for use by the saw manufacturer) coming loose from circular saws during use.

**Fire Service/OR-OSHA cross training:** A question concerning OR-OSHA's plans for instructing fire departments on what compliance officers look for during inspections was asked. It was reported that key OR-OSHA staff have already been trained in the uniform application of the standards. At this time no dates have been set for additional activities. Jason Jantzi is a good contact person since he has been working with many fire departments.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11th, at 10:00 a.m., at either the offices of Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, or L & I, both in Salem. An e-mail will be sent out with the next couple of weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

**Addendum:**

These minutes were approved at the 5/11/04 meeting.