

OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2006

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. in the conference room of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, in Salem, Oregon. An attendance sheet was circulated while the previous meeting's minutes were reviewed and approved. Everyone in the room then introduced themselves.

Attendees

Jim Kusz
Jason Jantzi
Tim Dahl, Clackamas County FD #1
Bob Garrison, OFCA
Mike Mitchell
Paul Esselstyn
Larry Goff

Representing

Combination Departments
Oregon OSHA
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
Oregon OSHA
Oregon State Fire Fighters Council
Oregon Fire District Directors Assn.

Old Business:

There was nothing new to report on the on-going issue involving circular saws and acceptable aggressive blades.

Live-fire training: Jim Kusz reported that North Lincoln Fire Department and Toledo Fire Department jointly used the newly adopted live-fire training rules and that everything went well. Paul Esselstyn reported that the new rules were used in Springfield, without any real changes to procedures since their department's previous policies were already very similar. It was suggested that it would be helpful if a "live-fire training" link was added to the DPSST site.

New Business:

Visits by, and training of OR-OSHA personnel: It was reported that several fire departments have recently been inspected or received consultations from Oregon OSHA. The question was asked if Oregon OSHA enforcement and consultative personnel who visit fire departments are trained in basic fire department procedures as was agreed to a couple years ago. The answer is that "yes".

Website posting: The suggestion was made to post the OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee membership roster on the Oregon OSHA website. Changes

in membership (due to retirement, job/position changes, and rotation onto and off from the Committee) will be reflected on updated rosters.

Partnership with OR-OSHA: The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and Oregon OSHA are exploring the possibility of developing an official partnership. Benefits would include improved training and communication.

Water-rescue training: The topic of training materials, and standards for water rescue operations was introduced for discussion. There are NFPA standards for swift-water rescue operations. Tim Dahl reported that Clackamas Fire District uses in-house training for their rescue teams. Jim Kusz explained that North Lincoln Fire & Rescue trains for surface-water rescues rather than swift-water. DPSST has some guidelines for safely operating boats and PPE. The Coast Guard also has training materials. It was suggested that for advice on Coastal-water rescues, North Lincoln Fire District would be a good contact. For surface-water rescues, Clackamas Fire District would be a good contact. For surface-water and lake-water rescue, Lake Oswego and Bend Fire Departments would also be good contacts. DPSST is also a good resource. The idea of a “water rescue summit” was proposed (and left for future possible discussion when more of the Committee is present). Jim Kusz and Tim Dahl volunteered to look into the possibility of such a summit. It was suggested that DPSST may want to look into developing some additional materials and guidelines for water rescue.

Potential exposures at fire scenes: An article about cyanide poisoning was presented by Jason Jantzi. It was pointed out that we need to constantly be aware of potential exposures at fire scenes.

Wrap Up

The next meeting will be on October 11, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. to noon, in the Conference Room of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Addendum

The minutes were approved (with corrections) at the 10/25/06 meeting.