

**OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for April 23, 2009**

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order in the conference room of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, in Salem. Everyone introduced themselves while the attendance roster was circulated.

Attendees

Ron Haverkost
Scott Nueufeld
Peg Munsell
Pat Davies
Eriks Gabliks
Burke Slater
Doug Koellermeier
Matt Ennis
John Oliver
Michael Kincade
Jim Kusz
Marilyn Schuster

Representing

Oregon OSHA
Special Districts Association of Oregon
Oregon OSHA
Portland Fire & Rescue
DPSST
Clackamas Fire/ Oregon State FF Counsel
Bend Fire/ OFCA
Eugene Fire
CCFD/ OFCA
FG Fire/ OFIA
N Lincoln FR
OR/OSHA

Old Business

Status of current Rule Review:

- Peggy briefly talked about, the PPE rule that in several locations in the standards emphasizes that “each” employee be trained, the adoption of rules in division 2 sub-division F that pertain to scissor lifts and extensible boom lifts that mirror the existing rules in the construction rules and also the language change to the GFCI rules in division 2 sub-division S electrical.
- Proposed rules can be found at Oregon OSHA’s web page at <http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/> specifically at <http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/standards/proposed.html>
- Ron handed out the proposed changes to the division 2 sub-division L fire fighter rules.

There were several comments on the rule for parts of the rule that were not proposed for change. After hearing most of the comments, based on a consensus, the group decided to form a subgroup. The purpose of the sub-group will be to look at the 2L rule and make substantive changes that will more closely reflect the current Oregon fire services needs. A tentative date will be set for the group (late

June, week ending 6/26) to meet after the proposed comment period ends.

Burke reviewed several standards to include (13)(a), (15)(a)(A), (16)(c), (10)(e) that should be revised or otherwise removed. He committed to submitting comments for the current 2L proposal, which also prompted the formation of the FFA sub committee.

Health and safety issues:

Eriks Gabliks [DPSST](#) reported the following:

Eriks started by handing the floor over to John Oliver to announce the OFCA chartering of the Oregon Safety Officer Association Section to promote networking and the sharing of information between Fire Service Health and Safety Officers and other training, safety and wellness personnel in the state and the nation.

Eriks handed out a chart showing the a comparison of the current Haz/Mat responder standard to the NFPA 472 (responders to Haz/Mat and WMD).

Eriks also distributed a chart showing proposed hour requirements for NWCG standards for Wildland Interface Firefighter, Crewboss/Engine Boss, Task Force/Strike Team Leader and Division/ Group Supervisor.

New Business

Marilyn posed a question regarding the fire services ability to fight ethanol fires at plants throughout the state. According to the group the International Fire Chiefs Association put out training from the national group.

Eriks shared with the group that DPSST has purchased a complete Firefighter curriculum kit for each fire department and fire district in Oregon. This IFTSA training kit will allow departments to meet the training requirements for NFPA 1001 and address concerns that have been raised regarding actions by first responders to confined space incidents. The kits have been distributed by DPST fire training staff statewide.

Ron asked responses to questions that were asked during the OFIA spring conference.

1. Is an attic in a residential building a confined space? Would the proposed confined space rules in [2L](#) be required to be followed when rescues in an attic occur while fighting a structural fire. The group answer in conjunction with OR/OSHA is No. The confined space proposal is

- intended to allow the IC to follow current requirements for fire fighting that would be redundant to accomplishing a rescue in an attic.
2. Is it okay to use a propane torch (weed burner) to start the fire in a live fire fighting exercise using an acquired structure? Yes
The 2007 edition NFPA 1403 standard on live fire training evolutions has a similar question that identifies propane lighters as an acceptable device to ignite the training fire.
The conversation concerning the ignition source shifted to drip torches. Based on the [2L](#) rules *Appendix C* under the category Ignition Sources it gives specific allowances for using matches, fuses, or a drip torch to ignite an acquired structure. There was some concern from the group about the hazards that actually exist when using a drip torch. The FFA group felt that it was necessary to revisit the use of drip torches and have the newly established work group review the current industry practices.

The next meeting of the Oregon OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee is scheduled for October 21, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

The meeting was adjourned at ~12:05