

Oregon OSHA Firefighter Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Oct. 1, 2014, 2 p.m.
Telephone conference
Oregon

Meeting called to order at 2 p.m. by Dave Phillips.

Dave introduced the committee

Members:

Dave Phillips, chair
Cory Stengael, OR-OSHA
Genoa Ingram, OFDDA
Burke Slater, OSFFC
Jason Jantzi, SDAO
Todd Anderson, DPPST
Tom Bozicevic, OR-OSHA
Julie Olsen-Fink, DPSST
Erik Gabliks, DPSST

Other attendees:

Peggy Munsell, OR-OSHA
Stephanie Ficek, OR-OSHA
Ken Langley, OR-OSHA

The group approved the July 2, 2014 meeting minutes.

Brush platforms

Oregon OSHA sent a letter to Deputy Fire Chief Mark Prince on Brush platforms, which explained that Oregon OSHA does not have a specific rule prohibiting the use of a brush platform, and that the design and construction of a brush platform must provide the user adequate protection from the hazards associated with its use. The committee agreed with Oregon OSHA's explanation to Chief Prince.

Oregon Rules for Firefighters rulemaking activities:

Dave and Tom explained that during their presentation of the proposed 437-002-0182 at the 2014 Central Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference, attendees provided recommendations that are reflected below with the exception of the confined space item:

Rule: (30) Confined Spaces.

- (c) Employers that will respond to emergency calls for rescue from confined spaces must:
 - (D) Assess the situation and determine if it qualifies as a confined space incident
 - (ii) Assess and secure physical hazards related to the incident or rescue.

Decision: The committee agreed to change “secure” to “control” without including a definition.

Rule: (9) Firefighting Training and Education.

- (a) Firefighters must meet the training levels prescribed by NFPA 1403 (2012): Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, prior to participating in live fire training or in exterior structural firefighting activities.

Decision: The committee agreed with the rule change of placing the language of live fire training ahead of exterior structural firefighting activities.

Rule: (23) Fire Apparatus Operation.

- (a) The employer must not allow an employee to drive a vehicle on a public highway or road unless they have a valid driver’s license.

Decision: There was a discussion of whether or not the rule was needed since the issue falls under another agency’s jurisdiction. Some committee member felt that there would be an additional fiscal impact with the rule, while other felt that fire departments should already have a system in place to ensure that employees who drive department vehicles have a valid driver’s license for insurance purposes. The rule currently exists in Division 2/N. The committee agreed to keep the rule, and include a rule that requires safe operation of vehicle training for the type of vehicle.

UPDATE RULE:

(23) Fire Apparatus Operation.

- (a) Employees must be trained in the safe operation of each type of vehicle they are authorized to drive.*
- (b) The employer must not allow an employee to drive a vehicle on a public highway or road unless they have a valid driver’s license.*

Rule: (29) Testing, Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Service Equipment.

The employer must inspect and maintain fire service equipment at least annually and perform any tests recommended by the manufacturer at the date of manufacture, or the recommendations of accepted national standards or curriculum.

Decision: Tom explained that the rule needs to be more specific to the fire service industry.

UPDATED RULE:

(29) Testing, Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Service Equipment.

- (a) The employer must inspect and maintain fire service equipment at least annually and perform any tests recommended by the manufacturer at the date of manufacture.*

(b) *When the manufacturer’s recommendations required under 437-002-0182(29)(a) are not available from the manufacturer, the employer must identify and follow the recommendations of an applicable consensus standard or curriculum that is nationally recognized and generally accepted by the fire service industry.*

Note: Examples of a consensus standard or curriculum under 437-002-0182(29)(b) include, but are not limited to, NFPA standards and IFSTA manuals.

Fiscal Impact:

Tom identified the following sections of the rule that are likely to have the most fiscal impact.

(7) Incident Management.

- (a) The employer must develop and implement written procedures for incident management that meets the requirement of NFPA 1561 (2008): Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System.

Decision: The committee did not feel that the update to a fire department’s current procedures would have a significant fiscal impact.

(8) Accountability.

- The employer must develop and implement written procedures for a personnel accountability system that meets the requirement of NFPA 1561 (2008): Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System.

Decision: The committee did not feel that the update to a fire department’s current procedures would have a significant fiscal impact.

(9) Firefighting Training and Education.

- (E) Firefighters must meet the training levels prescribed by NFPA 1403 (2012): Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, prior to participating in live fire training or in exterior structural firefighting activities.
- (F) Firefighters must be trained according to NFPA 1001 (2013): Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, prior to participating in any interior firefighting activity.

Estimated training time (hrs.)	Estimated cost in dollars (\$)
NFPA 1001: 90 – 100	
NFPA 1403 to NFPA 1001: 44.5	

Outcome: Genoa shared that for volunteer firefighters, there’s a cap of \$3,000 per year per volunteer. Julie stated that DPPST doesn’t require departments to train to NFPA standards; however, from experience, most departments train to firefighter training level 1. For those departments, the new rule requirement wouldn’t have a financial impact because they are already training to that level. Therefore the most financial impact is to the volunteer entry level firefighter.

(11) – (12) Protective ensemble elements meet the requirements of NFPA 1971 (2000): Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Firefighting.

Estimated Cost of Protective Ensemble Elements NFPA Changes	
Element	Estimated cost in dollars (\$)
Turnout jacket and trousers	1,500 – 2,500
Suspenders	30 – 60
Hood	30 – 80
Gloves	50 – 100
Protective footwear	100 – 300
TOTAL COST	\$1,710 – \$3,040

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting adjourned: 3:30 p.m.