

**Oregon OSHA
Fire Service Advisory Committee
April 12, 2018
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

John Derr- Portland Fire and Rescue
Ray Dirling- Grant's Pass Fire and Rescue
Jason Jantzi- SDAO
Deric Weiss- OFCA/TVFR

Trena VanDeHey- Oregon OSHA
Heather Case- Oregon OSHA
Omar Lopez- Oregon OSHA

Attendees by phone:

Mark Gregg- Hillsboro Fire
Brian Stewart- Clackamas Fire

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m.

The group introduced themselves

Old Business

The group reviewed and approved the January 11, 2018 meeting minutes, with two minor corrections. Trena also requested that if the group knows of anyone else who should be on the committee to please let her know and she will get in touch with them.

Hazard Alerts

Trena passed out two hazard alerts to the group: Rhabdomyolysis (Rhabdo), and Firefighter Training Exercise.

The Rhabdo hazard alert was shown to the group when it was in a final draft stage, and the group was invited to give feedback. This provided the group with the final color copy of the hazard alert, which Trena let the group know has been published on Oregon OSHA's website.

The Firefighter Training Exercise hazard alert is also finished and published online. This hazard alert was one suggested by the group from the Crook County incident report reviewed last meeting. Trena asked the group that if there was anything that they saw that needed to be changed, to let her know. Specifically, Trena received a lot of good reference material regarding hydro testing SCBA cylinders which could not fit on the hazard alert. She is going to be adding this information to Oregon OSHA's A-Z topic page on their website.

Internal Training

Craig Hamelund from internal training in Oregon OSHA is spearheading the internal training for Oregon OSHA compliance inspectors regarding the firefighting industry. He is working with multiple people from different fire districts regarding this training. While in the early stages of planning, Oregon OSHA expects this training to be at least 3-4 days, potentially in August, or September/October (due to fire season). They are still hammering out the details. An internal planning meeting is scheduled for April 20th about what that training may look like.

The group discussed what they would like to see in this training. The group emphasized that 3 days would be too short for a training, and they would like to see up to 5 days of training. Working with safety personnel in the industry was identified as very important when coming up with curriculum for this training. The group wanted to make sure that one of the objectives of this training would be to help Oregon OSHA staff understand the culture and language of firefighting. Also the group discussed training Oregon OSHA staff regarding reasonable citation of hazards versus getting too far down into manufacturer's recommendations. For example, distinguishing when something is a hazard versus when something may be a warranty issue (for example, the type of battery used in a piece of equipment). Another preferred topic would be good use of professional judgment by Oregon OSHA staff.

Trena let the group know that Renée would also be helping with this training, and that the group's concerns would be noted for the planning meeting. The group also addressed how it may be best for the training to be broken out into specific topics per day, for example, 'general/apparatus', 'fire training', 'Industrial Hygiene in firefighting', etc. Firefighting is unique and has many specific potential hazards, their own PPE, and specialized equipment.

Trena estimated that at least 10 compliance officers would go through this training initially, however that may be more of a minimum. The group suggested due to the number that the trainers may want to break the group into smaller groups and have them rotate through different subjects. This would be especially important if the group were larger than 10. The goal is to have the training at the DPSST building.

Some Oregon OSHA staff gave the group some idea regarding different inspector's experience with firefighting, including both enforcement and consultation. The group also discussed the role of wildland firefighting and how they also have specific concerns, and may benefit from a separate day. Their work may be more specialized than structural work and their PPE is different. Additionally, the group identified administrative subjects as another separate training piece. This may help compliance inspectors know how to pursue certain documents and generally where different policies/paperwork may be stored.

The group also discussed the goals of conducting this training. They emphasized that these objectives and expectations need to be emphasized up front to all participants (trainees, trainers, and outside trainers), so everyone understands the objectives and scope of the training.

New Business/Discussion

Lessons Learned/What to Produce

At this time the group had no new discussion regarding lessons learned/what to produce.

Accidents and Fatalities

A handout was passed out to the group containing all of the overnight hospitalizations and fatalities reported to Oregon OSHA from January 2018 through April 11, 2018. As requested by the group, these contained accidents and fatalities from across all industries. Shaded areas of the handout meant accidents and fatalities where an inspection was conducted. There were 135 new entries since the last meeting. Trena stated she was not able to pull this list far enough ahead of time to get it in email, and she will be emailing this list to the members who attended the meeting over the phone.

The group discussed the different types of accidents and fatalities, trends, and potential ways to prevent or how non-preventable some of these accidents and fatalities could be. The group also discussed with Oregon OSHA staff what kind of follow up is performed on reports of accidents and fatalities. Typically, Oregon OSHA will not follow up on motor vehicle accidents, and not usually natural causes. If the event looks like it was work related, then OSHA will follow up. Additionally, Oregon OSHA will use any internal investigation conducted to get more information regarding the event.

The group also discussed reminders that could be based on trends the agency notices in these accidents and fatalities. It was discussed that with these real world examples, employers may be more likely to pay attention. Much like the safety blasts that Oregon OSHA conducts, but perhaps based on injury reports, with citations to the numbers of reports in a particular period. Trena stated she would speak to Oregon OSHA's public information officer regarding regular safety reminders based on injury reports.

Roundtable:

The group went around the table and discussed some things that have been coming up in their fire stations/workplaces and what they are working on. These included:

- New members of the group are excited to be involved and to help Oregon OSHA with training.
- Clackamas is holding a class on occupational safety and health serious accident investigation relating to internal investigations and addressing patterns. There will be 25 people attending including a representative from SAIF.
- On May 10, 2018, there will be a webinar regarding exposure tracking at 1PM held by a Drexler University program. Brian will email Trena an invite to distribute to the group.
- Oregon OSHA staff wanted the group to know they are in the middle of the hiring process for a new technical staff person, and this person will likely take over the running of this committee. Additionally, please let Oregon OSHA know if there are any open safety and health positions in your workplace, and Oregon OSHA can get the word out regarding positions.

Meeting adjourned 2:15 p.m.

Next Meeting:

When: Thursday, July 12, 2018, 1:00 PM

Where: DPSST Building, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, OR 97317