

**Oregon OSHA**  
**Fire Services Advisory Council**  
**June 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes**  
**Oregon OSHA Salem Field Office & Zoom**

**Attendees:**

|                 |                  |                    |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Cory Stengel    | Jason Jantzi     | Kate Ryan          |
| Kevin Vining    | M. Harrison      | Ray Dirling        |
| Rob Dahlman     | Scott Leavell    | Will Steinweg      |
| Forest Chambers | Joseph Rodondi   | Kendrick Leaverton |
| Kurt Donaldson  | Michael Townsley | Renee Stapleton    |
| Rocky Hanes     | Tom Bozicevic    |                    |

**Agenda:**

- Introductions
- Approve March 2025 meeting minutes
- OR-OSHA strategic planning and other updates
- High School CTE programs
- Publication development – EV fires draft
- Roundtable (time permitting)

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Meeting was started and introductions were made.

**Old Business:**

- **March 2025 meeting minutes were approved.**

**New Business:**

- **OR-OSHA strategic planning and other updates**
  - Federal OSHA requires Oregon OSHA to undergo strategic planning every five years.

- **High School CTE programs**

A lot of high school and college programs have fire services programs. There are roughly 25-50 in Oregon who have these type of programs at some level (some do minimal introduction to firefighting and some do full training academy program).

These programs provides want to continue, but questions come up on limitations regarding safety and child labor laws. Minors may be exposed to hazards when using ladders and participating in fire drills. This is a training/education setting, not specifically in the workplace. What can we offer to schools in terms of guidance? Question if someone were to get hurt, could it come back on the fire department? We want to protect fire districts and we don't want kids to get hurt.

Q. Where does the equipment come from?

A. Some have their own; some have had it donated.

Q. How are disciplinary issues addressed?

A. It depends on the type of program. It would be handled through school district since instructors are employees of the school district. Or in fire district cadet programs, it would be through the fire district.

Q. Are there similar programs in high schools?

A. Yes, Agriculture, Forestry, Automotive, Nursing, Dental hygiene for example.

Member: We have an agreement to host students as observers only. School holds insurance on students. They don't wear turnouts. There is a release to students that students can participate if the fire district chooses, but not aware of any who do.

A. Oregon OSHA has a letter of interpretation about students/minors in fire services.

Q. A member questioned if this is this still accurate and if it could it be updated.

Member: We have done this at our fire district through local high school and college. Washington does this extensively. Need to look at risk management. How can we mitigate risks? Need to be in gear that is in good condition. Look at alternatives to certain risks (tall ladders for example).

Member: I was in fire services program in the past. We have also started programs with local schools. Washington schools have phenomenal programs. Need to adhere to OSHA regulations as much as possible. Yes, they put turnouts on; observe fires; use hoses; are not more than three feet up; can't use certain equipment. We have found alternatives so they can get a feel for the job.

Member: We would not put them in a Class A situation. But we have the benefit of a computerized training system and some do not have that.

Member: After 16 years old, training hours count. Students would not be certified until age 18.

Oregon OSHA: In some industries, for example woodshop in schools, if kids are exposed to the hazard, then the instructor/staff member is exposed. We can protect both by protecting staff member. But this is not the same in fire services.

- **Publication development – EV fires draft**

Oregon OSHA: This draft is general information. Fire services are the authority on how to handle fires. Members were asked during this meeting if they were requesting something more specific than this.

Member: Will send Tom Bozicevic a few minor edits to consider.

Member: EV blankets can trap explosive gases.

Member: Questioned if any departments are using EV blankets.

Oregon OSHA had a request to develop a document for “wildfire training props.” There is an NFPA standard addressing this. Question to members: Is there a specific hazard we could hone in on?

A. Depends on type of prop. Looking at standards, a lot apply to fixed scenarios. There are a lot that address the 1403 standard. 1402 oversees construction of props.

- **Roundtable**

Member: I was at a fire district talking about working in high heat, fighting wildland fires. In the past, IC was discouraging taking breaks because of public perception of taking breaks, sitting down.

Oregon OSHA is hosting Fike Corporation June 18th Combustible Dust all-day training. We would appreciate if fire services could participate. NFPA standards will be discussed.

Oregon OSHA Heat illness prevention emphasis program in Program Directive 299. This will apply to every inspection Oregon OSHA does from June 15 to Sept 30.

Next meeting will be September 10, 2025.