

Oregon OSHA

Fire Services Advisory Council Minutes

September 10, 2025

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Attendees: Cory Stengel, Gavin Horn, Jason Jantzi, Joe Wieland, Kate Ryan, Mariah Rawlins, Omar Lopez, Renee Stapleton, Warren Espinola

Meeting agenda:

- Introductions were conducted
- June 2025 meeting minutes were approved.
- **OR-OSHA updates**
 - **Rulemaking:**
 - Lead, Workplace Violence, and HazCom. See more information on [Oregon OSHA rulemaking](#).
 - There were roughly 26 federal rulemaking actions proposed July 1 that were proposed to be repealed or modified by federal OSHA.
 - Adopted ACCSH construction advisory committee. No changes but was unexpected.
 - Getting rid of Covid log was proposed.
 - Respiratory Protection
 - Reducing medical evaluations for certain types of respirators. “OSHA is proposing to remove some medical evaluation requirements in the Respiratory Protection Rule for certain types of respirators. This proposed change would only impact filtering facepiece respirators and loose-fitting powered air-purifying respirators.”
 - Taking out provisions for respiratory protection and kicking it over to general industry.
 - Limit general duty clause – “OSHA proposes to clarify its interpretation of the General Duty Clause, 29 U.S.C. 654(a)(1), to exclude from enforcement known hazards that are inherent and inseparable from the core nature of a professional activity or performance.” An example was working with animals.
 - Comment: Oregon OSHA can’t limit a statute by a rule.
 - Maritime rules. Safety Color Code for Marking Physical Hazards (Caution markings). The argument is that building codes, etc. already require these so Oregon OSHA rules aren’t needed.
 - Lead – Oregon initiated rule. “The Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL) Advisory Committee evaluated Oregon OSHA’s regulated substances listed in our air contaminant rules.”
 - **Administrative Office temporary relocation** — L&I building will be vacated for remodeling in the early part of 2026 through early 2029. Oregon OSHA will relocate to the Revenue building, 4 and 5th floors. The Revenue building will have increased security.

- **Website changeover**

The platform that supports the current [Oregon OSHA website](#) is being updated to a new version. Oregon OSHA website will be frozen beginning September 12 and is expected to conclude by October 7 with no updates able to be made during that time. All parts of the website will still work during the freeze. Bookmarks may change for users. Rule information will all be together as a future goal.

We are also working with a new law for ADA compliance (updated standards for government entities on all digital content provided to the public) with a deadline of April 2026. ADA principles are that information, user interface, navigation, operation, and content must be perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. All PDFs except codebooks will shift to HTML process – Many will become webpages instead of only PDFs. We are not getting rid of PDFs; they will still be linked and printable. This will allow us to make updates more quickly.

- **Questions/ideas for future meetings:**

- Accident reviews (what industries?)
 - Tackle discussion of fatal events and other incidences.
 - Hazard alert type document needed.
- Significant cases?
- Suggestions?
 - Health and safety collaborative through OSFM Fire Marshal. Discussion on best practices and required standards. This has a lot of resources and tools garnered from elsewhere and posted in one place. Yes, they would like the collaboration/support from Oregon OSHA on this set of information. One possible idea is a more focused Oregon OSHA webpage (body of information) dedicated to fire services. This should not be regulation based perse but with focus on best practices and important topics.
 - Q. Would a station be interested in working with the Challenge Program?
 - Additional guides would be helpful:
 - Where to start guide, top five things when first starting out.
 - What does it mean to be required to investigate per statute – template to fill out would be helpful. Need tips and tricks, definitions to answering and filling out forms. Directions are too limited and incomplete.
 - Oregon OSHA rules say, do this....but then are not complete enough on what to do with that information, then what? for example. If this is out there, it is not immediately available or found.
 - Identify root cause – examples are meaningless. Need info on *how* I identify root cause.

- Change in meeting frequency?

- The overall consensus is to keep meeting quarterly with consideration that the summer months into fall are heavy schedules for firefighting. One suggestion is to meet virtually if the agenda is lighter.
- Any wildfire season information to share?
- **Roundtable**
 - Member: While fighting a recent Oregon fire, crew was tasked with saving a structure. When fire wall was ready to be attacked, the group from another area had left because they deemed it unsafe. We had a plan and had to quickly adjust. Member recommended talking with Chief to get that information to the other stations.