

**OR-OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes for October 22, 2008**

**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  
Dan Rossos  
Pat Davies  
Eriks Gabliks  
Larry Goff  
Burke Slater  
Doug Koellermeier  
Matt Ennis  
Greg Keller  
Ted Kunze  
Bill Anderson  
Larry Alleys  
David Phillips

**Representing**

Oregon OSHA  
Special Districts Association of Oregon  
Oregon OSHA  
Portland Fire & Rescue  
Portland Fire & Rescue  
DPSST  
LOFD/ OFDDA  
Clackamas Fire/ Oregon State FF Counsel  
Bend Fire/ OFCA  
Eugene Fire  
Salem Fire/ OFCA (past president)  
Canby Fire/ OFCA (president)  
OFCA  
Albany Fire/ OFIA  
CCFD

**Old Business**

**Status of current Rule Review:**

- A meeting was held with representatives from OFCA and SDAO to discuss finalizing proposed language to Confined Space rules for fire fighters. The meeting was held on 10/21/08.
- Oregon OSHA is also working with the construction industry to develop rules for confined space in construction. Dave McLaughlin is the point person and is developing draft language.
- 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 Haverkost reported on the Safety Committee/ Safety meeting newly adopted rule. The rule was adopted September 19, 2008 and

effective January 1, 2009. Small employers with 10 or fewer employees not engaged in construction will have until September 19, 2009 to comply. Oregon OSHA also amended OAR 437-002-0182, Oregon Rules for Fire Fighters in Division 2/L. The new rule change allows fire services to establish a fire service safety committee or opt for safety meetings based on employee numbers. This change was necessary to allow those companies that have 10 or fewer employees the option to simply hold effective safety meetings in accordance with the amendments to [OAR 437-001-0765](#) in Division 1. An additional change that could impact the fire services is the ability to centralize existing safety committees for those services/ employers that have multiple location. A centralized safety committee must represent the safety and health concerns of all locations and meet the requirements for safety committees. If you rely on a centralized committee, you must also have a written safety and health policy. For additional information on changes to the rule:

[http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/pdf/notices/adopted2008/ao92008\\_div1\\_chngs\\_clean.pdf](http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/pdf/notices/adopted2008/ao92008_div1_chngs_clean.pdf)

### **Health and safety issues:**

Eriks Gabliks DPSST reported the following:

- **Live Fire Train-the-Trainer Course**

At the Oregon Fire Instructors Association (OFIA) in Redmond last month, we spent quite a bit of time on this important issue. As promised, DPSST is working with the Florida State Fire College to bring their one-week Live Fire Training Instructor Course to the Oregon Public Safety Academy in the spring of 2009. Mark Ayers is working with our Florida instructors on the details. As soon as we get a date locked-in we will get the word out to all OFIA and Oregon OSHA Fire Advisory Committee members. We want to make sure we have the right folks in this class who can eventually become part of an instructional cadre for this subject in Oregon. DPSST is also working with OFIA on an initial outreach and education program that focuses on the NFPA 1403 Standard. The majority of agencies in the state are using this as a guide for live fire training. We have a number who are not aware of it and need assistance. DPSST and OFIA have pledged to continue their outreach efforts. More to follow.

- **NFPA 1001 Firefighter Standard**

At last week's meeting the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST) approved the Fire Policy Committees request that Oregon move forward and adopt the 2008 edition of NFPA 1001 - Professional Qualifications Standard for Firefighter. There are very few changes from the current version - the biggest is that HazMat Awareness, Ops and WMD Awareness are now part of Firefighter I. The request will go out for public comment in a few weeks but we anticipate that it will be adopted without any opposition. Hand-in-hand with this change, DPSST purchased a complete IFSTA 5th Edition Firefighter Training Kit for each fire department/district in the state. This will allow all agencies to have curriculum in-hand which will allow them to deliver this training to their personnel. We will distribute 300 IFSTA Essentials instructor kits to attendees at the OFCA/OFDDA Conference in Seaside (FREE). Others will be mailed out or distributed through our regional delivery network after the OFCA-OFDDA Conference.

- **DPSST Forming Task Forces to Update Certification Standard**

DPSST is opening a number of fire service training standards over the next few months. We are seeking qualified candidates to serve on the task forces listed below. DPSST has been directed by our Fire Policy Committee to organize these task forces and successfully review the standards and make recommendations that will impact Oregon Administrative Rules and the Oregon fire service.

  - ✓ Combined Task Force (Target Start Date: December 2008)
  - ✓ NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector/Plans Examiner
  - ✓ NFPA 1033 Fire Investigator
  - ✓ NFPA 1037 Fire Marshal
  - ✓ Driver-Apparatus Operator Task Force (Target Start Date: December 2008)
  - ✓ NFPA 1002 Driver-Apparatus Operator (includes aerial, tiller, ARFF, tender, etc.)
  - ✓ Public Education – Fire & Life Safety Education (Target Start Date: January 2009)
  - ✓ NFPA 1035 Public Education
  - ✓ Fire Officer Task Force (Target Start Date: January 2009)
  - ✓ NFPA 1021 Fire Officer
  - ✓ Interface Firefighter Task Force (Target Start Date: January 2009)
  - ✓ NWCG Standards for Interface Firefighter, Engine Boss, Strike Team Leader, Division- Group Supervisor

If you are interested in being considered for participation on any of the above task forces, please contact Julie Olsen-Fink in our Fire Certification Section by e-mail at [julie.olsen-fink@state.or.us](mailto:julie.olsen-fink@state.or.us) no later than **November 18, 2008**. If you would like to speak with Julie, she can be reached at 503-378-2297 to answer any questions. In your e-mail please include the following information:

Name, Contact Information (*please include: phone, e-mail and mailing address*), Fire Agency Name, and brief summary of your experience and how it meets the task force you have asked to serve on

The task forces will usually meet at the Oregon Public Safety Academy located at 4190 Aumsville Hwy, Salem, Oregon, 97317. Please plan on attending a number of meetings (2-4) to complete assigned work.

## **New Business**

### **Warning vest requirements**

Ron handed out information on the Department of Transportation final rule 23 CFR Part 634 Worker Visibility, a final rule that went into effect November 24 2008.

[http://www.workzonesafety.org/files/documents/laws\\_regulations/federal/no\\_v\\_24\\_06.pdf](http://www.workzonesafety.org/files/documents/laws_regulations/federal/no_v_24_06.pdf)

This document, the notice of proposed DOT rulemaking, was a recommendation rather than a requirement. It intended to describe the Federal Highway Administration's lack of direct authority to enforce high visibility garment requirements on all workers on or in close proximity to a Federal-aid highway and to preserve the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) authority over such workers.

Oregon OSHA has not changed any rules regarding the use of high visibility garments. The current rule was adopted based on the 2000 edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices(MUTCD)

[http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-millennium\\_12.28.01.htm](http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-millennium_12.28.01.htm) That rule can be found at [http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/pdf/rules/division\\_2/437-002-0128.pdf](http://www.cbs.state.or.us/osha/pdf/rules/division_2/437-002-0128.pdf) .

### **Inspection Review**

Ron handed out a summary of rules that were issued as [citations for fire departments](#) during the fiscal year October 2007 through September 2008.

### **Uniformity/Open Forum:**

Dan Rossos reported that the NFPA 1981 Committee has the issue of using Buddy Breathers on SCBAs on their agenda and a task group has been assigned. To be more specific, the real issue here is the NIOSH prohibition of Buddy Breathers, and the apparent approval of their use under OSHA 1910.156(f)(1)(iii). His hope was to receive a ruling from Oregon OSHA regarding this apparent conflict.

The NIOSH letter dated November 6, 1984, *notice to all respirator manufactures with MSHA/NIOSH approved respirators*, clearly prohibited the use of any component connection, interfaced, or assembled in combination with a MSHA/NIOSH certified SCBA for the use as an emergency escape support breathing system or "Buddy Breather". The letter continues, stating that allowing more than one individual access to the apparatus life support system(s) either directly or indirectly, automatically voids the certification.

1910.156, Fire Brigades, ( f )( 1 )( iii ) rule allows these devices "even if these devices are not certified by NIOSH".

NFPA 1852 Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Open-Circuit Self- Contained Breathing Apparatus requires that an organization develop SOPs prohibiting any member from altering the fit form or function of their SCBA causing a loss of its certification.

Since the meeting Ron has been working with Oregon OSHA Industrial Hygienist. Dan or Ron will report at the next meeting

**The next meeting** of the Oregon OSHA Fire Fighters Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The location will be the conference room of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, 727 Center Street NE, Suite 300, Salem, Oregon 97301.

The meeting was adjourned at ~12:00 p.m.