

OFMAA Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2008 at 6:00pm

Bend Fire Department

Call to Order: Vice-President Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:20pm after folks had a chance to get food and thanked Tom Wright and Anne Slaughter for arranging the great meal.

Member Introductions: Those present included:

Randy Jackson	Keizer Fire District	Will Bauscher	Corvallis Fire Dept.
Chris Benson	Lane Co. Fire Dist. #1	Todd Brumfield	City of Dallas
Anne Slaughter	Bend Fire Dept.	Tom Wright	Bend Fire Dept.
Holly Love	Air Link Critical Transport	Mark Stevens	TVF&R
Damon Schulze	McMinnville Fire	Michael Heffner	Salem Fire Dept.
Bill Alguire	Sheridan Fire District	Dave Lapof	Braun Northwest
Mike Mayfield	Polk Co. FD #1	Joe Raade	South Lane F&R
Toby Wilson	West Valley Fire District	Steve Straily	McKenzie F&R
Sally Carlson	Central Cascades Fire/EMS	Monte Keady	Klamath Co. FD#1
Doug Kelly	Redmond F&R		

Guests Included:

Philip Engle	Oregon EMS-C	Bill Potterf	Lane Rural F&R
Tim Frost	Lebanon Fire District	Phillip Riggt	McMinnville FD
Amy Hanifam	McMinnville Fire Dept.	Bart Noll	Springfield F&LS

Approval of Minutes: A motion by Wright and second by Benson to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2008 meeting at South Lane Fire & Rescue was made and approved unanimously by those present with the following corrections noted: Discussion occurred regarding agencies (like Salem) who have ordinances governing special (rodeo, etc.) event stand-by.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Wright provided and reviewed a written Treasurer's report which detailed account activity. Our accounts have the following ending balances: checking \$20,400.14 and CD \$3,568.57. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Bauscher and seconded by Slaughter, it passed unanimously by those present. Additional discussion included a review of EMT patch sales, which years ago Kevin Donigan's wife volunteered to handle and has been doing ever since. Wright also asked for interest in pursuing options to invest surplus checking account funds that would generate more interest revenue. A motion by Raade and seconded by Bauscher for Wright to investigate these options and report back at the next meeting, it passed unanimously by those present.

Committee/Activity Reports

- OFCA: Director Heffner reported that the OFCA are working on various activities to include: an organizational update, web-site updates and future member benefit upgrades, plus the establishment of several sub-committees.
- OSAA: Wright reported on activities from their Roseburg meeting which included discussion of the 2-3% Medicare reimbursement increase, reviewing their current dues structure. He commented that while it is not cheap agencies should look at it as a real return on the investment (lobbyist work and trips to D.C.). Current OSAA dues are \$150.00 + \$20.00 per transport unit / per month.

- ECEMS: Wright reported that this group includes all central Oregon fire departments, EMS providers, air ambulance, Community College and hospitals. They develop and work from a common set of protocols. Working on auto-launch protocols with Air Link and with St. Charles on Heart 1 program. The lack of cell coverage continues to be a problem so they are looking at EMT-P field activations. It was noted that TVF&R has documented saving approx. 20 minutes on door to cath lab times by doing this).
- EMSC: DHS-EMS rep Phillip Engle reported they anticipate getting \$130,000 in grant funding. They received an 80% response rate from transport agencies on their EMS-C survey, with results / outcome still pending. He also provided an overview of the various projects and activities. The EMS-C conference will be in Seaside on February 27 – March 1, 2009. The course schedule should be out soon with on-line registration at OR-EMSC.ORG.
- DPSST Telecommunications Policy Committee: Benson reported the group's last meeting was August 7, 2008 which focused on denial and revocation language review (a lengthy new process).
- Communications: There were no communication items.
- State EMS Deployment Plan: Stevens reported the draft State plan is on the DHS-EMS web-site for review and comment, with funding and liability issues still pending. He also advised that Counties are working on a Mass Fatality Plan, which is a good resource to have.
- Oregon Air Ambulance Network: Holly Love reported that a statewide LZ training course is done and will be presented for the first time at the EMS Conference and then hopefully posted on the DHS-EMS web-site. While it is basic they are looking for feedback and suggestions. On the dedicated air-to-ground VHF radio frequency while everyone agrees it is needed, currently no frequencies are available. She asked that members check out www.oregonlz.com and to think about establishing pre-designated landing zones after reviewing the many recent air ambulance crashes, primarily for night landings.
- Joint Fire Services Legislative Committee: Benson reported on language that would negatively impact Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office funding from the Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT). It was also suggested that mutual aid agreements include distance and time limitations to qualify for possible FEMA assistance and funding. While OWIN funding was approved it has not yet been released by the legislature, they are looking to re-organize. Other topics included 2 State EMS concepts (Emergency Preparedness and EMS Patient Encounter Database) to address topics in the NTSA report and SB 162 EMS Deployment Plan. Also moving forward to ban novelty lighters.
- STAB: Bauscher reported that initial information indicates that Oregon has a higher trauma mortality rate than other states and they continue to review data and looking at future Q/I filters. He also mentioned STAB is also looking at the recent air ambulance crashes and discussed several upcoming committee vacancies. He also shared various trauma care status reports with the group.

DHS / EMS Reports

- EMS Office: EMS & Trauma Systems Director Bob Leopold was not able to attend.
- State Medical Director: Dr. Ritu Sahni was not present.

State Committee Reports

- OMB/EMT Advisory Committee: Vice-President Stevens reported on the following activities from the groups August 15, 2008 meeting:
 - The committee has formed a sub-group with the State EMS Committee (Vision 2012) to review the proposed National EMT Scope of Practice issues. Other topics included a request to clarify EMT scope to apply in “emergency vs. non-emergency” settings and a proposal to mean “anytime”. Check out their on-line question / request form. Their next meeting is 11/14/08 at 9:00am in Portland.
- State EMS Committee: Stevens noted that several State EMS Committee positions will be expiring which will provide an opportunity for others to become involved.

Old Business

- FireMed Reciprocal Agreements: Mr. Bart Noll from Springfield Fire attended and asked if OFMAA would be interested in sponsoring a stand-alone Fire Med workshop (thinking approx. 2 hours) as OSAA was not interested. No specific commitment was made. He noted they are still working with agencies on reciprocal membership agreements and he is available for questions. Molalla and Canby are starting programs with Springfield providing the staffing and management. He will soon be updating the Fire Med web-site to include the new reciprocal agreement changes and options.
- OFMAA Web Page: Stevens reviewed the recent upgrades and changes to the OFMAA web-site and discussed other ideas and additions. Please send input to Mark at TVF&R. A BIG thank you to Corie with TVF&R for this much needed updating!!!

New Business

- OFMAA Sub-Committee Proposal: Director Heffner reviewed a proposal to establish four (4) sub-committees that could develop and provide information and resources to both the OFCA and OFMAA members. These topics included: EMS Leadership/Education, Safety & Operational Practices, Protocol Development & Q/I, and Position Development & Policy Review. After support and much discussion the following individuals “volunteered” to serve as sub-committee Chairs recruit additional membership assistance:
 - + EMS Leadership and Education: Will Bauscher
 - + Safety and Operational Best Practices: Michael Heffner
 - + Protocol Development and Quality Improvement: Tom Wright
 - + Position Development and Policy Review: Chris Benson
 If you are interested in assisting with one of these groups, please contact the Chair. Discussion of sub-committee’s being formed by geographic location to help facilitate more frequent meetings. Also discussed sub-committees meeting at 10am prior to the regular meeting on 12/4/08.

Vendor Report

- Dave Lapof asked if the group would be interested in a class on specification development. He noted several 2008 chassis changes and future 2010 changes have been required with no engine available that meets the new spec. He also noted ambulance safety (construction) is being reviewed as a concern by NIOSH and “revision F updates”.
- Bound Tree Medical will be hosting an EMS vendor show on Friday, December 12, 2008 at the Chemeketa Regional Training Center (Brooks, OR) from 9am-3pm. Free Lunch!

Round Table

- Lane Co. FD#1: Appreciate the good showing at this meeting!
- Polk Co. FD#1: Introduced Mike Mayfield as their new EMS Officer – Welcome!
- Bend: Still experiencing a budget shortfall with huge decline in new construction activity. They had been sending \$5K per month in EMS billings to collections, now sending \$50K.
- Air Link: No longer Air Life, now Air Link.
- Springfield: Fred was sorry he was not able to attend.
- Klamath Co. FD#1: Opening their first new fire station since 1980.
- South Lane Co. FR: Glad to see folks and making progress in EMS.
- Bend #2: Hosting “After Disaster Training” for large area search in March 2009 (\$25)
- Keizer: Hoping fire districts renewal levy is successful in November!
- Salem: Now also billing for Turner. Rural Metro is into their 3rd year of providing transport for Salem. Expanding State Haz-Mat Team response area to include parts of central Oregon. New apparatus arriving (13 engines, 3 grass rigs, 2 ladders, 2 tenders, and 1 air rig) plus 4 new fire stations being built.
- West Valley FD: New to position, thank you for your help.
- McMinnville: New Fire Chief, new ambulance + one more ordered.
- Dallas: \$6.9 million bond in November for apparatus and building.
- Lebanon: New fire station to open in late November, specing new ambulance and heart monitors.
- Corvallis: Implementing a new strategic plan – Go Beavs!
- Central Cascades: Hopeful of communications budget.
- Braun NW: Thanks OFMAA for co-sponsoring the Infection Control Officer training at the conference.
- TVF&R: Shared data showing patients are getting larger (much discussion followed).

Next Meeting Date and Location

- Thursday, December 4, 2008 at 1:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

Submitted: Randy Jackson - OFMAA Secretary