

Oregon Fire District Directors Association
May 17, 2014
MINUTES

President Don Trotter called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was present:

Present:

Don Trotter, President
Darrell King
Dennis Rogers
Eldon Marcum
Don Thompson
Mark Kreutzer
Roy Palmer
Carol Smith

Staff:

Genoa Ingram
Jessica Carpenter
Laureal Williams

Guests:

Dave Penicook, Wilson-Heirgood
Chief Dan Petersen, Jackson Co FD #3*
Chief Kevin Henson, Marion Co FD
Eriks Galiks, DPSST

Absent:

Roger Edwards

**via teleconference*

Guest Reports

Insurance/Risk Management: Dave Penicook, Wilson-Heirgood, reviewed the discounts available to districts that participate in the safety training and provided a list of upcoming workshops.

ISO Committee: Chief Dan Petersen from Jackson County Fire District 3 reviewed the ISO report provided in the board packets about concerns regarding the ISO as exclusive providers of the grading process. The OFCA Board is considering three options:

- Supporting ISO as exclusive provider
- Supporting WSRB and ISO as providers
- Supporting WSRB as exclusive provider

The OFCA Board will address these options at its June meeting, although a final decision may not be made at that time.

360 Committee: Chief Kevin Henson from Marion County Fire District #1 reviewed the updated 360 Taskforce report provided in the meeting packets, noting progress that has been made in recent weeks. He reported that the Taskforce has 100% support of Oregon's Congressional Caucus championed by Congressman Greg Walden. Congressman Schrader has initiated an investigation into DOL's interest in Oregon volunteer firefighters. He also noted that LOSAP was no longer an issue and explained that Appendix G represented a huge win with regard to PERS announcements relating to volunteers.

Mark Kreutzer thanked Chief Henson and the Taskforce for their efforts.

OFCA Update: The Board reviewed a written report submitted by Chief Aldrich.

Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 15, 2014, meeting. With no corrections or additions noted, the minutes were **approved as presented**.

Financial Report

Jessica Carpenter reviewed the FY 2014 financial statements, noting the following highlights:

- Checking account balance down slightly over last year.
- Have seen 44% of budgeted revenue for the year.
- Budgeted revenue from dues nearly complete.
- Communique printing at 97% and likely to exceed budget for the year
- Maintenance over budget as a result of water leak.
- All other expense in line with forecast and budget.

With no corrections or additions noted, **the report was approved as presented**.

President's Report

President Don Trotter reported that he had been unable to attend the OFCA Conference due to scheduling conflicts. However, Mark Kreutzer attended on behalf of OFDDA and provided an update on OFDDA's activities. Mark provided a brief overview of the OFCA Conference. President Trotter also noted that the Executive Committee had met recently.

Staff Report

Staff reported on the following items:

- OFMA is meeting next week at Welches.
- Membership: Rogue Valley is coming on as a new member
- Communique: A letter sent to Strategy Publishing providing 30-day notice of contract termination. President Trotter suggested providing electronic updates between newsletter quarterly publishing dates.
- Legislative: Committees meet four times per year to discuss legislative concepts. The first legislative days will be May 27-29.
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LOSAP: Laurel Williams provided an update on LOSAP, noting the following highlights:

- Contributions processed YTD total \$289,528.
- Forfeitures processed YTD total \$79,000.
- The number of Cash Distributions processed YTD is 22.
- Staff has scheduled a presentation with Jackson 4 the following week.
- Discussions are ongoing discussions with four firms to augment or replace our current provider.

Staff will be working with a representative from Vanguard Investments to determine if the organization might have a viable product for LOSAP.

Committee Reports

BPSST – Dave Jones & Eriks Gabliks: The Board reviewed a written report provided by Dave Jones. Eriks Gabliks reported that during the next Fire Policy Committee meeting, members will review Line of Duty Deaths during the past year for inclusion in the Fallen Firefighter Memorial. At the federal level, President Obama’s budget for next year includes reductions in fire-related grants. Over the last decade Oregon has received over \$1 million in grants. Eriks encouraged the Board to let our Congressional delegation know how important those grants are to us. Eriks also reported on upcoming vacancies at DPSST. DPSST has been asked to work with the Governor’s Fire Service Policy Council on an issue related to lack of law enforcement in rural areas when firefighters are asked to respond to incidents that would typically require law enforcement. He also noted DPSST is seeing increased interest from fire departments to participate in active shooter trainings.

The Board reviewed Dave Jones’ written questions regarding background checks. Darrell King expressed support of criminal and employment history background checks. Mark Kreutzer concurred. Staff reported that the OVFA Board supports background checks as well and indicated that NVFC offers limited background checks for \$5 per person. Eriks noted that DPSST conducts background check upon request if the district has a policy regarding background checks.

By consensus, the Board agreed to support background checks for volunteer firefighters.

Bylaws and Policies – Roy Palmer/Carol Smith/Don Thompson: Roy Palmer noted that the committee has not met formally, but he has been reviewing policies; specifically, those relating to appointments to OFDDA Committees. He will follow up with the committee to further address. President Trotter noted that there are two different policies that say two different things: one specifies the Executive Committee and the other references the Board.

Governor’s Fire Service Policy Council – Bob Reeves: No report at this time.

Conference Committee – Darrell King. The Committee met in March and April and has identified an impressive number of topics. The Committee continues to work on finalizing the program, including chiefs toolbox, volunteer perspectives, death benefits, arson investigation, dealing with a dysfunctional department, 360 update, legislative update, LOSAP update, ISO update, recruitment, background investigations, community academies, labor/management trends, Post Traumatic Incident survival.

Special Districts Association of Oregon Legislative Committee & Joint Fire Service Legislative Committee – Roy Palmer/Dennis Rogers. No report at this time

NAEFO – Mark Kreutzer. Speakers have been identified for the Conference in Las Vegas and include Dave Penicook, George Dunkel, and Ken Jones. There will also be incident team member from the PIO section of OSO incident. The Conference is scheduled for September 22-23 at the Orleans Hotel.

Nominations Committee – Roy Palmer. Bob Reeves. Roy asked for confirmation for existing officers to determine who is wanting to move up leadership chairs. He also discussed outreach to fill vacant positions and encouraged outreach to local boards and neighboring districts.

Oregon Life Safety Team – Mark Kreutzer. No report.

Property Committee – Bob Reeves. No report.

Ambassador Committee – Eldon Marcum. The Committee has not met; however, Eldon has been speaking with neighboring districts. He would like to see a newsletter article similar to the SDAO article in the last *Communique*. President Trotter suggested that the Past Presidents Committee might be a good resource for outreach concepts and action.

Budget Committee – Dennis Rogers. The Committee is working on budget draft process and format that will be easier for everyone to follow and to use as a template moving forward. President Trotter asked if committee had reviewed Policy 127. Dennis is reviewing the policy and will propose new language at next meeting.

OFCA Fire Insurance Task Force & Vacant Lands Committee – Roy Palmer. The Vacant Lands Committee has met twice and is in the beginning stages of evaluating scope since not every department is involved. He noted that it is a very active, well represented group. Currently, members are in the process of collecting statewide data from assessor's offices.

OFCA Volunteer 360 Task Force – Mark Kreutzer. No additional report.

Executive Committee – Don Trotter. The Committee met following the last Conference Committee meeting. The Executive Committee is responsible for specific goals in the Strategic Plan. Don hopes to renew the active partnership with SDAO on training.

Old Business

Strategic Plan Review: President Trotter discussed upcoming workshops and the Board's role in soliciting attendance for the workshops.

New Business

Dennis Rogers recently visited Amity Fire District and provided information regarding LOSAP.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, President Trotter adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.