



# OREGON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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“Representing Those Who Volunteer”

## Minutes

Jefferson Rural Fire Protection District  
February 15, 2008, 18:00 Hours

### CALL TO ORDER:

President Greiner called the meeting to order at 18:03 hours.

### ROLL CALL:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tina Greiner, President                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kourosh Modjtabai, Director |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Butler, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nic Granum, Director        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Mullen, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rex Parks Sr, Director      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Schneiderman                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Richard Detherage, Chaplain            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Oeder, Secretary/Treasurer             |   |

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jack Carriger

### STAFF:

Genoa Ingram  
Wendy Knodel

### INVOCATION:

- President Greiner lead the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- The following agenda items were added:
  - Office of Historian and expectations of duties
  - Resolution from the Oregon Fire Service Museum and Learning Center

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Approved Minutes for January 19, 2008 meeting.

**Motion:** Moved by Dave Butler and seconded by Rex Parks to approve the January 19, 2008 minutes as amended. **Motion passed.**

### FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Jim Oeder provided the financial report to the Board and referenced the budget as approved at the January meeting. The financial report will be on record in the Salem office. He noted that no funds had been received from telemarketing. President Greiner agreed to follow up with legal counsel.
- Approval of invoices for payment
  - inFocus – one month was approved (January) \$200.00

**Motion:** Moved by Dave Butler and seconded by Jim Oeder to approve payment of the inFocus invoice. **Motion passed.**



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## STAFF REPORT:

- Genoa Ingram provided a legislative update including HB 3632 (volunteer compensation) and SB 1084 (Fill the Boot) and committed to forward the Oregon State Fire Marshal's legislative concepts.
- Jim Oeder provided staff with copies of the OVFA promotional brochures to be updated.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### a) Ambassador Program – Scott Mullen/Jim Oeder

President Greiner noted that Scott Mullen had asked to be removed from the program and the Kourosh Modjtabai had agreed to step in. Kourosh reported that he had been reviewing the web page for possible changes. Scott reported that he had met a prospective Ambassador and would forward the contact information.

### b) Conference – Jack Carriger

Courses: Jack reported that he and President Greiner had met with Marion county group to review classes; that meeting had resulted in the addition of approximately a dozen more classes. In response to questions, President Greiner responded that courses would be held at either at Chemeketa or at the Marion training center.

Food: Nic Granum asked for input and direction with regard to food. Jim Oeder agreed that the specifics should be agreed upon so that the food line item could be budgeted. Jack and Nic will meet next week to discuss food needs. Scott offered to meet with the Chemeketa's chef. There was discussion with regard to the capability of the Whittenberg Inn to provide catering, as well as the Inn's policy on outside caterers.

Information Packets: Jim reported that packets were being assembled and that it was his preference to have information to departments by the first part of month.

Social Events: Jack reported that things are moving along well. Casino night/vendor night would be addressed at a later date. Plans for the golf tournament and barbeque are underway and is the responsibility of the host department.

Banquet Speakers: President Greiner reported that Charlie Dickenson is confirmed.

Awards: President Greiner will address awards.

Alcohol: There was discussion regarding serving alcohol at OVFA events, particularly with regard to those events over which OVFA would not have oversight.

Instructor Fees: Scott expressed concern regarding the \$2,500 fees for instructors and encouraged a cap of \$1,000 for future events. His efforts to contact instructors from Chemeketa had not been successful. Scott asked for direction. President Greiner and Jack will meet with Chemeketa the following week and would bring up the instructor issue.

Promotional Items: Scott described that design of the T-Shirts and asked if the Board preferred grey shirts at \$8.95 or white at \$7.25. Banners are also available at a cost of \$60 each.

Auction Donation: Scott reported that he had spoken with Gary from Gates who has agreed to do stained glass piece of the coin logo to be auctioned off.



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Scholarships: Rex asked about scholarships and was told that there would be two “room and conference” scholarships and two “conference only” scholarships. Jim added that there may also be an OFIA scholarships.

Future Locations: Nic reported that Jeff had explored locations for 2009 and received favorable numbers from Seven Feathers. The Board would like to identify a three-location rotation so people can plan. Scott suggested that the membership be polled.

Keynote Speakers: Kourosh asked about keynote speakers for 2009 and asked about creating an education module that could be repeated. Jack suggested Gordon Graham.

Sponsorship: Scott asked if the Carpenter Foundation had been approached. Jim agreed to make that contact.

**c) Grants & Scholarships – Nic Granum**

No Report.

**d) EMT Advisory Committee – President Greiner**

Reviewing the EMT I upgrade and Pain management.

**e) Governors Fire Policy – Scott Mullen**

Scott reported that the three big issues are support for the novelty lighter legislation, type 3 incident management and skinny streets; Nic asked that a link to the information on novelty lighters be added to the website.

**f) Fire Policy Committee – Jim Whelan**

Jim Oeder reported that a teleconference had been held the previous week and one of the main issues was fire ground leader.

**g) NVFC – Jack Carriger**

Jack reported that the Washington D.C. fire caucus meeting was coming up in April. He reiterated the success of the \$360 per year volunteer compensation, as well as grant legislation. Jim added that the NVFC had produced a podcast on recruitment and retention. Scott asked if next year’s presidential budget would be an issue. Jack responded that the Fire Act Program was defensible.

**h) Or-OSHA**

No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) Relief Fund Policy: Scott suggested that it should be tabled. President Greiner noted that insurance with Provident was up for renewal so the Board needed to make a decision. Scott promised to get additional information out on Monday. Rex questioned if it were possible to administer the program in a manner that is fair yet easy to administer. Scott discussed an email from Jim Oeder. Jim indicated that he had a problem with paying for deaths and recommended that a flat amount of \$500 be provided regardless of the type of hardship. His concern was that failure to cap the award would result in a depletion of the Fund. Jim suggested that the earlier relief fund program be continued and further developed. Scott emphasized the importance of continuing to serve the volunteers. Jack suggested rolling the remaining funds into the existing 501(c)(3) program. Jim will meet with Jack in the near future to work towards resolution.



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## NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Dues: Jim Oeder reported that there was a timeline if there were to be any changes to the Constitution. Dues had previously been set at \$5.00 per member and there was currently a formula based on number of firefighters per department.
- b) Fire Service Museum Request: President Greiner presented a letter from Jerry Heater to request a \$2.00 assessment per member to the Oregon Fire Service Museum and Learning Center. Moved by Dave and seconded by Scott to decline the request. Motion passed.
- c) Historian: President Greiner reported that Jill Dorrell had asked about duties and expectations of the Historian. The Board discussed purchase of a digital camera. Moved by Jim and seconded by Dave to allow purchase a digital camera. Dave suggested that a job description be developed which might include regular reports, newsletter articles. Staff will develop a draft description for Scott and President Greiner to build upon.
- d) Fundraising Options: Scott urged that merchandise should be posted on online as soon as the website is updated. He also suggested offering associate membership to other states.
- e) OVFA Checking Account: **By consensus**, the Board agreed to instruct staff to write a letter to Cindy King, Umqua Bank, Lebanon, requesting that former OVFA President Steve Schneiderman be removed as a signer on the OVFA account and that Secretary/Treasurer Jim Oeder be added as a signer.
- f) Legislative Efforts: Board members discussed three potential legislation concepts as follow:
  - o Tax Check-off for OVFA
  - o Tax Credits for volunteer emergency responders
  - o Address ruling on volunteer compensation as it relates to volunteer firefighters.

## FUTURE MEETING/ACTIVITY DATE

- Friday, March 14, 2008  
Salem Office  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- OFCA Conference at Crest  
Dave suggested sending one or two individuals
- Newport EMS
- The May meeting will be held in conjunction with Expo on the 15<sup>th</sup>
- April 19 meeting will be at Keizer

## ADJOURNMENT:

- President Greiner adjourned the meeting at 20:23 hours.

Transcribed by:

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Wendy Knodel, OVFA Staff