



# Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association

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“Representing Those Who Volunteer”

## OVFA Board Meeting

### Minutes

OVFA Office – Seaside, Oregon/Joint Conference

November 4, 2011 – 14:00 Hours

#### CALL TO ORDER:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Sellers called the meeting to order at 14:02 hours.

#### ROLL CALL:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Dave Butler, President                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirt Hickey, Director    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Sellers, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Robertson, Director |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rex Parks, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President     | <input type="checkbox"/> Aaron Gibbens, Ambassador           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stella Hickey, Secretary/Treasurer            | <input type="checkbox"/> Richard Detherage, Chaplain         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Mullen, Immediate Past President        |  |

#### STAFF:

Mary Tucker  
Genoa Ingram

#### GUESTS:

Mick Sneddon, Charleston RFPD  
Joe Parrot  
Gary Woodson, Pendleton Fire  
Eriks Gablicks, DPSST  
Dave Jones, OFDDA  
Analisa McKinley, Jackson 3

Mark Wallace, State Fire Marshal  
Jim Oeder, Nestucca Fire  
Roy Palmer, OFDDA  
Bob Reeves, OFDDA  
Doug Branch, OFCA  
Jack Carriger, Stayton Fire

#### GUEST REPORTS

Mark Wallace, State Fire Marshal

Eriks Gablicks, DPSST – EXHIBIT A

Bob Reeves, OFDDA expressed his support for OVFA.

Doug Branch, OFCA – John Nohr is the OVFA liaison. The Joint Boring/Clackamas Volunteer Association will host the 2013 Conference.

Jim Oeder, OFIA - reported that the Oregon Fire Instructors Association had ample resources to assist OVFA with regional training and encouraged the Board to seek assistance with payment of courses and other assistance.



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## **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Representation on the Honor Guard

## **MINUTES**

**Motion: Moved by Director Pete Robertson and seconded by Director Kirt Hickey to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Treasurer Stella Hickey reviewed financial statements.

**Motion: Moved by Director Kirt Hickey and seconded by Director Pete Robertson to approve the financial report. Motion passed.**

Staff presented the 2012 proposed budget. The board will review and revisit at the December meeting. A CD will also need to be cashed in to carry the association through until the fundraising income comes in. This issue will be revisited at the December meeting.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW**

Joe Parrot reviewed the strategic plan with the board.

Staff will forward performance objectives and targets to Joe so he can update the plan.

## **STAFF REPORT:**

Staff reported on recent developments regarding pre-paid 911 and efforts regarding telemarketing.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **a) Ambassador Program**

Director Kirt Hickey discussed restructuring of the Ambassador Program, with a focus on adequate participation to provide a statewide presence. Kirt reported that he and Stella were having conversations with two possible sponsors to assist with funding the Program. Board members discussed the need to more tightly define the duties of Ambassadors. Stella agreed to bring back a proposal for the Board's review.

### **b) Conference**

Mick Sneddon reported on the work Charleston has done for the 2012 conference.

Classes currently being considered:

Skid Truck – DPSST

MayDay – DPSST

Vehicle Extrication – Chris Mills

High/Low Angle Rescue – instructor??

George Dunkle SDAO, 501c3 financial management

Fire Investigation – state fire marshal office



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Firefighter Safety – Jim Bolton

Classroom classes for Fire Corp will be held at the same time as the OVFA conference.

Charleston will work on silent and live auctions, locating a place for the vendor show, and finding activities for families. OVFA will be taking care of the banquet.

Gary Woodson, Pendleton reported they are willing to host the conference in 2014 or 2015.

Treasurer Stella Hickey suggested preparing a more comprehensive brochure for Conference attendees and provided a sample. She also suggested a similar format to be used for an OVFA newsletter.

**c) NVFC**

Jack Carriger, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, NVFC, reported on NVFC grant process, noting that awards are based on various factors. He encouraged OVFA and its local entities to continue to make applications to both AFG and SAFER grants. Criteria such as call volume would go away. OVFA is also looking at different criteria for “micro grants” under \$25,000, aimed at making sure everyone has access to the basics.

Jack reported that he would be serving on several additional committees related to transportation and road safety. He also discussed the impact of budget constraints on the NVFC and the ability to represent Oregon.

**d) Grants and Scholarships**

Staff reported that the receipts and additional information had been forwarded to FEMA with the exception of the audit summary, which staff did not have access to. It was noted that the OVFA checking account will reflect charges for copies of checks related to grant expenditures.

Treasurer Stella Hickey reported that she had held off on any additional grant work pending disposition of the request from FEMA.

**e) EMT Advisory Committee**

Past President Mullen reported on the Future of EMS and Oregon Health Care symposium at DPSST.

**f) Governors Fire Policy Council**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President David Sellers reported that he and Past President Scott Mullen had attended the meeting and that the discussion had included selection of a Vice Chair.



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**MOTION: Moved by Past President Mullen and seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Rex Parks for OVFA to recommend OFDDA Board member Bob Reeves for Vice Chair.**  
**Motion passed.**

The other major topic of discussion was the Annexation Task Force.

**g) Fire Policy Committee**  
See EXHIBIT A.

**h) Legislative**  
(Included in staff report.)

**i) Surplus Program**  
Past President Scott Mullen reported that Director Pete Robertson had a number of surplus items which Scott would transport to Stayton.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President David Sellers questioned the status of the contract with Strategy Publishing, particularly with regard to the calendars. Past President Mullen suggested that OVFA invite Ken Raddle be invited back to discuss next steps.
- The Board discussed upcoming dates for Expo and the OFCA Conference. It was suggested that the Board meeting be held in conjunction with Expo on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **BOARD REPORTS:**

- Scott Mullen reported that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new station was scheduled for November 18.
- Rex Parks discussed ODF protected property owners not paying taxes. He reported that the county would collect retroactively but funds collected would be split between the various taxing entities
- Pete Robertson reported that his district had a proposed levy under consideration by voters.
- Stella Hickey reported that she and Kirt would be headed to DC the following week for the National Fire Corp. She is also working on curriculum related to grant preparation.
- Kirt Hickey reported that he had finished his EMT basic. Umatilla had backed out of the consolidation plan and mutual aid agreements were still in progress.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 17:15 hours (5:15 p.m.).

Transcribed by:

Mary Tucker, OVFA Staff



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## EXHIBIT A

- **State Budget Update**

- As you read the local newspapers, you have probably noticed a number of articles that talk about the state’s financial well-being. DPSST is not immune from these discussions and our Leadership Team has been working on a budget exercise requested by the legislature that would reduce our criminal fines and assessments programs (criminal justice standards and training) by 2.5 million dollars. We are not sure if this will take place when the legislature meets in February but we will be prepared just in case the economy does not improve. It is important that I stress that no reductions have been requested in Fire Insurance Premium Tax (FIPT) funded programs which covers our Fire Certification and Fire Training Program. We will keep you posted as we receive additional information from the legislature.

- **FEMA: Fire Act Grants**

- Volunteer fire agencies were reminded that FEMA’s Fire Act Grants were available in a number of categories. SAFER funds are available for volunteer fire agencies looking to hire their first or second career employee. The persons hired with these funds can be used as chief officers, training officers, etc. but their primary purpose must be to respond to calls. These positions must also work a Monday through Friday work schedule, not 24 on/48 off. Fire Act Grants are also available for volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention programs. Eriks Gabliks (DPSST), Jack Carriger (Stayton), and Devon Wells (Hood River) are all on the Fire Act Grant Strategic Planning Committee as representatives of their respective national organizations. Since the Fire Act Grant Program was established ten years ago, Oregon fire agencies have received more than 30 million dollars for equipment, apparatus, personnel, safety, recruitment and retention, and the construction of two fire stations.

- **National Fire Academy**

- The application window for the National Fire Academy is now open for the next semester. Of specific interest to volunteer firefighters is the six-day Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) which is a residential program offered at the Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The NFA covers the costs of airfare, lodging and all classroom costs. The only expense for attendees is their time and meals (approx. \$180 per week). Oregon volunteer lead the nation in attending this free training opportunity at one of the world’s best training venues. DPSST staff encourages Oregon volunteers to get their applications in as soon as possible.

- **Winter Fire School**



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- DPSST is pleased to announce Winter Fire School “2012” at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. The event is expected to attract more than 400 firefighters and will be held from February 25-26, 2012. Classes to be offered include:
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  - Instructor I Distance Learning Program (16 hour class)
  - Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations (16 hour class)
  - Incident Safety Officer (16 hour class)
  - Preparation for Initial Company Operations (16 hour class)
  - Leadership I (16 hour class)
  - Health & Safety Officer (16 hour class)
  - Courtroom Preparation and Testimony for First Responder (16 hour class)
  - Decision Making for Initial Company Operation (16 hour class)
  - Vehicle Extrication (16 hour class)
  - Chief’s Toolbox 7, 8 & 9 (12 hour class)
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- The registration form is available on our website at <http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FT>. Look for “Fire Training News” and select the “Winter Fire School 2012” link. This action will open the flyer (allowing you to select a class and register for Winter Fire School). Fax applications to: Thelma Denney, Fire Training, (503)-378-3345, any questions? Email or call Thelma at 503-378-2408, or E-mail: [thelma.denney@state.or.us](mailto:thelma.denney@state.or.us).
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- **Firefighter I Academy**
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  - DPSST will be hosting a NFPA Firefighter I Academy starting Saturday, 3 March 2012. The Academy will utilize IFSTA Essentials 5th Edition.
  - Student Manuals and workbooks will be provided to the student by DPSST prior to the first day of class. The FFI Academy will cover all of the classroom materials with lots of hands-on training of all the basic skills. Students will receive pre-requisite knowledge and skills but it will be up to each agency to complete the task books for the students. The graduation ceremony will commence on Saturday, July 14th, 2012 at 1300 hours at DPSST in the Hall of Heroes.
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  - Pre-requisites to be in the FFI academy are as follows: The recruit must have the sponsoring agency fill out a DPSST Department Authorization Form, the recruit and the agency must read and sign a Student Expectations Form, must have a physical (as required by Or-OSHA Respiratory Protection Rules), Student Emergency Contact Information Sheet and have a DPSST Fire number assigned. These items must be turned in with the DPSST registration form on or before Friday, 19 January 2012 at 1700 hours.
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- The registration form, DPSST Department Authorization Form, Student Expectations Form, Student Emergency Contact Information sheet can be found on the following web address: [http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FT/docs/Fire\\_Training\\_Application.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FT/docs/Fire_Training_Application.pdf)
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- If you have any questions contact Lt. John West at Phone 503-378-2583 / Office 503-559-5756 / email @ [john.west@state.or.us](mailto:john.west@state.or.us)
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- **National Fire Academy Changes Practices to Meet ACE Requirements**
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- The National Fire Academy (NFA) subscribes to the American Council on Education (ACE) for academic review of its classes and programs. To evaluate academic rigor and assess college-level course credits, ACE examines course objectives, outcomes, instructor qualifications, instructional methods, instructor guides, student manuals, other materials, and evaluations of learning. On a rotating basis each year, ACE reviews the NFA curriculum packages and makes recommendations so that other institutions of higher education may consider granting transfer credit for NFA courses. In addition to course credit recommendations, the ACE review serves as an outside objective and independent academic review of all NFA curricula.
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- ACE has new rules which affected their most recent review (September 25-27, 2011) of the NFA. These new rules and recommendations will affect the NFA and its students in the future. The NFA will now be moving from a system of Pass / Fail to include a marking system. The NFA will soon begin to issue grades that reflect the evaluation of a student's performance, and also be keeping records of how they reached those final grade decisions. The performance of each student on each exercise, quiz, group project and examination will now be graded. In many classes, we have been keeping such records already.
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- In addition, the NFA is required to conduct formal evaluations of its instructors. This is nothing new because NFA Training Specialists have been in classrooms observing instructors since the NFA opened. The only difference is that the NFA must now have a more formal process with records of performance. The NFA staff is also working on plans to accomplish these in a manner which is objective, fair, and satisfies ACE requirements and recommendations. The USFA will be looking to state partners for occasional assistance in evaluating instructors who teach in predominantly off-campus classes.
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- These new requirements apply to 2-day, 6-day and 10-day classes sponsored by the NFA. These changes do NOT apply to NFA courses delivered by the state partners unless that state has sought ACE recommendations on its own.
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- The ACE allows 90 days to implement these changes on the 22 courses ACE has just reviewed. Students and instructors will now see incremental implementation beginning fairly



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quickly. As courses are developed, revised, or ACE reviewed, the NFA staff will continue to implement these changes until the entire curriculum is completed.

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## **DPSST Hosts NIST Seminar: Fire Dynamics for Structural Fire Fighting**

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- On Wednesday October 26, 2011, DPSST hosted Daniel Madrzykowski, PE, FSPFE of National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and their seminar on Fire Dynamics for Structural Fire Fighting that was of interest to fire command officers, inspectors, investigators, and instructors. The class covered: Fire behavior or fire dynamics is based on the fundamental relationship between fuel, oxygen and heat, i.e. the fire triangle. The type of fuel, the geometry of the fuel, building construction and ventilation can have a significant effect on the speed of fire growth and spread. Ventilating the structure can provide cooling by removing heat. But ventilating a "fuel rich" room may cause a flashover, by allowing fresh air into the structure. It is important to remember that smoke is fuel. Ventilation does not always equal cooling. Understanding ventilation will lead to improved tactical decisions. Another ventilation consideration is wind. Wind driven conditions can lead to flashovers or intensify the flashover conditions and spread the flames throughout a flow path in the structure. Fire behavior will be described using a combination of videos and data to characterize the thermal environment that firefighters may be exposed to. Attendees will get an inside view of the fire progression through structures to compare with what they may see on the outside during size-up. Fire incidents and fire ground line of duty death incidents will be used as case studies to demonstrate the interaction of fire dynamics and fire ground tactics. This presentation provided insight to complement the fire behavior training that occurs in the training tower or the experience gained on the fire ground.

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## **NFPA EVP Train the Trainer**

- Last month, DPSST hosted the NFPA Electric Vehicle Program Train the Trainer Course at the Oregon Public Safety. More than 50 instructors from fire-rescue, law enforcement and ODOT attended the class. The class was well received and provide attendees with the information they need to deliver this class back at their local agencies. If you would like to find out which instructors attended the class and may be of assistance to you please contact Thelma Denney in the Fire Training Section by email at [Thelma.denney@state.or.us](mailto:Thelma.denney@state.or.us) The NFPA Electric Vehicle Program has created a dedicated webpage just for training issues which can be found at <http://www.evsaftytraining.org/Training.aspx> In a few weeks this web page will also include an on-line EVP class for fire-rescue personnel that covers all of the same materials the train-the-trainer class did. This may be a useful resource for fire agencies that are offering on-line training to their personnel.

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- **Updated NFPA 1006 Standards on DPSST Web-Page**

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- DPSST’s Fire Certification Program has posted the update for NFPA 1006 Technical Rescuer Standards (Rescue Technician). The new application for certification and task books are available on our website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FC/FireCertFormFree.shtml>

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- We have also posted the current Oregon Administrative Rules which reflect the change in requirements. (259-009-0005 and 259-009-0062) The rules can be found at:

[http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars\\_200/oar\\_259/259\\_009.html](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_200/oar_259/259_009.html)

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- If you have further questions or need assistance please do not hesitate to contact Fire Certification staff. Julie Olsen-Fink, Supervisor at 503-378-2297 or by email [julie.olsen-fink@state.or.us](mailto:julie.olsen-fink@state.or.us) Allison Sebern, Fire Certification Coordinator at 503-378-2596 or by email at [allison.sebern@state.or.us](mailto:allison.sebern@state.or.us)

- **Fire Ground Leader Update:**

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- **BACKGROUND:** Fire Ground Leader (FGL) is one of the last remaining Oregon specific standards within the fire certification system. Historically, FGL was created for those individuals who did not want to or were unable to pursue Oregon Fire Officer levels of certification. The college course requirements linked to the Fire Officer standards made it difficult for volunteer fire service professionals to attain that level of certification. As a result of those difficulties, FGL was created to provide a standard for training and certification for those who manage the fire ground. Today, FGL is still used by volunteers but it is also used by career departments who are developing future fire officers.

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- The BPSST/DPSST Fire Ground Leader Task Force met and tentatively concluded their work on July 26, 2011. Their purpose was to determine whether the FGL standard needed to be revised. This is due to the significant changes with curriculum in the NFPA Fire Officer standard which potentially had an impact on the FGL standard. Now that national curriculum is available to the Oregon fire service, they can achieve the educational requirements for NFPA Fire Officer I within their home agencies.

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- Presently the task force is finalizing the draft application for certification, task book and suggested course guide. It will be presented as a proposed change at the next Fire Policy Committee in November.

- **TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

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- Patrick Wineman (Chair) Willamette Valley Fire Rescue Authority
- Brad Paris (Vice Chair) Salem Fire Department



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- Mark Boren Lane County Fire District No.1
- Don Willis Sunriver Fire and Rescue
- Jay Alley Stayton Fire District
- Chris Geiger Clackamas County Fire District No.1
- Dave Blakely Jackson County Fire District No.3
- Jim Whelan Stanfield Rural Fire Protection District
- Bill Klein Chemeketa Community College
- Chris Hunt Corvallis Fire Department
- Bill Sharp Brookings Fire Department
- Jason McKinnon Sandy Fire District No. 72
- Jamie McCammon Boring Fire District
- Paul Reynolds Southwestern Oregon Community College

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- We will let you know when FGL goes out for public comment. We would encourage you to review the draft rules and the changes in the requirements. There will not be a historical recognition period and individuals who already have their FGL certification will continue to retain it. No additional course work is required.
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## **NFPA Fire Officer Update:**

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- **BACKGROUND:** The BPSST/DPSST Fire Officer Task Force originally met on November 30, 2009 and concluded their work on December 18, 2009. At the time, the Task Force was assigned the duty of reviewing the currently adopted 2003 Edition of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1021. They determined it would benefit the Oregon fire service to adopt the 2009 Edition. The Fire Policy Committee (FPC) and the Board approved the recommendation and it was placed into permanent rule after the public comment period closed.
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- Chief Arthur Hatch, Sunriver Fire Department and Vice–Chair of the Fire Officer Committee, submitted a letter requesting the discontinuation of the required Fire Officer III and IV task books. Chief Hatch indicated the requirements are all college courses and the task books are a redundancy of the established courses.
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- The FPC asked that we reconvene the Fire Officer Task Force to discuss the removal of the task books. We are working with the Chair and Vice Chair at this time to set up a meeting date this month for a telephonic meeting for the task force. Again, this will be brought to the FPC in November.
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- Over the past months, DPSST has been very active with the fire service across the state. As we mentioned, we hosted the NFPA EVP class and we also met with the public safety



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training team from Northwest Natural Gas (NWNG) which is doing a large training outreach effort with fire departments in their service area. NWNG will offer in-service training classes to career, combination and volunteer fire-rescue agencies on your schedules. This includes days, nights and weekends. NWNG has also developed company scenario drills which are another way they can provide training to your folks on natural gas/odor of gas incidents. We encouraged the folks from NWNG to work through both OFIA and the regional fire training associations to make outreach and schedule classes.

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- Finally, we are working with the IAFC Near-Miss Reporting System, US Fire Administration, and the NFPA on a close call that occurred in rural Malin, Oregon (Klamath County) where firefighters encountered an energized solar panel on the roof of a barn that was on fire. The majority of these events have taken place in large cities so each of these partner agencies are interested in what first arriving fire units encountered so they can develop training programs that address this emerging energy source.