



# Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association

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“Representing Those Who Volunteer”

## ***OVFA Board Meeting Minutes***

DPSST Conference Room  
February 13, 2015– 1800 Hours

### ***CALL TO ORDER:***

President Parks called the meeting to order at 1808 hours.

### **ROLL CALL:**

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rex Parks, President                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Thomas, Director    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kirt Hickey, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant, Director                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stella Hickey, Secretary/Treasurer*         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Musil, Ambassador*   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Servatius, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vickie Musil, Ambassador* |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Sellers, Immediate Past President     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Barker, Ambassador*  |

### **GUESTS:**

David Butler, Past President

- |   |
|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Carpenter |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laoreal Williams  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Genoa Ingram      |

### **STAFF:**

#### **INVOCATION:**

**Past President Sellers provided the invocation.**

### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

- President Parks added a discussion of OVFA Board meeting dates
- Past President Sellers added Burn Center Report and OFDDA Conference Committee
- Staff added prescription program and American Life Insurance update.

### **MINUTES**

**Motion:** Moved by 1<sup>st</sup> VP Kirt Hickey and seconded by Director Laura Thomas to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2015, meeting as corrected to note Mark Barker’s status as an ambassador. **Motion passed.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**Staff summarized the financial reports provided in the meeting packet.**

**Motion:** Moved by Past President Sellers and seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> VP Hickey to approve the financial report as presented. **Motion passed.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) **Ambassador Program** – No program report at this time. Mark Barker noted that there seem to be a large number of volunteers who are unaware of the Association, citing his recent interaction with a couple of volunteers from Keizer Fire District. The Board discussed how to better market the Association and how to encourage local volunteer associations to provide information to their memberships. Stella asked staff to provide her with phone number for the two new ambassadors. Greg reported on recent district visitations and outreach.
- b) **Budget** – The Budget Committee is inactive until the next budget cycle starts.
- c) **Bylaws** – No report at this time.
- d) **Conference** – The Board reviewed several updates to the 2015 conference and program:
  - Stella reported that St. Anthony’s has confirmed its commitment to contribute to the event.
  - Staff confirmed that half day prices for registration will not be offered—full day prices only.
  - A contract is expected shortly from the facility.
  - Kirt and Stella have met with the caterer and she will be providing a menu and proposed costs soon.
  - Keynote Speakers – David noted that he sent an email to Chief Siedel to see if he’s available. Kirt suggested a local legislator, which may be difficult at that time of year since the legislature is likely to be in session.
  - Kirt provided an update on the golf tournament—the Pendleton Fire Chief has indicated that he is unable to participate in planning the tournament. Instead, Kirt has offered to take on planning the event.
  - The Pendleton Fire Department will host a welcome BBQ at a nearby park.
- e) **Grants and Scholarships** – Stella provided an update status on grants for the conference.
- f) **EMT Advisory Committee and OFCA EMS Section** – No report at this time.
- g) **Governor’s Fire Policy Council** – David Sellers reported that the council met last Tuesday. Two new task forces have been formed: Injury Taskforce—trying to better collect injury statistics to identify better ways to reduce injuries in Oregon. Law Enforcement Taskforce identifying areas we can identify for the governor with no law enforcement and medical/fire resources are being called instead. Dave’s first three year term was finished in January. He is willing to serve another three-year term and has received approval from President Parks to go through the process to be re-approved for the council.
- h) **Fire Policy Committee** – Kirt reported that there is a vacancy on the board and the board is asking OVFA for a recommendation (preferably from central or eastern Oregon). There will be certification questions at the next meeting of the Committee.
- i) **NVFC** – No report at this time.
- j) **Legislative** – Genoa provided an update:

- HB 2818, relating to the tax check off bill for OVFA, has been referred to House Veterans Committee; the first hearing is set for March 12. Any subsequent referral to House Revenue may prove to be a problem, so staff will lobby to get that subsequent referral removed.
  - HB 2932, relating to establishing a state police patrol fund to get county patrols up to national standards with any extra monies trickling down to the counties themselves. Genoa emphasized the importance of letting legislators know the importance of HB 2818 to the fire service.
- k) **Surplus Program** – David Butler reported that the Association has received an offer from Antelope for a donation of large equipment. After discussion the donation, it was consensus of the Board to act as a broker for the equipment rather than accepting delivery for it. Stella noted that there are junior programs that may be interested in the items.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Challenge Coins – Staff provided an update on the challenge coins. The Board asked for a little more information with the expectation of making a decision at the March meeting.
- Chaplain Selection – The Committee has not yet acted. The Committee will make a recommendation by the end of next week and mail them out.
- Polo Shirts – Shirts are complete; staff has provided payment and they will be available at the March meeting.
- Open Board Position – Staff has reached out to all ambassadors to solicit their interest in filling the vacant position; Mark Barker has indicated that he is willing to step into that position.

**Motion:** Moved by Kirt Hickey and seconded by David Sellers to appoint Mark Barker to fill the open position until June 2015. **Motion passed.**

- GoFundMe – Genoa reported that so far OVFA’s GoFundMe account has raised approximately \$200. The Board discussed the benefits and obstacles of marketing the existence of the GoFundMe account. David Sellers suggested contacting Reggie Aquilino for publicity.
- OFCA Roundtable – David Sellers reported that he and Kirt Hickey went to the OFCA-hosted roundtable for combined departments. Approximately 50 people attended. There was a lot of open discussion about a lot of good topics, including the anticipated impacts of increased marijuana usage (per Measure 91), 360, law enforcement, fingerprinting for new certifications, and background checks. David noted that OFCA was very appreciative for OVFA’s presence at the meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2016 Conference – Dave Butler reported that Lebanon’s first planning meeting for the 2016 conference will be February 24 at the Oak Street Station; the conference dates will be June 15-18. Representatives from Scio, Sweet Home, Brownsville, Albany, Tangent, and Jefferson Fire Districts have been invited to attend and participate in the planning process. Lebanon Fire Chief Woodson is planning to teach a strategy and tactics class. Additional training is anticipated to include: water rescue, rope rescue, and arson investigation. Stella

noted that one of the proposed instructors for 2015 isn't able to attend but would be interested in presenting in 2016—she will forward his information to Dave Butler.

- Trailer Banners – David Butler reported that the OVFA trailer banners need to be replaced. The Board discussed replacing them and the possibility of using SAFER grant monies to do so. Greg Musil suggested asking Dave Lapof to help write the grant. Stella noted that Brian Epps from FEMA Region 10 may also be a resource for grant writing.
- Extreme Weight Loss – Staff presented the request for promoting the casting call for the Extreme Weight Loss program. *After reviewing the materials, the Board declined to promote the program by consensus.*
- Dave Butler asked if the Umpqua accounts have been closed and his name removed from them. Jessica reported that closure of the accounts is currently in process and should be finished in the next couple of weeks.
- Meeting dates – President Parks proposed changing the OVFA Board meeting dates; rather than meeting monthly, he suggested that the Board meeting six times per year: June (in conjunction with the conference), August, October, March (in conjunction with the pre-conference facility walk-through), January, and May (in conjunction with the NW Fire Expo event). One of the benefits of reducing the number of meetings would be reduced expense for both the board members and the association in terms of travel costs. President Parks noted that Court Street Consulting has offered to reduce its monthly retainer by \$6,000 per year in recognition of the reduced staff costs associated with the monthly meetings.

The Board discussed the proposed meeting schedule, noting that the Budget Committee and Conference Committee will meet as needed either in person or by telephone. OVFA representatives for other taskforces and committees will be asked to provide electronic reports and updates rather than waiting until the next board meeting to provide updates. *It was the consensus of the Board to reduce its meeting schedule for 2015 as proposed by President Parks.*

- *It was the consensus of the Board to approve the distribution of materials as requested by American Income Life.* Staff was directed to see if the company would be willing to include OVFA's Facebook and GoFundMe contacts in the materials.
- The Board considered a request from Business South Inc. on behalf of the Discount Drug Network (DDN) to offer no-cost prescription drug discount cards to OVFA members. DDN is offering a contribution to the Association of \$1.25 each time the card is used. The Board discussed the possible benefits and drawbacks of the program and directed staff to gather more information about the organization and the process.
- Burn Center – David Sellers reported that the Burn Center has set up a committee to oversee building a house similar to the Ronald McDonald house with 10 rooms available to families of burn and trauma victims. The committee is seeking \$1 million in pledges in order to break ground on the project by seeking sponsors for each of the proposed rooms. The committee asked David to see if there is interest in a 'fire' room – a room sponsored by the fire service. For example, each participating association could commit to a portion of the \$50,000 pledge to sponsor a room. The pledge can be filled over five years. David also noted that there are some burn survivors in the Pendleton that should be invited to the conference banquet.

- OFDDA Conference Committee – David Sellers offered to continue representing OVFA on the committee. *It was the consensus of the Board that he do so.*
- David Sellers reported that Chiefs conference is scheduled for May 6-8 at Eagle Crest Resort.

#### **BOARD REPORTS:**

- Kirt Hickey – Hermiston Fire likely to respond to 4,700 calls this year; currently averaging 14 calls per shift.
- Stella Hickey – Attended first drill with Estacada Department last month.
- David Sellers – Still volunteering at Nestucca Fire & Rescue.
- Rex Parks – The Cloverdale Fire Chief continues to heal. Rex will be working on specifications for the district's new trucks.
- Laura Thomas – EMT class is going well and she will likely pass in April.
- Mark Barker – Offered to assist with Expo set up in May.
- Greg Musil – Lincoln County recruitment is going well.
- Vickie Musil – No report.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 2055 hours.

Transcribed by:

Laureal Williams, OVFA Staff