



Oregon Fire Recruitment Network

February 9, 2015

Forest Grove Fire Department (1919 Ash Street, Forest Grove, Oregon)

1400 Hours

Pre meeting discussion – There were a few folks from Forest Grove in the meeting room upon early arrival and they showed us the Western Washington County Fire website, went over details/etc.

1. *Call to Order:* Call the meeting to order at 1400 Hours

- In attendance:
- Jennifer Motherway – Volunteer Coordinator, Columbia River Fire & Rescue
- Tad Buckingham – Fire Captain/Recruitment/Retention – Forest Grove
- Matt Aalto – Recruitment/Firefighter – Stayton Fire
- Phil Duncan – Recruitment, Cornelius Fire Department
- Danielle Bethell – Volunteer Coordinator, Marion County #1
- Rich Heuchert – Silverton Fire
- Greg Musil– Recruitment/Ret. Coordinator
- Paul Lenz – Volunteer Coordinator - Knappa Fire
- Dave Lapof – Division Chief/Volunteer Coordinator, Mid Columbia Fire
- Scott McKnight – Fire District #2 – Roseburg

2. *Purpose of OFRN*

- Do we want to meet every other month? Is this meeting useful? Do we want to keep the format, make it more formal? – Decision was to meet quarterly, but some discussion that bi-monthly might be best for all.
- Idea of website is so we don't reinvent the wheel, we can borrow/beg/steal documents, etc. The dropbox link is great for all those that call to ask for copies of SAFER grant/etc.
- Do we want to pay for dropbox or continue to use the free version of it? Are there other programs out there that might do the same thing? The decision was made to keep dropbox for now, but Phil Duncan was going to explore some alternate options and get back to Matt Aalto.
- Western Washington County Fire website – would like some ideas to improve this site.

3. Website

- Tad discussed how well Forest Grove's distance learning/hands on learning academy is working by using NFPA/Target Solutions for Academy which is DPSST approved. Have found it to work better than Jones & Bartlett online learning system. According to Tad, Jones & Bartlett wasn't very user friendly and the new Target Solutions program seems to be.
- DPSST Background check/fingerprints with DPSST – they did a rework of how the checks need to go. There was some discussion about how fingerprints will be needed for all volunteers going forward, however some discussion about these details in the fine print. A copy was passed around and emailed so we can further interpret this process.
- Updates made: there is now a blog page, video page, newsletter, updated comprehensive fire department list, dropbox files on the OFRN site. Matt has done an amazing job at getting this up and running and continually updating it. Nice work Matt!

4. Recruitment Tools:

- Reader Board signs
- Mobile Electronic reader board signs
- Yard signs: "volunteers can post in their yard"
- Door to door advertising
- Every door direct mail advertisements
- Business card "volunteers needed" to hand out
- Recruitment videos

5. Recruitment & Retention Matters:

- VA Program
- Cadet/High School Programs
- Pay per call, discussion of the 360 report

6. Other/Misc. - This meeting was a really good informal, open roundtable discussion on what each of us do within our agencies and shared ideas amongst each other on how we can continue to improve each program. Everyone had a lot of great input and brought great information to the table.