

OSFA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

February 15, 2018

MINUTES

The OSFA Executive Board met February 15, 2018 in the boardroom at 2716 NE 50th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, at 9:05 a.m.

Roll Call: Matt Lay- present and presiding
Dereck Cassady, Present
Mike Kelley, Present

Eric Harlow, Excused
Mike Duncan, Excused
Dana Cramer (ORFA), Present

Others: Phil Ostrander, Steve Lumry, Gene Brown, Sheri Nickel, Tim Bartram, Amy Hall, Jason Louthan, Dewayne Burk and Eric Hamilton

Guests: James Fullingim, Retired Norman

Presentation from Lexipol: Jeremy Sloan, Lexipol

- Fire Policy & Training Solutions
- Risk & Impact – Physical, Financial and Political
- 160 Legally Defensible Fire Policies
- Requested a partnership between OSFA and Lexipol

Correspondence: Thank you card from Chase Rankin. Thank you card from Kristi Moore (family of Everette Brewer).

Minutes: Motion by Kelley, second by Cassady to approve the January 18, 2017 Minutes. Motion Carried.

Fire Marshal Commission Report: Lay

Lay stated that this last year the Fire Marshal's office has transitioned to a non-appropriated agency through HB1833. That means they are exempt from some of the cuts that are affecting the rest of the state agencies. They are proceeding with their jail and school inspections ahead of schedule, and are up to date on all training.

Fire Service Training Report: Jason Louthan

Fire Service Training is busy right now and Louthan is heading to Lawton this weekend for the annual Destry Horton Wildland School. They have everything put together for the Atoka School coming up next month. Louthan stated if you call up and get a busy signal to please be patient with them. Due to cuts and one staff member out on medical leave right now, they are short staffed.

Fire School registration opened up last Thursday at 3:00 p.m. and had a great response. Currently they are at 133 classes over the four days and expecting two more from Fire Engineering Books and Videos. The registration is at 244 right now and should be over 250 by the end of the day. They are starting their e-blast out on their end today. They have had great reception out of it and have seen enrollment from not only Oklahoma but Kansas, Arkansas and Texas as well. The other significant number coming out of enrollment

would be out of the 244 students enrolled, they are registered for a total of 1094 classes. Louthan has been contacted by instructors out of state wanting applications to teach at next year's Fire School. The goal is 850 people and Louthan believes that they will exceed those numbers. There has been a small issue with some people not being able to get in classes since they are already full.

Committee Reports:

Legislative Committee: Lumry

Legislative Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. They put forward a bill to get reduced Hunting and Fishing Licenses to volunteer firefighters with certain parameters. They were made aware of the COLA Bill and the Fire Subscription Fees Bill being carried by Tadlock.

Title 19 Sub-Committee: Lumry

Title 19 Sub-committee has not met in quite some time. They're work is basically done at this point until legislation gets passed. Lumry stated that Bartram went at the request of Don Armes to meet with the Representative yesterday to give an explanation of what exactly we are trying to do with all that language.

Bartram reported on meeting with Senator Pederson and the discussion they had. Bartram went over the different title departments and went into details. Bartram told Ostrander that he noticed one section that was left out of the first draft going to committee about an active firefighter cannot serve on a Board and we need to figure out how we are going to address that.

Safety and Health Committee: Lumry / Bartram

The Safety and Health Committee met a couple of days ago and they seem like they are really starting to catch fire, get direction and have some ideas moving forward. Since they redid their sub-committees to Cancer Awareness, Injury Prevention and Risk Education, they are getting focused on exactly what that entails. They are looking at different ways on Cancer Awareness to get that information out and continue the best practices. The committee is reviewing reports on Injury Prevention and trying to come up with ideas on ways to promote being more careful. They have also talked about requesting and reviewing some records from the Pension System to see if they can identify trends to know what and when they need to address those issues.

Bartram discussed the Federal Grant on firefighter safety and that they are too short on time to apply this year. They had discussed applying for a Grant that they can do some type of health screening or health & wellness at Fire School. There was a lot of discussion from the committee's perspective of whether OSFA should be working harder to encourage annual physicals for both paid and volunteers. The committee discussed the pros and cons of potential future legislation make it mandatory. Lumry stated they are not to that point yet, they are going to do some research and review it. Lay stated they should work on partnerships at a local or regional level and OSFA can help support it and even provided a template for it without making it mandatory.

Bartram stated that BreAnn Horn (Marshall Fire Department) is on the Educational Advisory Committee and works for the Oklahoma Heart Hospital. They do a Heart & Lung Scan that usually cost \$50. She thought that there is a possibility of us partnering with them and getting it at a reduced rate for our members.

Educational Advisory Committee: Louthan / Bartram

Louthan discussed the night events scheduled for the OSFA State Fire School. The Welcome Reception on Thursday at the hotel sponsored by the Brunacini's Blue Card Program, FOOLs Bash on Friday, and Cinco De Mayo on Saturday. Wednesday, FST is having their annual FST Foundation Golf Tournament at Page Belcher in conjunction with the OSFA State Fire School.

Volunteer Fire Service Committee: Lumry

Lumry stated that they completed the Volunteer Caucus and there were great comments about it. He said that the Caucus is the main event that OSFA does of that size and stature where we receive more good comments and little or no complaints. That is all based on those guys' exceptional work and their vision of it. There are three things that came out of this year's Caucus: 1) Legislative Resolution 18-1, it talks about Type 1, Type 3 and Type 6 Task Force Capable Equipped Vehicles to be purchased by the state, including the equipment and maintenance for those vehicles and to be done similar to the FEMA trailers; 2) Resolution 18-2, would like for OSFA to take the lead in finding or changing the law where off duty paid firefighters or retired firefighters can serve as volunteers in their community, and 3) Recommendation to the OSFA Board to consider establishing a liaison between the OSFA and the Oil & Gas Industry. That would be somebody who would be able to attend different meetings in the Oil & Gas Industry and develop working relationships with those leaders to attempt to bring or direct some of those contributions that the Oil & Gas Industry might make to local fire departments.

EMS Committee: Lumry

The EMS Committee had a great meeting at EMSA Headquarters. They had a guest there by the name of Greg Reed, who is the top guy for the React Ambulance in Shawnee and he has been in the service for a long time. He is on the Advisory Board for the Oklahoma Department of Health, EMS Division, has been on some of their Advisory Committees and is the President of the Oklahoma Ambulance Association. He has a lot of ties and was very helpful and informative to the EMS Committee and gave them some partnership ideas like on GEMT. They already have a lot of background knowledge that our group did not have. They paid for research, and they are ready to introduce legislation on GEMT and would like to do it this year. They would like to have our support on it. They do not have a bill out there yet, it is going to have to be substitution in a shell bill. We have to get a copy of it, review it and see if it works for us.

The Committee would like to recommend to the Board to add Greg Reed to the EMS Committee.

Motion by Cassady, second by Kelley to add Greg Reed to the EMS Committee. Motion carries.

Benevolent Committee: Lumry

Benevolent Committee have not met in quite some time and we need to schedule a meeting with them before too much longer. Ostrander asked Nickel if that was her committee and if she has reached out to Cagle about scheduling a meeting.

Lumry stated that in 2017 American Income life paid out one claim and so far in 2018 they have paid two claims with two pending. That does not include Chief Reese Morrison from Midwest City. His was not an accidental death but if we would have been a little further along with the Benevolent Committee we could have helped these departments out a whole lot more.

The other thing is that the Board has talked about tying in the Brent Hatcher with the Benevolent Committee at some point and that is work that needs to be done. Currently, the Brent Hatcher membership is at 126 at \$5 a person that is \$630 benefit, which the Board has always said they would round up to \$1000. However, remember that we are early in the annual membership drive and had almost 500 members last year.

Membership Committee: Lumry

The Membership Committee has done an outstanding job and they met January 30th. They are doing a Membership Benefit Survey, started for the first time at the Volunteer Caucus and had an outstanding response. They have not compiled all of that information yet but they are planning on doing it at Fire School as well.

They are looking at some of those benefit packages that you can get by being part of different groups like SAVIC, AMBA and TransUnion Smart. They have not been able to identify a package specific to fire as of yet. At their next meeting, Bartram is going to be contacting some of these representatives from those benefit packages to have them come in, give a presentation to the committee and for them to make a decision and recommendation back to the Board. They would like to do a professional video telling the story of our benefits and our Association. CableOne in Vinita is willing to work with us on that and Tim will be contacting them.

Museum Report: Brown

Brown discussed that they now have a new hire, Joe Thompson, and he is doing a great job. Brown has been working for a while on coming up with a layout for the expansion. They are getting the lawn equipment ready for the spring and try to get a head start. The Oklahoma City Recruit class has 55 cadets coming tomorrow to pump the Hunniman. The Museum staff continues to work on ladders and their handy work they do every day in upkeep and maintenance.

Museum Expansion Committee: Lumry

Lumry stated that a small group met with Clark Construction since the last Board meeting. They went over the plans and made some changes. They talked about getting renderings for the fundraising efforts. That is all in the works but has not been completed yet. The architect and the rendering artist have to come out here and meet with Brown, Lumry and Ostrander to make sure they have everything the way it needs to be and after that is done we will get the updated cost estimate to get us to where we need to be. One of the things they discussed in the updated plan is to include a barn that will be off to the east side. It will be for apparatus that is normally displayed in the event center to be stored during events so it is protected from the weather and give us more flexibility with displaying. It will also have a work room built into it so we can have volunteers that will be able to do some restoration on some of these trucks. That will be built into the budget now as well.

Lumry discussed that Ostrander, Minx and himself, met with Art Cotton and the contract is signed. Lumry has met with Art Cotton since then and went over a lengthy list of potential donors that they were able to put together. He left Lumry a packet as a guide to use when putting our handout together as a "leave behind" when raising funds. Cramer asked Lumry about the donations from the Museum Board that Art Cotton requested. There has been about 10-13 of the Museum Board members that have already donated to the expansion fund. Sometime after the first of March we will send out a follow up to those that have not sent in their donation yet. Bartram presented the video he has been working on to help the funding project along for the expansion.

Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Report: Nickel

Nickel stated that she has a lot going on. She said that Caroline Reed is using three students to help compile the organizational data dump from OSFA, OSU, Pension, the old COFT records and put them in the OSU System. The students are organizing all those records, so we can get a better snapshot on the map.

Nickel posted on Facebook all the organizations that have received the grant so far, that post alone has just under 30,000 views and she has probably received over 300 phone calls off of that. She feels that is a very effective way to put information out there. Her interview on the channel 9 News generated another 100 phone calls. There are still several more applications that she has to approve and she thinks that we are up to 15 or 16 that are approved at this time. Those people are either going to be starting Firefighter I in April in Stillwater or they are in the class right now and about to finish up. Nickel will be trying to attend those graduations as they occur. There is money left over in the budget for 288 more physicals and they have discussed getting the word out to the departments that their new hire can get a physical through the grant. There was discussion by the Board.

NVFC Report: Lumry

Lumry stated that Mike Duncan could not be here but asked us to put on the agenda that he and Nickel be able to attend the NVFC Spring meeting in Alexandria, VA and also go to the CFSI dinner at that same time.

Motion by Kelley, second by Cassady to approve Duncan and Nickel to go to the NVFC Spring Meeting in Alexandria, VA, April 19th - 21st and also attend the CFSI Dinner on the 19th. Motion carries.

Duncan also requested that he and Nickel be able to attend the Training Summit in Concord, NC, June 1st - 2nd to fly out the day before and return the day after.

Motion by Cassady, second by Kelley to approve Duncan and Nickel attending the Training Summit in Concord, NC, June 1st - 2nd to fly out the day before and return the day after. Motion carries.

OFCA Report: Burk

Oklahoma Fire Chief's Conference will be held April 4, 5 & 6th. They have a pretty interesting keynote speaker Mike Boettcher and Burk is excited about it. Mike Boettcher is a War Correspondent; he was captured in 1985 in El Salvador and almost executed. He survived IEDs, a roadside bomb, a suicide bomb attack and he has quite a story. He is also a native Oklahoman from Ponca City. The other speaker will be discussing "Saving Those Who Save Others" the mental health aspect of what we do. I thought his connection with PTSD and dealing with those things kind of tie it all together.

ORFA Report: Cramer

The Oklahoma Retirees have not met since the last Board meeting. Cramer said that Brown has been doing things for their Convention. The ORFA Board will be having a meeting soon. Cramer stated that he was at a gathering yesterday and the COLAs are a hot topic right now. The rumor of a stipend does not taste well with them. Trying to get everybody on the same page, fighting for the same thing will be rough.

Executive Director/Legislative Report: Ostrander / Lumry

Ostrander stated that he can brag on the staff all day and even wrote an article last month in the *Oklahoma Firefighter* newspaper about how the OSFA has the "Dream Team" now. He wanted to thank the Board for

allowing them to pick and choose the right people for the jobs because it truly is a pleasure to work with this group.

Ostrander discussed the stipend issue and provided the Board an update on the political situation at the Capitol. Ostrander is not completely sold on the idea in the stipend plan that Rep. Randy McDaniel put forward. He believes that for the stipend to work for us would need to be different and that he will be working with them to change it such that it would help benefit our members more. Ostrander discussed that as written now the amount each retired firefighter would get with this stipend is minimal or in the volunteer firefighters case it would be nominal. He said if he got that stipend, he would donate it to the Benevolent Committee or something here in OSFA to help those guys who need it more. Ostrander said that here in about a month or so, he may be coming back to the Board about creating some sort of a fund to demonstrate to legislators that we care about our members and that they are not being fair to our members.

The Step-Up Plan failed on Monday, the Step-Up Group is through. They will not be participating anymore. Rep. Jon Echols said they are going to start looking at cuts to the budget starting this week.

Regarding the Hunting and Fishing License, they worked and talked and he does not believe the department of Wildlife is going to be able to support it.

The Subscription Legislation is still moving. Armes asked Ostrander to go with him to discuss the language with Senator Peterson and Ostrander recommended to him that he ask Bartram to go, since he is more familiar with it.

At the Volunteer Caucus, the members voted overwhelmingly to oppose legislation on red lights on personal vehicles. Ostrander went to talk to the author of legislation on this issue and found that DPS had also already spoken to him. Ostrander stated they have spent an extremely large amount of time over at the Capitol and they are trying to help them on some of their budget issues. He also discussed that he has been talking with the lobbyist for Career Tech. The Career Techs have asked about some of the things that are going on. They know that we are looking for training funding over the next couple of years and if we can find funding for firefighter training, they want to be a part of it and will assist in requesting that funding.

The Membership summaries are coming in now and most departments have already paid. We are still waiting on a few. Membership is up again this year and we will be sending out the second notice at the end of March. Lumry stated that past Executive Director Chris Bain's father Wes Bain passed away and the funeral is on Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. Wes Bain had done a lot over the years for the Museum and the OSFA. We also just found out that Midwest City Assistant Chief Reese Morrison's funeral will be Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. at the Life Church in Midwest City.

The Waggoner County Emergency Management Expo is March 31st and we already signed up to be an event sponsor.

Financial Report: E. Hamilton

Motion by Cassady, second by Kelley to approve the financial report ending January 18th, 2018, as presented. Motion Carried.

Old Business:

The Smoke and Guns Sponsorship was discussed by the Board.

Motion by Kelley, second by Cassady to approve the Gold Sponsor for the third year at the Smoke and Guns MMA Charity event. Motion carries.

New Business:

The 6th Annual OSU-FST Golf Tournament is Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018 at the Page Belcher Golf Course in Tulsa.

Motion by Cassady, second by Kelley to be a Platinum Sponsor for the OSU-FST Golf Tournament. Motion carries.

Executive session:

Motion by Cassady, second by Kelley to enter Executive Session at 11:14 a.m. Motion carries

Motion by Kelley, second by Cassady to return to open session at 11:47 a.m. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Cassady, seconded by Kelley to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. Motion Carried.

Next meeting: March 15, 2018

Meetings and Events

April 4 – 6, 2018

May 3 – 6, 2018

June 12, 2018

June 13 – 16, 2018

October 7, 2018

2018 OFCA Conference - Hilton Garden Inn, Lawton

2018 OSFA State Fire School - Tulsa Community College, Tulsa

2018 37th Annual ORFA Convention - Hyatt Regency, Downtown Tulsa

2018 124th Annual OSFA Convention - Hyatt Regency, Downtown Tulsa

2018 19th Statewide Memorial Services - Firefighters Museum, Oklahoma City