

OFMAA Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2003

Albany Fire Station 13

Call to Order: President Giard called the meeting was called to order at 1:05pm

Introductions: Those present included:

Dave Staab	Jefferson Fire District
Keith Hoehn	South Lane County Fire & Rescue
Bill Laird	Canby Fire District
Greg Hadley	Salem Fire Department
Susan Chase	Salem Fire Department
Randy Jackson	Keizer Fire District
Denise Giard	Albany Fire Department
Scott Shepherd	Sheridan Fire District
Scott Cooper	Marion County Fire District #1
Gregg Lander	Chemeketa Community College

Approval of Minutes: The September 10, 2003 minutes were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: CD \$3,259.92 and a current checking account balance of \$5,546.17 with one outstanding bill of \$17.90 – report was approved. We are still waiting for repayment of \$2,940.92 from the State EMS Office for the purchase training manuals via AHEC grant funds. The audit committee met and reviewed the Associations financial information and reported everything was in order. Membership renewals will be mailed out soon. Please pay them promptly ☺

President's Report

- OAR Review: Some comments have been received. Denise will be meeting with OSAA and OVFA then the groups collective proposed changes will be forwarded to the Health Division. They are targeting January 2004.

Health Division Report:

- State EMS Data Collection: DHHS hosted a meeting on 10/2/03 to discuss required data and collection systems. Minutes from this meeting are available from OR-EMS.

Old Business:

- DPSST Telecommunications Policy Committee: Randy Jackson agreed to fill this position and has submitted an application. The legislative make up of this group requires OFMAA representation. Following Senate confirmation, the position begins January 1, 2004.
- EDS Divert System: Scott Cooper provided an update on his efforts to obtain grant funding for this system within ATAB 2. Start up costs are \$3,000 per hospital and \$1,000 per dispatch center (read only stations) for the first three years, after which annual maintenance is 10% per site each year (\$300 & \$100). Portland area hospital and Life Flight status monitoring is included at no charge.

- OFMAA Conference Scholarships: Bill Laird provided a written report based on his telephone conversation with Frank Douglas outlining how we have handled scholarships in the past (copy attached). This was a great example of the types of things the association needs to have in writing. It was also noted what an outstanding job Frank has done for OFMAA in the past with managing this program. It was also confirmed that last months vote was to move our scholarship funding support from the State EMS Conference to the OFMAA Leadership Conference.

New Business:

- 2003/04 OFMAA Goals: The E-Board met prior to the regular meeting and drafted goals and objectives for the upcoming year. They were presented to those present and are attached to these minutes. Your comments and input are welcomed.
- Requests for Back Payment from Kaiser / Providence: Several fire service transport agencies have received requests from insurance companies for back payment of Medicare patients transported between April 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003. After much discussion, Denise advised that following the OSAA meeting on 10/10/03 and discussions with John Garitz and AAA that we may want to consider joining together to either fight the request or work towards negotiating a reasonable resolution to this issue (possibly using Page, Wolfberg & Wirth). Contact Denise for more information.
- CMS Notification of CPT Code Utilization: Randy Jackson reported that Keizer Fire and Klamath Falls have both received a notice from Western Integrity Center (WIC) a sub-contractor for Medicare that they are in a group of providers utilizing the A0426 and A0427 billing codes. WIC is very non-specific with the information they provide. This issue will also be discussed with OSAA. If you receive such a notice, please contact Denise.

OFMAA Leadership Conference:

- Update: The conference will be February 12 & 13 at the Hood River Inn. They have given us a room rate of \$69.00 with options to extend your stay and provide \$25.00 lift tickets. The conference will include nationally known speakers and offer both an ambulance billing and leadership tracks (conflict resolution, interpersonal dynamics, etc.).

Round Table:

- Sheridan: Attended NFA "Advanced EMS Issues" and has another grandson.
- Keizer: Looking to staff a 2nd ambulance M-F, new medic to go on-line soon and had crews provide coverage at Coos Bay so they could attend the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the NFA.
- Chemeketa: AHEC funding is gone until next year, new EMT-P class (all in early 20's) working well together. EMT-B night class with 80, day class with 32 and EMT-I night class with 32. Hired Justin Hardwig as instructor, they still have one opening.
- MCFD #1: Had two gurney failures with Stryker EZ-Pro, found fix (call Scott for more if necessary). Developing EMS compliance program, new glucometers, relocated offices (now at headquarters – same shoebox) and charting issues.

- Salem: Fire Med campaign underway, did radio spot this a.m. (guess you had to be there ☺)... Several LP-12 battery issues and not happy with Physio's fix (contact Greg). Discussed "Triplink" an OHP/OMAP transport brokerage. If their provider does not show up and an ambulance is called, they will not pay. Also discussed DHHS recent ruling that would allow these wheelchair/stretchers to carry oxygen, although they can't administer it... Again call Greg for more info.
- Cottage Grove: New granddad. Congratulations Keith!
- Jefferson: Switching to LP-12's and starting 12-lead soon, first new Pierce engine here and now starting to spec ambulance. EMS Expo a big success.
- Albany: Six new hires with two more soon, very pleased with them but now unable to take EMT-P students, call volume is up, Albany/Jefferson sponsored advanced PHTLS class January 17 & 18, 2004 with paramedic skill stations in new format (available without a certificate if not needed).

Next Meeting: November 12, 2003 at 1:00pm – Albany

Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Randy Jackson