

## **FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD**

### **WORK SESSION**

**April 26, 2006**

**Lacey Fire District – Headquarters Station  
Lacey, WA**

- Board Members Present:** Sharon Colby, Wayne Wienholz, Jennifer Gregerson, TJ Nedrow, Jim Broman, Dean Hosni, Mark Kahley & Joe Coultman
- Board Members Absent:** Buck Lane
- WSP Staff Present:** Ellen Tombleson, Mike Matlick, Dan Eikum, Anjela Foster, Chuck King, Candy Christensen, Deputy Chief Paul Beckley
- Guests Present:** Kim Tanaka, Diane Hansen, Tim Nogler, Bruce Holloway, Paul O'Connor, Jack Hensley and John Dziedzic

### **Opening**

Chair Sharon Colby opened the meeting at approximately 9:15 with introductions of all present.

### **Update – Night Club Sprinkler Legislation**

Tim Nogler, State Building Code Council Managing Director reviewed legislation regarding the Night Club Sprinkler rule, which was adopted on December 1, 2005 and which will be in effect July 1, 2006. Mr. Nogler advised that there has been an issue raised with the timeline for night club owners to comply with the deadline date of December 1, 2007. Mr. Nogler advised that the State Building Code Council will address this issue at their next meeting on June 16, and that he is in attendance at this work session to provide the Fire Protection Policy Board the opportunity to provide input. During discussion, Mr. Nogler clarified that the industry did have input during the rule making process, but the input did not speak specifically to the timeline, but did reflect a general opposition. Discussion was held on the timeline addressing the number of contractors available to perform the work, and time required for the permitting process. Further discussion was held on the possibility of offering extensions if an owner is able to verify that they have begun the process. Wayne Wienholz advised that he would be an advocate for a structural change in the timeline, versus blanket extensions. Paul O'Connor advised that there are contractors in Oregon and Idaho with the proper credentials to perform the necessary work in the state of Washington.

Mr. Nogler advised that he would keep the Fire Protection Policy Board informed of any actions or discussions taking place at the State Building Code Council meetings pertinent to their involvement in this process.

### **State Fire Marshal Report**

Dan Eikum provided an update on the Fire Safety Slogan project that is being developed to provide the message of personal accountability in reducing fire deaths, similar to the law enforcement slogan of "Click it or Ticket." Dan advised that their Committee, which includes members of the Washington State Associations of Fire Chiefs and Fire Marshals, Department of Health, the Washington Public Fire Educators and the State Fire Marshals Office have narrowed down the 245 fire safety slogans received to five. Dan advised that the next step is to work with a graphic artist and focus groups to test the slogans and graphic messages to make the final determination. It is then intended that the slogan will be rolled out at the 2006 Fire Chief's Conference, July 13 in Wenatchee.

Anjela Foster reviewed the press release detailing a sprinkler save in an assisted living facility in Selah, and advised that this save was significant in the fact that the facility had a sprinkler system installed because of the sprinkler grant funding provided by the legislature.

Anjela also provided information on the WAC for State Fire Marshal Standards, and reviewed the timeline and notification process. She further advised that public hearings are anticipated to be held in approximately 5-6 months. Following further discussion on the input and comment process, Anjela advised that she will work to incorporate the Fire Protection Policy Board into the rule making process.

### **State Fire Marshal Hiring Update-**

Ms. Candy Christensen, WSP Human Resource Manager, provided the FPPB a briefing update and a packet of information relative to the recruitment and interview process for the State Fire Marshal position. Following discussion on the interview process, the Board advocated for a two panel interview process, with one panel being formal and centered on qualifications and experience, and the second being more informal and centered on interpersonal skills. In response to a request by Chair Sharon Colby regarding participation by the FPPB on the interview panel, Ms. Christensen advised that she would talk with Chief Batiste regarding having 3 FPPB members on the formal interview panel. Additionally, Ms. Christensen will work with Jim Broman and Joe Coulman to develop interview questions.

It was agreed that the Fire Protection Policy Board would review the information packet provided by Ms. Christensen, and forward any comments or changes to the information to Ellen Tombleson, who would compile a list of all Board comments received. Ellen would then send out the compiled list to the Board, for one final review, before forwarding the list to Ms. Christensen on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Christensen advised that it is anticipated that a new State Fire Marshal could be on board by mid to late summer.

### **State Fire Defense Committee**

Chief Bruce Holloway provided an overview of the State Fire Defense Committee's Business Plan and advised that the four Goals detailed in the Plan are:

1. State and Regional Plans
  - a. Ensure regional plans are submitted, reviewed and evaluated consistent with the Mobilization Plan.
  - b. Incorporate regional plan information into state mobilization planning and response efforts.
  - c. Recommend modifications to State Plan to Fire Protection Policy Board.
  
2. Best Practices – Incident Review
  - a. Review Mobilization Plan to ensure the safety of personnel; effectiveness of mobilization process; accuracy of appeals and claims and resource allocations and appropriate usage.
  - b. Make recommendations to the FPPB for modifications to the Plan.
  - c. Pre-incident operating plans.
  - d. Use best practices to review rates and recommend a comprehensive rate schedule to the Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs.
  
3. Influence Relationships / Communications
  - a. Work with the FPPB to solidify relationship and enhance information sharing to ensure understanding of impacts from external forces.
  - b. Identify stakeholders.
  - c. Work to improve relationships
  - d. Assist Regional Coordinators with communications and relationships as requested
  - e. Encourage continued participation.

#### 4. Blue Print for Success

- a. Continue work on the blueprint for a coordinated, integrated and comprehensive response to major incidents within Washington State.
- b. Develop a strategy to encourage stakeholders to collaborate in the design, development and implementation of the plan.
- c. Address as a minimum, the following issues:
  - Common understanding of NIMS
  - Single ordering and dispatching system
  - Type and makeup of teams needed within Washington
  - Uniform Complexity analysis
  - Communications interoperability
  - Certification and qualification system to ensure competency
  - Uniform contracting and payment system

Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick advised that due to the concern of declining student numbers at the Fire Training Academy, and the need for an additional marketing strategy, he has been working with the University of Washington's Marketing Program, and he is happy to advise that the FTA has been selected as a class project. He will keep the FPPB informed of the progress of the program.

Mike also advised that he is prepared to begin the process of developing a plan to address the public education and enforcement needs (similar to the fire investigation work group process) and plans to have an initial plan to present to the FPPB at the July Work Session. Jim Broman stressed that before anything is put into place, it is critical to ensure that the fire service is in support of these efforts.

#### **Fire Training Advisory Committee**

Chair Brian Van Camp reviewed the six strategies developed by the FPPB's Training and Education Advisory Committee to assist the FPPB in establishing a State Fire Training Education Master Plan. Jim Broman thanked Brian for his work with the Training and Education Committee and advised that he feels the product emerging from the Committee is a quality product.

#### **Discussion Items –**

A reminder was given advising that the Chair and Vice-Chair elections will be held at the next Regular meeting, which will be held on May 24.

Discussion was held on the total cost of compensation, as it relates to the Fire Investigation Plan. Mike advised that the reimbursement portion of the Fire Investigation Plan will be modified to be in line with the cost of compensation model.

In discussion on the regional contracts, it was agreed that the makeup, governance and structure of the councils needs to be reviewed to ensure they provide inclusive representation of the entire region. It was agreed that a committee should be formed to establish benchmarks and performance criteria. Bruce Holloway and Jim Broman volunteered to participate on the committee once it is formed.

Following considerable discussion, it was agreed that during the Fiscal Year 2007 Regional Grant process (July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007), each Region will submit grant requests for \$10,000 for each of its three Regional Councils; Life Safety, Investigations, and Training.

- The Region is allowed to move up to \$5,000 between council spending plans within the Region without prior approval.

- The Region will notify the Fire Protection Bureau, in writing, which Council provided the transfer, which Council received the transfer, and the amount transferred.
- Each Region will be required to utilize at least \$5,000 within each Regional Council.
- Any monies, within each council, that are unexpended at the end of the contract period will not be allowed to be transferred to another Region or Council, but will be returned to the State General Fund.

The Fire Protection Policy Board will re-visit this issue in the next year and provide further guidance for the Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 thru June 30, 2008) Regional Contract process.

It was also suggested that a hand out be developed to be distributed to the regional representatives during the May 24 presentations detailing this information and stressing that further changes may be made in the next contract cycle. Joe Coulman volunteered to work with Anjela Foster in the development of the hand out.

#### **Budget –**

In discussion on the Board's need to be knowledgeable enough about the budget to provide advice the chief of the Washington state patrol and the director of fire protection on all budgeting and fiscal matters pertaining to the duties of the director of fire protection, Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick advised that he will include a budget overview in his State Fire Marshal Report each month.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

May 24– 9:00

General Administration Building –  
Room G3

Approved:

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T.J. Nedrow , FPPB Chair

May 24, 2006