

**Fire Policy Committee Minutes (DRAFT)**  
**August 28, 2024**

The Fire Policy Committee (FPC) of the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (Board) held a regular meeting on August 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at the Oregon Public Safety Academy located at 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, Oregon. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Committee Members:**

Jack Carriger, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association  
Mariana Ruiz-Temple (Designee Claire McGrew), Oregon State Fire Marshal  
Ryan Gillespie (Designee Andy Ponce), Portland Fire & Rescue  
Chris Heppel, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association  
Isaac McLennan, Non-Management Firefighter  
Andre Lindauer, Public Member  
Shawn Olson, Oregon Fire Marshals Association

**DPSST Staff:**

Phil Castle, Director  
Shelby Wright, Executive Assistant to the Director  
Sam Tenney, Communications Coordinator  
Jennifer Howald, Administrative Rules Coordinator  
Kayla Ballrot, Fire Program Manager  
Brooke Bell-Urbe, Fire Certification Coordinator  
Madison Hockett, Fire Program Support Specialist



**1. Introductions**

Introductions of members and staff were presented.

**2. \*Minutes**

Approve the February 28, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

- *Claire McGrew moved that the committee approve the minutes of the February 28, 2024, FPC meeting. Andy Ponce seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.*

**3. \*Clayton R. Dieu: DPSST No. 39895**

Presented by Brooke Bell-Urbe

DPSST received an E-1: Application for Certification Eligibility for Clayton Dieu on April 23, 2024. During their routine background and criminal history check on E-1 Applications for Certification Eligibility, DPSST staff found that Dieu had a criminal conviction in his history. On June 6, 2022, Dieu plead No Contest to and was convicted of California Vehicle Code (VC) 23153(b) Driving Under the Influence .08% Alcohol Causing Injury and Penal Code (PC) 12022.7(a) Enhancement Great Bodily Injury. This conviction of VC 23153(b) is designated as a felony conviction in the state of California in which a sentence of up to four years in prison may be imposed. The charge of PC 12022.7(a) carries an additional sentence of three years of in prison.

After review and discussion, the committee unanimously voted to Not Adopt the Staff Report and returned it to DPSST staff with instructions to find further information regarding the following: the status of Dieu’s payment of fines and fees to the court, information about whether he completed any formal treatment for substance abuse as part of his probation, and whether he is utilizing his Commercial Driver’s License (CDL). DPSST staff will research this information and present this case again at the November 20, 2024, Fire Policy Committee meeting.

Vote/Consensus	Second	Vote	Outcome
Isaac McLennan moved that the FPC adopt the staff report as the record upon which its recommendations are based.	Jack Carriger	7 ayes	Motion passes unanimously
The FPC found that Comerford being actively employed as a Fire Fighter at the time of the incident and endangering others to be considered as <b>aggravating circumstances</b> .			
The FPC found that Comerford’s involvement in a Peer Support Team, completing an Alcohol Dependency Program, and taking ownership for his actions to be considered as <b>mitigating circumstances</b> .			
After Considering the case as presented in its totality the FPC members determined there was not enough information to take action or no action against Diue’s certifications and came to consensus to recall the motion to adapt the staff report.			
Any Ponce moved that the FPC return the staff report for further research by DPSST staff.	Andre Lindauer	7 ayes	Motion passes unanimously

**\* Proposed Rule Changes for Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 259-009-0087** Presented by Jennifer Howald

Accreditation of a fire service agency’s training programs allows the fire service agency to teach DPSST approved training courses as in house training that can be used for fire service professional certifications. The accreditation agreement between DPSST and the fire service

agency serves to consolidate course certification, instructor certification, and fire service professional certification processes.

The standards and processes for accreditation are found in OAR 259-009-0087 and the DPSST R-1 Form. The rule sets the minimum standards for accreditation and the form facilitates the review process to determine if a fire service agency meets the minimum standards.

DPSST administers the accreditation process in partnership with District Liaison Officers (DLOs). DLOs are volunteers who work with their local fire service agencies and act as a resource for navigating DPSST training and certification requirements. DLOs conduct accreditation reviews on behalf of DPSST. Completed reviews are submitted to DPSST. If no additional information is needed, DPSST will prepare a written accreditation agreement for the fire service agency.

It has been almost ten years since the accreditation standards and processes were reviewed in their entirety. On April 11-13, 2024, DPSST held a conference with DLOs from around the state to review the accreditation requirements and processes. The opportunity for review and discussion resulted in several updates to the accreditation review process and identified areas where the intent of the rules needed to be clarified. DPSST prepared proposed rule changes based on the feedback from the DLOs. The rule revisions also resulted in reorganization of the rule content.

- *The FPC affirms the fiscal impact statement presented by staff.*
- *Andy Ponce moved to recommend that the Board approve filing the proposed rule changes for OAR 259-009-0087 as a permanent rule. Jack Carriger seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously 7 to 0.*

## **1. Agency Updates**

### **Kayla Ballrot presents:**

- The Fire Program hosted another successful Winter Fire School with around 200 students representing over 100 agencies.
- Upcoming National Fire Academy (NFA) classes: Decision-Making for Initial Company Operations in Pendleton, OR on 3/16/24-3/17/24 and Command and Control of Incident Operations in Salem, OR on 3/4/24-3/9/24.
- Maintenance Recertification paperwork will be sent to agencies this June.
- The Fire Program is applying for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for more fire props.
- Welcome South Willamette District Coordinator, Ryan Frizzell, Southwestern District Coordinator, Rick Cooper, and Northwest District Coordinator, Josh Feller.
- Current vacancies to fill: Gorge District Coordinator and Skid Trainer.
- The Fire Program is working to identify more Skid Training host sites.
- Reminder: Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1 p.m.

**Phil Castle presents:**

- Express appreciation to the Fire Policy Committee Members for their dedication.
- Express appreciation to the Fire Program team for their efforts during Winter Fire School.
- DPSST will ensure fire training will have space on campus even with the implementation of increased Basic Police classes.
- Campus population is expected to go down by the end of March.
- The Fire Program is actively working on strategies for the underserved areas within the Fire Service.
- Governor Kotek has made Public Safety a priority and has started looking at the 25-27 budget.

**2. Next Fire Policy Committee Meeting – May 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**

Meeting is adjourned at 10:18 a.m.