

Board on Public Safety Standards and Training
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes
March 18, 2009

The Executive Committee of the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST) held a telephonic meeting on March 18, 2009 at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). Chair Andrew Bentz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Attendees

Committee Members:

Andrew Bentz, Chair, Board of Public Safety Standards and Training
Chair, Police Policy Committee

Mark Prince, Vice-Chair, Board of Public Safety Standards and Training

Rob Poirier, Chair, Telecommunications Policy Committee

James Whelan, Chair, Fire Policy Committee

Todd Anderson, Chair, Corrections Policy Committee

Chair, Public Safety Memorial Fund Board

Jeff Martin, Chair, Private Security Policy Committee

DPSST Staff:

John Minnis, Director

Eriks Gabliks, Deputy Director

Charlene Barber, Executive Assistant

Rebecca Hannon, Polygraph Program Coordinator



1. **Approval of December 12, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

Rob Poirier moved to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2008 Executive Committee meeting and Jeff Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

2. **OFIA Request Grant Money for Training**

Oregon Fire Instructors Association (OFIA) is a group of training officers that represent regional training associations, many of which are volunteers. They are asking for a grant of \$35,000 to host the Illinois Live Fire Train the Trainer program June 1-9, 2009 in Washington and Deschutes counties. The grant will cover the lodging, travel, rental

vehicles, per diem, supplies and equipment for the seven person Illinois team to deliver the training.

OFIA is asking for this grant because they have a partnership that fits into DPSST's strategic planning which is to provide training. They would be the facilitating agency coordinating with DPSST staff to provide the training. Eriks Gabliks shared that the cost is not out of the ordinary for this caliber of training. John Minnis stated that the statute allows the Board to grant money to private entities, (501 C3) non-profits that have a connection to our mission.

- The largest amount we have given in the past was \$150,000 for the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police for ORPAT equipment. State Audit required DPSST to establish a process that was clear, auditable and created a trail that confirms what has been granted has been delivered.
- The DPSST internal policy states that any amount over \$10,000 requires the Executive Committee of the Board to review, approve or deny the request.

Eriks Gabliks gave summary of training request (both classroom and scenario):

- DPSST is one out of only a dozen fixed facilities in Oregon with a building designed for live fire training. Most communities do live fire training in acquired structures, but these structures are harder to find because of community environmental issues, asbestos, and proximity by neighbors.
- A hands on class is the proper way to train a Firefighter. The National Standard 1403 was adopted by the National Fire Protection Association. The students attending 1403 are instructors that will learn how to deliver live fire training in an acquired structure correctly, how to meet those standards, and return home with a full knowledge and resources that will allow them to do this type of training locally.

DPSST will send fire training staff to this training because this is an area considered high risk and low frequency that you can't provide enough training for. Annually, ten percent of firefighters die in training exercises. Oregon has a zero percent fatality and would like to continue this record.

Mark Prince moved to provide the funding requested by OFIA for their 1403 training and Jeff Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

3. **Polygraph Licensing Advisory Committee Appointment**

Glenda Lutweiler resigned from the committee.

Salem Police Detective, Suzanne Coats, would like to join the committee. The Director has approved her request.

Rob Poirier moved that we ratify Suzanne Coats appointment to the Polygraph Licensing Advisory Committee for a two year term and Mark Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried in a unanimous vote.

4. **DPSST Budget Update**

Presented by Director John Minnis

Agencies are now being asked to cut as deep as 30 percent for the upcoming 09-11 biennium. The agency has eliminated twenty two positions already and stands to lose twenty more. Other loses, if the state moves into the next phase of 30 percent reduction will be:

- Removal of the Regional Training program.
- Removal of Child Abuse training.
- Severe decrease of part time instructors.
- Decrease of Administrative Staff; two Training Division Captains, Bureau Director, Facilities Division and Information Services staff.

DPSST may experience an issue in terms of delivering six Basic Corrections classes that are programmed into the budget. There will be a state forecast available May 20, 2009. The state is expecting a 3.1 billion dollar deficit for 09-11, but suspects it may go as deep as 5 billion dollar. The State is looking at sweeping funds or taking a loan to get out of 07-09 biennium if necessary.

DPSST is primarily funded through CFAA (Criminal Fines and Assessment) dollars, but those dollars are now fungible with the general fund. The Fire Insurance Programs, Fee Based Programs, and 9-1-1 Taxes so far have not been affected.

We are being asked to reduce our budget, but at the same time DPSST has been asked to provide to the legislature with a phased approach of how much it would cost to add police classes back from the fourteen classes that were projected in the 09-11 Governor's Recommended Budget.

DPSST has been working with its union to make an attempt to notify employees as soon as possible. We are losing a lot of good people and it is a very confusing and difficult time.

5. **Legislative Update**

Presented by Deputy Director Eriks Gabliks

HB 2790 – Reorganization of BPSST

- This bill increases membership of BPSST from 24 to 25 members, three of whom are nonvoting members. It changes membership of Board policy committees, directs policy committees to establish fitness for duty standards and procedures for reviewing denial, suspension or revocation of certification and establishes procedures for investigating and hearing cases involving denial, suspension and revocation of certification.
- This bill will affect the way the Board operates. Although the Board hasn't taken a formal stance on the bill, a number of the groups the Board represents have.

DPSST is providing information as people request it but DPSST has not prepared testimony on behalf of the agency or the Board, because it's really an issue about the Board's processes and the Board's makeup.

Private Security Bills Introduced

- Several bills have been introduced by private security professionals that don't like the current process; they are not industry bills, but singular issue bills.

Campus Public Safety Bills Introduced

- These bills were introduced on behalf of people that work for the university system (OSU, Portland State, OHSU, etc.). These bills will allow schools to give their employees police powers. DPSST has remained neutral on this issue, but this will have a fiscal impact as well as an impact on our work load.

6. Corrections Update

Discussion has continued regarding the possibility of the Department of Corrections leaving DPSST for their basic training. Budget hearings were just concluded and there were a lot of questions regarding the benefit of leaving DPSST verses the benefit of staying.

If DOC leaves DPSST, it will require a statutory change and a bill will have to be introduced. If DOC stays at DPSST, they will need to increase our budget because the employees that did Corrections training have already been laid off.

7. Upcoming Board Meeting

Next meeting date is April 23, 2009. Expect a discussion regarding changes in fire criminal conviction language in OAR. "Wiring" issues were identified in the design of the criminal conviction language. Three meetings have been held since the last Board meeting. There will be several rule changes stemming from the "wiring" issues. Two discretionary denials were addressed also.

8. Other

Chair Bentz encouraged BPSST committee members to make their concerns known in Salem by being in contact with the representatives on the right committees. Eriks Gabliks shared that the recent calls from constituents to the Ways and Means Committee helped restore six DPSST positions.

There being no further business to bring before the Executive Committee, Chair Andrew Bentz adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m. The next scheduled meeting for the Executive Committee is May 14, 2009.