



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES
RONALD FARR
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

STEVEN H. HILFINGER
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
Bureau of Fire Services
Constitution Hall
525 W. Allegan Street
Lansing MI 48933

MINUTES

June 7, 2011

1:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michael Deprez, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
David Purchase, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Association
Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Steve Richardson, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Ronald Farr, State Fire Marshal, Council Member Ex Officio
Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

MEMBERS ABSENT

N/A

BFS STAFF PRESENT

Joseph Grutza, OFFT Director
Mike Greis, Curriculum Specialist
Rhonda Howard, Recording Secretary

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Patrick Nahgahgwon, Saginaw Chippewa Fire Dept
Liz Arasim, Dept of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Dennis Andrew, Wayne County Community College District

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Deprez called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blomstrom and supported by Councilman Pettinger to approve the meeting agenda as submitted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Richardson and supported by Councilman James to approve the April 13, 2011 minutes with corrections. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. OFFT DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Joseph Grutza

MIOSHA Part 74: The rules committee has met 8 times; the last time on May 17, 2011. Committee members continue to work on the rules, keeping in mind that all current and pending rules promulgation activities must be accompanied by an impact statement on employers and employees. At the last meeting, apparatus standards were the main topic. Committee would like to adopt NFPA 1901, 2009 Edition. Committee is working on identifying differences from the previous standard as part of the justification process.

SB 212: Senator Kahn's bill, which would permit a school district or other entity to allow 16 and 17 year olds to participate in firefighter training courses and the fire fighter examinations, has been passed out of committee. The bill was amended to require MFFTC instructors deliver the MFFTC courses. This is similar to what is allowed under our explorer program.

Instructor I Course: The OFFT continues to prepare for the pilot program to be held at LCC the week of June 13. All 16 participants have received their books along with their assignments. Big thanks to Dave Purchase for providing the class the books at no cost.

Once completed, the course will be evaluated and future delivery will be determined. If the course is adopted, we have tentatively scheduled three courses to be delivered in the fall and another three in the spring. In September, on the southwest side, weekends, October, northern near Traverse City, weekends with final day at the MFSIA Conference and December, Southeast, 5 day week class. In spring we are looking at weekend classes in the UP in March, the southeast, April weekend classes and in May, southwest on weekends unless 5 day week works better.

5. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – Ronald R. Farr

Bureau:

Fire Marshal Farr stated that the Bureau of Fire Services is located in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and Deputy Director Brian DeBano has left the Department for another position and the new Deputy Director is Shelly Edgerton.

State Fire Prevention Code:

Fire Marshal Farr advised that as of March 18th, NFPA 1, 2006 edition has been adopted as the State Fire Prevention Code. He also stated that at free training seminars and books will be provided by NFPA. The training dates are as follows:

September 20th – St. Ignace

September 22nd – Kirkland College

September 27th – KVCC

September 29th – EMU – Eagle Crest

6. INSTRUCTOR APPLICATIONS

Staff presented the following Instructor applications for the Council's consideration:

12 new Probationary Instructors
28 Certified Instructors

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman James and supported by Councilman Pettinger to approve the instructor applications as submitted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

7. OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chair Election (tabled from last meeting)

Councilman Purchase made a motion to take motion off the table, Fire Marshal Farr seconded. A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Purchase to nominate Councilman James for Vice Chair and Supported by Councilman Blomstrom. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Request to amend the Firefighter I and II age minimum age policy

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Pettinger to take the request to amend Firefighter I and II age minimum policy off the table and Supported by State Fire Marshal Farr. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Richardson and Supported by Councilman Blomstrom to amend the Firefighter I and II age requirement so that students must be 18 years or older on the scheduled date of the examination. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Reciprocity

A discussion was held between board members regarding the reciprocity change made by the previous board.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Website

Councilman Blomstrom advised that the County Training Coordinator list needed to be updated on the Bureau website.

Councilman Blomstrom asked for clarification of the Training application (paper form) signature line. Is the hosting department or the students department liable in case of accidental injury? After discussion it was agreed that the wording will be changed on the application to indicate that the department sending the student is responsible for insurance coverage during training and testing.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Blomstrom stated that obviously right now the council's main goal is to take care of the rules. He would like to see a review of the curriculum within the next 3 to 4 years since we have so many courses out there that our instructors are teaching there is a need to take a look at what can be removed, what can be updated and what should be added.

Councilman Blomstrom appreciated the fact that someone commented that the County training programs as well as the Regional Training Centers have wonderful programs.

Councilman James commended the Bureau on the turnaround time certificates are being processed.

Councilman Pettinger stated that the council needs to go back and look at some form of continuing education the same way they do with the EMS program in the state. Fire Marshal Farr stated that we should put together an Ad Hoc group together to look at a continuing education program. Director Grutza thought this was a great idea and will get with Fire Marshal Farr and look into getting this group together to look at updating the curriculum.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Councilman Blomstrom and supported by Councilman Purchase to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

August 9 @ 1:30 p.m.

Location: 525 W. Allegan St., Lansing MI – Carson Conference Room (Lower/Atrium North Level) Lansing MI 48933

APPROVED:

Michael Deprez
Chairman

Joseph A. Grutza, Director
Office of Fire Fighter Training

Councilperson