



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES
MICHAEL DEPREZ
ACTING STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE ZIMMER
DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL
3101 Technology Boulevard, Suite H
Lansing, Michigan 48910

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 8, 2015

1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Vice Chairperson Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Mike Deprez, Acting State Fire Marshal, Council Member ex-Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terrence Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Assn.

BFS STAFF PRESENT

BreeAnn Hooker, Recording Secretary
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Supervisor

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Carl Billings, Detroit Fire Department
Ray Wlosinski, Training Coordinator
Karl Holder, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Philip Duczyninski, Novi Fire Department
Matt Majestic, Oakland Fire Training Institute
Andy Steeby, Wayne County Community College District
Greg Kowalski, Wayne County Community College District
Mark Cleveland, Egelston Township Fire Department
Thea Dornbush, Spring Lake Fire Department
Derek Hillman, Highland Park Fire Department

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Terrence Blackmer and Joel Hondorp had prior approval to be excused from the meeting. Chairperson James called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

15-12-001

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Pettinger and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to approve the meeting agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIES.**

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

15-12-002

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to approve the regular meeting minutes on October 23, 2015 as presented. **MOTION CARRIES.**

4. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – Mike Deprez

a. BFS Updates

The Bureau of Fire Services, State Fire Marshal/Director position update is that 4 or 5 names have been submitted to the Governor's office for recommendation for appointment. The position was posted on December 7, 2015 on the State vacancy posting website. The process is moving forward and there is no timeline as to when the position will actually be filled.

b. Fire Fighter Reciprocity

Senate Bill 372 was signed by the governor. This Bill allows a fire fighter from another state, who has received either IFSAC or ProBoard fire fighter I and/or II certifications, be granted an equivalency in Michigan. Since the Governor's signature, the formal application has been finalized, as well as an internal procedure. The application is currently on the website.

c. Company Officer Program

The Bureau received multiple reports statewide that the Fire Fighter Training Council approved, company officer program was no longer being offered. It was also rumored that the program did not meet MIOSHA part 74 requirements. The program is still being actively taught and does meet the NFPA standards.

d. Training Funds (Fiduciary Designation)

Instead of paying multiple instructors, only one fiduciary will be paid, and that fiduciary will then disperse payment to the appropriate instructor(s).

e. Boilerplate language required that any unused funds from Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) Fireworks Safety Fund, be rolled over to Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16). All counties must have their funds encumbered and entered into the system by 11:59 pm, December 31st, 2015. Remaining funds from FY15 and those funds not yet allocated on January 1st, 2016 will then be reallocated.

f. HMEP Grant

The HMEP grant paperwork has not been completed at this time. The Bureau of Fire Services will receive the HMEP grant, however, it is likely that those funds will be reduced this year. Councilperson Blomstrom inquires if a qualifying course has already taken place, can a county still receive the funding for that class. The SMOKE system does not permit a finalized course from being reopened to allocate funding. If the course has not been finalized, it is possible to apply funding to a qualifying course.

5. Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Vice-Chair Blomstrom

Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom reviews the discussion taking place at the Curriculum Committee meeting.

15-12-003

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to recommend the final certificate for completing the Company Officer I and II co-requisites and 80 hour course be renamed the "Michigan Company Officer I & II Series" completion certificate regarding the company officer program. Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez suggested that they should table the motion. A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to **TABLE** the **MOTION** until the February meeting. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Councilperson Blomstrom requests to allow the Course Manager and the Instructor of Record to be able to finalize a class (BFS-250) to allow for redundancy in the system. Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez reminds the Council of the audit findings and the broad access that was allowed in the past and the security issues. Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez suggests that this issue also be brought to the developers for feedback.

The review of Fire Fighter I and II exam test questions and the need to exchange some of those questions. The concern is that over time that test may become compromised through individuals discussing what is on the exam. 25% of test questions (50 questions) should be changed by October 1, 2016, Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17).

15-12-004

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger that on October 1, 2016, FY17, that 25% of the Fire Fighter I and II exam questions (50 questions) be replaced annually. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Councilperson Blomstrom reviews the plan to update the Educational Methodology program. The first meeting will be held on December 11, 2015 and suggestions will be collected to reduce redundancy. Those suggestions will then go to Curriculum Committee for review. An update is also provided for National Fire Academy (NFA) Course Call, Fire Officer III/IV curriculum, and NFA 75-a forms.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Status of FFTC Rules

Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez reviews the Administrative Rules Process. The rules are currently with the Legislative Services Bureau. The time table of completion is difficult to estimate. Adam Sandoval will be reviewing reciprocity, Senate Bill 372. The Council will likely have, at the February meeting, to look at and review, then propose any necessary changes.

DNR Courses

The Curriculum Committee reviewed the S-230, S-231, S-290, S-330, and S-336 outlines from the DNR request for adoption of these programs. The courses and outlines were good. Two minor issues that were discussed, but did not inhibit the recommendations, that there needs to be a National Wildland Coordinating Group certificate attached to the course and there needs to be a T-t-T or a way for Michigan instructors to be able to teach these courses outside of the

DNR individuals. It was also noted that Instructor I's are not to teach these courses, individuals must go through the third party instructor certification.

15-12-005

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom that the S-230, S-231, S-290, S-330 and S-336 be approved as "L" courses. **MOTION CARRIES.**

SMOKE Updates

The printing of certificates is possible through the individuals' registration history. The potential conflict of not having an Instructor be able to close a course has been presented to the developers.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Non IMS Applications

16.6

15-12-006

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from John Hager with the International Association of Arson Investigators, for the 2016 Annual Arson School in the amount of \$5000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.7

15-12-007

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Wayne County Training Chair, for a Mayday Event in the amount of \$5000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.8

15-12-008

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Pettinger and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Wayne County Training Chair to send 1 fire fighter to the University of Maryland, Staff and Command school in the amount of \$1575. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.9

15-12-009

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Wayne County Training Chair for firefighters to attend the NFPA Fire Inspector I and II in the amount of \$3606.83. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.10

15-12-010

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Wayne County Training Chair for reimbursement to Allen Park and Hamtramck for attendance to the 71st Basic Fire Investigation Team in the amount of \$2334. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.11

15-12-011

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Western Wayne Fire Department Mutual Aid Association to send 21 attendees to the Northern Michigan Fire Chiefs Conference in the amount of \$8200. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.12

15-12-012

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Pettinger and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Trenton Fire Department to run an Advanced Pump Operator at their department in the amount of \$350. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.18

15-12-013

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Rochester Fire Department for Wide Area Search course through the MUSAR Training Foundation in the amount of \$5000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.19

15-12-014

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Rochester Fire Department for Rope Rescue Technician Level course through the MUSAR Training Foundation in the amount of \$5000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.20

15-12-015

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Rochester Fire Department for Building Collapse Training through the MUSAR Training Foundation in the amount of \$5000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Matt Majestic expresses his issues with SMOKE and the approval process. Being an Instructor, Course Manager as well as the CTC, there are approval issues that he has brought to Dan and TJ's attention. Is requesting more than one Instructor I Train the Trainer courses be held per year. Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez expresses that staffing levels at the Bureau make it difficult to run more courses, but the Bureau will review this request.

Phil Duczyminski seeks clarification regarding the user roles within a department to approve Drivers Training activity on the department within SMOKE. The Bureau will approach the developers with this request.

Derek Hillman expresses his appreciation to the Council, the Bureau and the Fire Fighter Training Division for the assistance given to Wayne County. An invitation is also extended for everybody to visit Highland Park Fire Department.

Ray Wlosinski, seeks official clarification on the Blue Card program. The Blue Card program is supported by the Council, but it is not a Training Council approved course.

Mark Cleveland inquired about approximate number of total encumbrance to date. TJ Richardson stated that there is a report that can indicate that number. Mr. Cleveland wonders if it is possible for Instructors to be included in the Memorandum emails that are currently sent to the County Training Chairpersons. At this time, SMOKE does not have the capability to generate a mass email to Instructors, but that request has been forwarded to the developers to facilitate this request. Mr. Cleveland voices concern regarding the course roster only being accessed by the Course Manager. TJ Richardson stated that in the last update, the Instructor of Record and the Course Manager have access to the course roster and will be able to look into this issue following the meeting. Mr. Cleveland also inquired about the course evaluations and their status. It was explained that there was a miscommunication with Print and Graphics Services and evaluations should be sent out with each class and they are still required. It was also conveyed that the intent is to forward all Course Managers and Instructors of Record the evaluations for completion following each class.

9. COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilperson Pettinger is glad to see Wayne and Oakland Counties are allocating their county funds.

Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Deprez expects that by mid-January the reallocation of funds will take place. Mr. Deprez also commends everyone on their due diligence in making sure that the funds are allocated for FY16.

10. ADJOURNMENT

15-12-016

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIES**. The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

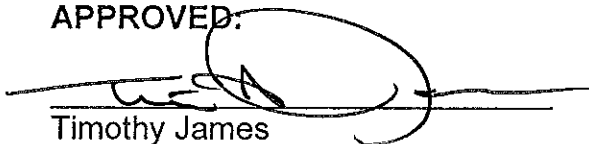
NEXT MEETING

February 9, 2016 @ 1:30 p.m.

Location:

3101 Technology Blvd, Suite H, Lansing, Michigan 48910

APPROVED:


Timothy James
Chairperson


Fire Fighter Training Division


Councilperson