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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910
February 13, 2018
9:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Timothy James, Chairperson, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chairperson, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Association

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:

Hollie Metts, Assistant to the Fire Marshal/Recording Secretary
Ann Searles, Deputy Director

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Liz Arasim, LARA Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs
Bill Pawluk, Lansing Community College
Mark Cleveland, Muskegon County
Thea Dornbush, Muskegon Township Fire Department
Adam Carroll, Livingston County

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Chairperson James called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. A quorum was determined present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

III. RULES PROCESS OVERVIEW:

Liz Arasim from the LARA Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs has been assigned to work with the Bureau of Fire Services and the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council to update

the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules. Ms. Arasim explained that that entire rules process would take approximately one (1) year to complete. Handouts were provided to the Council detailing the rules process from beginning to end.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REVIEW:

The following was discussed upon review of Public Act 291 (amended) and the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules:

- a) Remove the definitions for "Council" and "Fire fighter" from the Rules as both are defined in the Act.
- b) 29.362 amended Definitions:
 - Sec. 2(b) Certificate: This will need to be addressed in the Rules. The Bureau of Fire Services will have to create a certificate number.
 - Sec. 2(c)(i) Lists each of the certification types. The Bureau of Fire Services will need to test for each certification. The certifications must also comply with MIOSHA Rule 408.17411.
 - Sec. 2(k) Fire Inspector: Align this definition with the requirements in Public Act 207 of 1941 as well as the Fire Inspector Certification Rules.
 - Sec. 2 (l) Fire Instructor: After political subdivision, add "authority having jurisdiction" to the Rules.
 - Sec 2 (m) Fire Investigator: The Council discussed that a regular police officer is exempt from these requirements however, a firefighter for a public safety department is not. More discussion is also needed regarding the NFA or MSP programs.
 - Sec. 2 (q) Fire Service Discipline: The Council discussed expanding upon the certification process in the Rules. Ms. Arasim shared that she would look into the definitions further to ensure this would not go beyond the authority in the Act.
 - Sec. 2(u) Hazardous Materials Responder: List each level of hazardous materials responder in the Rules.
 - Sec. 2(cc) Public Safety Director: More discussion is needed regarding this definition. What would a public safety director be certified to? Would they handle administrative duties only?
 - Sec. 2(ee) Technical Rescue Responder: List each level of technical rescue responder in the Rules.
 - Sec. 2 (ff) Technical Rescue Response: List each level of technical rescue response in the Rules. (i.e. awareness, operations and tech rescue.)
- c) 29.363 amended Fire Fighters Training Council; creation; selection of members; advice and consent of senate.
 - In this section the councilmembers are increased by two (2) members. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that he has contacted the Governor's Office regarding the appointment process and will submit names of three (3) potential candidates.
- d) 29.369 amended State fire marshal; preparation and publication of rules establishing minimum standards; duties; certification examination requirements; waiver; validity of certification; certificate as property of state fire marshal; review and monitoring of state and federal standards relating to live fire training exercises.
 - 2(a) Advisory language: Ms. Arasim will look into this term further to determine if the state fire marshal may issue advisory bulletins. Include in the rule what is

- considered acceptable regarding criminal history and physical and educational fitness (i.e. possessing a high school diploma or a GED). Refer to the NFPA, MCOLES and the Department of Transportation for recommendations.
- 2(b) List all of the definitions and corresponding exams. The Curriculum Committee will need to review the Firefighter I and II exam and determine whether or not a student would be required to take and pass the Firefighter I exam before he/she would be eligible to take the Firefighter II exam. This section must also align with R29.405, Rule 5 Classification of firefighters.
 - 2(c) May be able to use the current language in Rule 13.
 - 2(e) List the specific criteria in the rules for students to retake a failed written, oral, or practical certification exam.
 - (3) More discussion is needed regarding part I and II of the certification examination for full-time or part-time firefighters. Is the current language in the Act enough or is a Rule needed to clarify further?
 - (6) Reciprocity for all definitions will be listed in the Rules. Further discussion is needed regarding the NFPA 1001 standard. A specific year is not specified in the Act. How far back will reciprocity be allowed? (i.e. After October 1, 1988 or two revisions.) How will the applicant show proof of continuing education?
 - (7) Establish the requirements for each classification in the rules that meet or exceeds the standard.
 - (8) Outline the disciplinary process in the Rules. Refer to the Administrative Procedures Act.
- e) 29.370 amended Statement designating chief or director of fire department or public safety department; contact information; filing statement of change; digital video disc or other electronic form of video display to be used in training; fee; availability; recommendations from council.
- (3) Amended for the course and attendance requirements.
- f) 29.371 amended Firefighters training council; powers; regional training committee formed and operated by 2 or more counties; deposit of fees into fireworks safety fund.
- (a) Specify the procedure in the Rules.
 - (h) Establish continuing education requirements in the Rules.
 - (j) Establish a fee for pre-service fire students to test at a regional training center in the Rules. Establish a fee for non-fire service students.
 - (k) Specify the development, conduct and responsibilities of a county training committee in the Rules.
- g) 29.374 amended Training expenditures; disbursement to county training committees; distribution.
- (3) Create a Rule for this requirement. The Council will now approve curriculum and then a second process is needed to approve the funding. Possible options include establishing a grant process after January 1 or the possibly a second allocation based on the 70/30 rule for counties that did not spend all of their first allocations.

V. **ADJOURNMENT:**

18-2-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to adjourn the special meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

APPROVED:



Vice Chairperson Blomstrom



Councilperson Pettinger