



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**  
**MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B  
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910  
Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
1:30PM

Call-in Number: 1-888-557-8511  
Access Code: 3254640

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chad Tackett, Chairman, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs  
Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association  
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association  
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union  
Jacob Steichen, Nominee of the State Fire Marshal  
Alan Styles, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs  
Lynnae White, Michigan Fire Inspectors Society  
Greg Janik, Fire Chief and Fire Marshal for Saugatuck Township Fire District  
Kevin Sehmeyer, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member (via conference call)

**BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:**

Dan Hammerberg, Region 1 Training Coordinator – Escanaba (via conference call)  
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Training Coordinator  
Ann Searles, Deputy Director Fire Bureau Services  
Hollie Metts, Assistant to the Fire Marshal/Recording Secretary  
Laura Johnson, LARA Contractor - Assistant to the Fire Marshal/Recording Secretary

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chris Mantels, Saugatuck Fire Department  
Mark Cleveland, MAFC  
Josh Mosher, MAFC  
Dave Robbins, Alpena Fire Department  
Doug Bourgeois, Beaver Creek Fire Department  
James Edwards, DFD  
Karl Holder, BFS  
Bill Pawlau, Lake Fire  
Sarah Bushee, GFD  
Timothy Seals, NOCFA  
Ray Wilson, STFD  
Pam Bissett, NOCFA  
Derek Easton, NOCFA  
Matt Majestic, Oakland County Fire Department  
Jesse Marcotte, Northville Township Fire Department

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

Chairperson Tackett called the meeting to order at 1:30pm and held a moment of silence for all the fallen officers injured or killed in the line of duty.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Captain Timothy Seals, Senior Training Officer

- A. Referenced regulations of Instructor II – Rule 29.408 (a) Probationary associate instructor requirements two and three. Timothy challenged that it doesn't state in writing a requirement that your need to attend the Instructor II course to teach the Instructor II.

Saugatuck Fire Captain Chris Mantels

- B. Requests a clarification of five years of fire service experience prior to taking the fire instructor I course. Stated that there were inconsistencies in the documentation and certification requirements.

**III. STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – Fire Marshal Sehlmeier:**

- A. Equipment process and what will be approved
- B. Budget Supplement Approval LARA Budget \$2.3 million fire training statewide; Scheduled to go through for 2019 Fiscal Year October 1<sup>st</sup> – Fire Instructor rate is being increased from \$45 an hour to \$55 an hour.
- C. Each County will receive \$17,500; remaining amount will be split by the 70/30 rule.
- D. Class B study on fire foam; 534 fire departments have responded.
- E. August 23<sup>rd</sup> 7pm Holland High School Next Town Hall Meeting – Contact Hollie Metts.
- F. M-First Training in four locations; improve fire reports
- G. We're striving to make all changes to Act 291 by 2020
- H. Improvement Efforts for Reduction in Fire Fatalities August 23<sup>rd</sup> Delta Township 8am Grand Rapids. We're at 81 fire fatalities in Michigan.
- I. Fire education and Fire Safety will be focused on over the next three years
- J. We're in the process of obtaining Mannequins as training equipment through Granger and distributing them throughout the state; we have funding for 53 of them so far. A list will need to be made of where they're currently distributed to.
- K. Improvement on training coordinators; Mark Hall is stepping down as the current training coordinator. We are looking for more training coordinators. In order to be a training coordinator, you have to at least be a Fire Instructor 1.
- L. 1,200 people took the Firefighter I and II course and 85% passed. There has been difficulty passing the Firefighter I course.

**IV. QUESTIONS – STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT**

1. Would there be funding if a mannequin were to be damaged in a rescue test?  
As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, there would be funding provided for damaged test mannequins

**V. Curriculum Committee Report – Councilperson Blomstrom July 31, 2018**

- A. Councilperson Blomstrom advised that 25% of the questions were removed by the curriculum committee.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Elect Vice ChairPerson

**18-8-18**

**A MOTION by Councilperson Aileen Pettinger to nominate Councilperson Brian Blomstrom as Vice ChairPerson. Through a roll call vote Councilperson Tackett, Councilperson Blackmer, Councilperson Pettinger, Councilperson Steichen, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier, Councilperson Styles, Councilperson White, and Councilperson Janik unanimously voted in favor of Councilperson Blomstrom becoming the Vice Chairperson. MOTION PASSED.**

- B. FY19 Training Fund Disbursements

1. Reduction from 2.3 million to 2 million for training funding. Minimum \$17,500 distribution.

- C. Discussion on Fire Instructor I Requirements

1. Time of application prior to taking the course
2. Five years for Instructor I and Seven years for Instructor II
3. Clarification on whether or not it was date of hire or date off probation to determine the expression time
4. Perform a needs assessment to determine if Instructor I or II is needed; driven by jurisdiction
5. Five years of service then you can apply to take the class -since probationary fire instructor I requires five (5) years of service
6. Review administrative published rules – Five years is stated as a requirement

- D. Discussion on requirements to attend a Fire Instructor II Train the Trainer at the Michigan Fire Service Instructor Association Conference on October 27, 2018.
1. You can teach any class that you have taken once you're an Instructor 1
  2. Certified Instructors are Grandfathered in, but are not equivalent to a Fire Instructor 1
  3. 408.C Instructor One Requirements
  4. Discussion on teaching Instructor II training without the "Train the Trainer" since an Instructor II can teach any course.
  5. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier share that you need to attend the Fire Instructor II course to attend an Instructor II train the trainer if necessary regarding whether it's an eligible request. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier stated, "Even with thirty-four years of Fire Service without proper training and without taking the course, I wouldn't feel comfortable teaching the course".
  6. Another Six Hour Train the Trainer Program will be offered in the future

**18-8-19**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom**, second by **Councilperson Pettinger** to cancel all future Instructor II Train the Trainer programs until rules are finalized. A roll call vote was taken. Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, and Councilperson Janik YES. Motion unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- E. Request to add a work session in September. Hollie Metts will send out a few dates to pick from to arrange that work session.
- F. Future discussion will be need for guidelines for approving the use of county funds to purchase training equipment with Fireworks Safety Funds.
- G. RTC Request – Alpena Community College

**18-8-20**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blackmer**, seconded by **Councilperson Styles** to make Alpena Community College a Regional Training Center (RTC). A roll call vote was taken. Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## H. Q Course Applications

**18-8-21**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class. **25 to Survive Reducing Injury and LOOD – Bill Cody** Roll-call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-22**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class. **Size UP and Command for the Small Department – Bill Cody** Roll-call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-23**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class. **HazMat IQ – Decon IQ-Justin Steeby** Roll-call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-24**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class. **The Saginaw Drill: Hands on Training for Firefighters: John Brophy** Roll call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-25**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class - **Calling the MayDay – Hands on training for firefighters: John Brophy** Roll call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehlmeier YES, Councilperson

Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**18-8-26**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve this Q Class - ***Airport Live Fire Training Brian Drayton*** Roll call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehmeyer YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**18-8-27**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Styles**, seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve Q Class - ***Crew Resource Management: Managing the Bird Strikes – Jesse Marcotte***. Roll call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehmeyer YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-28**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blackmer**, seconded by **Councilperson Steichen** to approve Q Class - ***Suburban Firefighting: The One Stop Shop – Jesse Marcotte*** Role call vote: Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehmeyer YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

**18-8-29**

A **MOTION** was made **Councilperson Blomstrom**, seconded by **Councilperson Styles** to approve Q Class - ***Today's Fire Science: 20 Tactical Considerations from Firefighter Research – Correcting and addressing Myths of the fire force – Jesse Marcotte*** Roll-call vote Councilperson Tackett YES, Councilperson Blackmer YES, Councilperson Pettinger YES, Councilperson Steichen YES, Fire Marshal Sehmeyer YES, Councilperson Styles YES, Councilperson White YES, Councilperson Blomstrom YES, Councilperson Janik YES unanimously voted to pass the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**VIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Councilperson Pettinger:** Adhere to state rules; kudos to applications/grants for courses.

**Councilperson Blackmer:** Kudos for structuring; striving for a positive change and a light at the end of the tunnel

**Councilperson Janik:** Thank you for your clarifications, approachability, and patience

**Councilperson White:** Thank you for your patience

**Councilperson Styles:** Bear with us with adaptability and know that we're approachable

**Councilperson Blomstrom:** Please be flexible knowing that we want to make changes, but still have to adhere to the laws in place which were there long before us.


**Fire Marshal Sehlmeier:** Thank you for the e-mails and as always thank you for your patience. Dialogue and discussion are very important. We appreciate your input and a full conference room with commentary. Next council meeting is in October in Traverse City. We have eighty-three counties in the state, and we encourage each of them being reached out to. A warm welcome to the council Councilperson White and Councilperson Janik and a reminder to sign up for GOV delivery.


**Chairperson Tackett:** Thank you to all those who came today. We continue to encourage attendance at the work sessions as well as the afternoon council meetings.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting concluded at 4:02 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Chairperson Tackett

  
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Councilmember