



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON  
DIRECTOR

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

Park Place Hotel  
300 E. State Street, Traverse City, MI 49684  
October 27, 2017  
1:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Timothy James, Chairperson, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs  
Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chairperson, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association  
Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Association  
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union  
Kevin Sehmeyer, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association  
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

**BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:**

Hollie Metts, Assistant to the Fire Marshal/Recording Secretary  
Dan Hammerberg, Region 1 Coordinator  
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Coordinator

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Brian White, Stephenson Fire Department  
Jeff Friederstab, Iron Mountain Fire Department  
Bryce Tracy, Mackinaw City Fire Department  
Jeni Binkley, Burlington Township Fire Department  
Randy Conklin, Burlington Township Fire Department  
Joseph Felton, Clinton Township Fire Department  
Rodney Scrutchen, Shelby Township Fire Department  
Steve Mann, Deerfield Fire Department  
John Clark, Delta Township Fire Department  
James Smieleskwi, Traverse City Fire Department  
Thea Dornbush, Gerald Ford International Airport Fire Department  
Mark Cleveland, Muskegon County  
Alan Styles, Dalton Township Fire Department  
Ray Wilson, Saginaw Township Fire Department  
Davis Jackson, Saginaw Township Fire Department  
Jesse Silva, Charlevoix Fire Department  
Shawn Allen, Sterling Heights Fire Department  
Philip Duczynski, Novi Fire Department  
John Martin, Novi Fire Department  
Dennis Firman, Farmington Hills Fire Department  
James Faughnan, Tri-Township Fire Department

Jamie Faughnan  
Teresa Robinson, Lansing Fire Department  
Guy Hubbard, Perry Area Fire Rescue  
Patrick Nahgahgwon, Deerfield Township Fire Department  
Clifford Boatwright, Bellaire Fire Department  
Ed Sayre, Training Coordinator  
Jim Tuller, Traverse City Fire Department  
Joe Baker, Mancelona Fire Department  
Alan Shumaker, Bellaire Fire Department  
Michael Youz, NIESA  
Ron Cole, NIESA  
Steven Lowder, Bangor Fire Department  
Rick Kleinow, Monroe County Firefighters Association  
Adam Massingill, Bedford Township Fire Department  
Terry Massingill, Dundee Township Fire Department  
Daryl Cummins, Tekonsha Fire Department  
Marco Igome, Tri-Township Fire Department  
Deward Beeler, Tri-Township Fire Department  
Jonathan Stone, Stanton Township Fire Department  
Danny Evans, Bishop Airport/Saginaw Township Fire Department  
Ray Wlosinski, Training Coordinator  
Sean Wethington, Big Rapids City Fire Department  
Jacob Thompson, Hartland Deerfield Fire Department  
Adam Carroll, Hartland Deerfield Fire Department  
Nick Vaught, Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department  
Robert Weaver, Carrollton Township Fire Department  
Timothy Wrede, Northwest Regional Fire Training Center  
Jay Morse, Northwest Regional Fire Training Center  
Greg Mowbray, Brighton Area Fire Authority  
Bradley Jackson, Richfield Township Fire Department  
Rodney Brown, Detroit Fire Department  
Jamal Mickles, Detroit Fire Department  
Brandon Dehaan, Kentwood Fire Department  
Clarence Patterson, Kentwood Fire Department  
John Baker, Portland Fire Department  
Blaine Howell, MSFA  
Anthony Watts, Detroit Fire Department  
Adam Munro, Macomb Township Fire Department  
Thomas Stuck, Clinton Township Fire Department  
Alfie Green, Detroit Fire Department  
Stacy Robinson, Madison Township Fire Department  
Doug Bouregois, Beaver Creek Fire Department  
Kevin Christianson, Lansing Fire Department  
David Odom, Jr., Lansing Fire Department  
Louis Kepler  
Robert Adams, NBFR  
Jay Knobbe, J & B Learning  
Ramon Valdez, J & B Learning  
Rick Rottman, Plainfield Fire Department  
David Pelton, Allendale Fire Department  
Timothy Seal. NOCFA

Bill Coty, Gratiot Fire Training  
Edward Peterson, Day Township Fire Department  
JC Robertson, Columbia Township Fire Department  
John Kramer, Monitor Township/Bay County  
Randy VanDanBoom, Hampton Fire Department  
Michael Harper, Schoolcraft College Regional Training Center  
Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College Regional Training Center  
Jeromy Robertson, VanBuren Training Center  
Bruce Pelletier, Mason County Fire Training  
Elizabeth Reimiak, Mason County/Hamlin Township  
Jason Newfer, Newaygo Fire Department  
Chuck Roberts, Troy Fire Department  
Charles Noonan, Troy Fire Department  
Amy Dunn, Riverview Fire Department  
Robert Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety Department  
Karl Holder, Cadillac Fire Department  
Larry Gambotto, Rochester Hills Fire Department  
Rogers Clausen, Rochester Hills Fire Department  
Kymberly Pashkowksy, Algoma Fire Department

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

Chairperson James called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**17-10-001**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the meeting agenda for October 27, 2017, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**17-10-002**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the August 8, 2017, regular meeting minutes as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:**

**GovDelivery:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier encouraged all attendees to sign up for GovDelivery. Through GovDelivery, the Bureau of Fire Services (BFS) staff will share training opportunities and other official notices from the Fire Marshal's office. The Fire Marshal also asked that anyone submitting a "Q" course application provide a flyer to advertise the training through GovDelivery. To subscribe, please visit the BFS website ([www.michigan.gov/bfs](http://www.michigan.gov/bfs)).

**Training Coordinators:** The Fire Marshal, along with Deputy Director Ann Searles, recently conducted training coordinator interviews for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18). A total of 26 training coordinators were selected for FY18. All FY18 training coordinators will be required to attend an eight-hour training session. The Fire Marshal is also looking to increase communication with the training coordinators over the next year and plans to begin hosting regularly scheduled conference calls.

**Funding:** The Fire Marshal reported that at the end of Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17), the remaining balance of the fireworks safety fund was \$2,237.40. The Fire Marshal, with the help of BFS staff (Hollie Metts, Dan Hammerberg, TJ Richardson and Ann Searles), scheduled approximately \$300,000.00 in training for firefighters statewide using unencumbered FY17 funds. The Fire Marshal encouraged all attendees to work with their county training committee chairpersons to make sure that their allocated funding is spent in FY18. At a minimum, each county received \$15,000.00 for training.

**Pending Legislation:** The Fire Marshal reported that Senate Bills (SB) 264 and 265 have passed both the Senate and the House and have been forwarded to the Governor's Office for signature. Both bills are tied to Public Act 291 of 1966, the Firefighters Training Council Act. If approved: two (2) members will be added to the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council; the Fire Marshal will be allowed to grant reciprocity for any certification (currently, the Fire Marshal may only grant reciprocity for Firefighter I, Firefighter II and Department of Defense certifications); a minimum number continuing education credits will be required; and funding will be tied to monthly fire reporting.

**NFIRS:** Currently, about 25% of departments are not reporting consistently. Any department that requires assistance with their monthly NFIRS reports should contact NFIRS Program Manager Rhonda Howard at [NFIRS@michigan.gov](mailto:NFIRS@michigan.gov).

**MIOSHA:** The Fire Marshal recently met with Bart Pickelman, Director of MIOSHA. Both agree that MIOSHA and the fire service need to do a better job of working together. In an effort to do so the MIOSHA staff are developing a checklist for inspections.

**Community Risk Reduction Program:** Upon his appointment, the Fire Marshal was tasked with reducing the number of fire related deaths in Michigan. As such, the Fire Marshal has put together a community risk reduction task force to undertake this assignment. A strategic planning session was held on September 7, 2017, at the Michigan State Police HazMat Training Center. At the end of the strategic planning session, the members drafted the 3-year strategic and operational plans. The Fire Marshal shared that the draft plans were approved by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and that the plans will be launched on November 1, 2017. On October 30 and 31, 2017, the Fire Marshal also shared that the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) will be conducting a CRR pilot program in East Lansing.

## **I. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **a. Vehicle Extrication Course/Levels**

**Brian Blomstrom**

Councilperson Blomstrom shared that there has been no movement on this topic and requested that this item be removed from the agenda.

II. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **2018 Meeting Schedule**

**SFM Sehlmeier**

The following dates, times and locations were proposed for 2018:

February 13, 2018	1:30 PM	BFS Conference Room B
April 10, 2018	1:30 PM	BFS Conference Room B
June 12, 2018	1:30 PM	BFS Conference Room B
August 14, 2018	1:30 PM	BFS Conference Room B
October 26, 2018	1:00 PM	Park Place Hotel, Traverse City
December 11, 2018	1:30 PM	BFS Conference Room B

The 2018 meeting schedule to be finalized on December 12, 2017.

b. **Fire Instructor II Train the Trainer Program**

**Brian Blomstrom**

Following a presentation from Chief Mark Cleveland at the September 26, 2017 Curriculum Committee Meeting, the consensus of the Curriculum Committee was to recommend that the MFFTC approve the Fire Instructor II Train-the-Trainer program as presented.

**17-10-003**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the Fire Instructor II Train-the-Trainer program as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

a. **Instructor I Passing Score**

**Brian Blomstrom**

On September 26, 2017, the Curriculum Committee discussed returning the Instructor I passing score to 80%. The Instructor I pass rate had been scheduled to drop to 70% at the beginning of the new fiscal year on October 1, 2017. The recommendation of the Curriculum Committee is to return the Instructor I pass rate to 80% as there was no Instructor II program in place when the motion was made to lower the pass rate.

**17-10-004**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to return the Instructor I pass rate to 80% effective November 1, 2017, which would **REVERSE MOTION 17-2-005** from February 14, 2017. Councilperson Hondorp questioned if there had been any Instructor I exams since the pass rate had been changed. Region Coordinator TJ Richardson confirmed that there had been two (2) exams since however, the exams has been scored with an 80% pass rate. Mr. Richardson recommended that the MFFTC make the Instructor I pass rate retroactive to the beginning of Fiscal Year 2018 on October 1, 2017.

**Councilperson Blomstrom** requested to **amend the motion** to return the Instructor I pass rate to 80% effective October 1, 2017. The amended motion was seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger**. The **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

**b. Fire Officer III Equivalencies**

**Brian Blomstrom**

On September 26, 2017, the Curriculum Committee reviewed Leadership Programs I, II and III, realizing that the National Fire Academy (NFA) no longer supports these programs. It is the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee that the current leadership programs correlate with the following new NFA programs to allow individuals to complete their fire officer program without having access to the old classes:

Leadership I – Professional Growth  
Leadership II – Perspectives in Thinking  
Leadership III – Frameworks to Success

**17-10-005**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the Fire Office III equivalencies as recommended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**c. Distance Education Proposal**

**Jonathan Stone**

Due to limited training resources and geographical challenges in the UP, Jonathan Stone has proposed a Distance Education Program to better train students and overcome these challenges. The Distance Education Program would be based out of Houghton County and would web conference to two (2) distance sites in Ontonagon and Baraga Counties. A training coordinator would be present when the students sign-in to the web conference and would route any questions back to the host site. The practical portion of the program would take place in eight-hour blocks twice per month and would rotate between the different host departments. The students would be assigned online reading assignments from the Jones and Bartlett textbook and would take quizzes and tests covering the material. Region Coordinator Dan Hammerberg shared that EMS Divisions have been using his training model for several years and have had good results. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier proposes that Mr. Stone run a pilot program in the Western UP and provide monthly progress reports to Mr. Hammerberg. If the pilot program is successful, the Fire Marshal would consider extending the Distance Education Program to other areas. Councilperson Pettinger questioned the total number of hours of the program. Mr. Stone assured that the program would meet the required 244 hours.

**17-10-006**

A **MOTION** was made by **Fire Marshal Sehlmeier** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the Distance Education Program as a pilot program. The program will be run in the Western UP only at this time. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- d. "Q" Class Applications:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that every county received a minimum of \$15,000.00 at the beginning of FY18. The Fire Marshal cautioned applicants that as courses are approved, funding will be approved only if county funds are available as the BFS does not have any funding available to approve non-county funds at this time. The Fire Marshal also shared that a revised Q Course County Training Fund Application was added to the BFS website.

**i. Rope/High Angle Rescue Tech**

**Jason Cunningham**

**17-10-007**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Rope/High Angle Rescue Tech application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ii. Step Up and Lead**

**Bill Coty/Thomas Stuck**

**17-10-008**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Step Up and Lead applications. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**iii. Flawed Situational Awareness**

**Bill Coty**

**17-10-009**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Flawed Situational Awareness application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**iv. Nothing Ordinary About Main Street Fire**

**Bill Coty**

**17-10-010**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Nothing Ordinary About Main Street Fire application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**v. Highway Incident Safety**

**Martin Erskine**

**17-10-011**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to deny Highway Incident Safety application as not the class was not made available statewide. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**vi. Bringing Science to the Fire Service**

**Adam Munro**

**17-10-012**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Bringing Science to the Fire Service application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**vii. Nozzle Forward**

**Thomas Stuck**

**17-10-013**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Nozzle Forward application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**viii. SOAFA Combined Training**

**Bob Ginther**

**17-10-014**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the SOAFA Combined Training application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ix. Command and Control**

**Brian Kazmierzak**

**17-10-015**

A **MOTION** was made by **Fire Marshal Sehlmeier** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the Command and Control application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**x. Alternative Fuel Vehicle Seminar**

**Nick Vaught**

**17-10-016**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Seminar application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**xi. MFSIA Conference**

**Mark Cleveland**

Chief Cleveland shared that he is seeking approval to cover future conference registration fees at \$180.00 per attendee. Attendees would include individuals from Muskegon, Kent, Ottawa, Newaygo and Oceana Counties. Fire Marshal Sehmeyer recommends not having a set registration fee as the cost may change in the future. The Fire Marshal also requests that attendees are signed up in SMOKE and that rosters are completed each day of the conference. Bryce Tracy requested that the MFFTC/BFS create a list of approved conferences and specify what is included in the reimbursement (i.e. registration fees, travel, wages, etc.). The Fire Marshal confirmed that the BFS is developing a list of conferences approved for county funds.

**17-10-017**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve future MFSIA Conference registration fees for all counties. **Councilperson Blomstrom abstained. MOTION CARRIED.**

**xii. FDSOA Health & Safety Officer**

**Mark Cleveland**

Chief Cleveland shared that the application includes the cost per person as well as the test and text. Councilperson Blomstrom questioned whether or not this application would secure future funding if available. Fire Marshal Sehmeyer confirmed that funding is not approved at this time.

**17-10-018**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to accept the FDSOA Health and Safety Officer program as curriculum only as funding is not available at this time. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**xiii. Class A Live Fire Training Structure**

**Mark Cleveland**

The applicant requested to withdraw the application.

**xiv. Barn Boss Leadership**

**Brian Ward**

**17-10-019**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the Barn Boss Leadership application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**xv. FCSN Taking Action: Cancer Prevention**

**Adam Munro**

**17-10-020**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson**



**Hondorp** to approve the FCSN Taking Action: Cancer Prevention application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xvi. **FCSN Taking Action: Cancer Prevention Train-the-Trainer** **Adam Munro**

**17-10-021**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the FCSN Taking Action: Cancer Prevention Train-the-Trainer application. To clarify, a certified instructor or fire instructor I may teach the train-the-trainer. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xvii. **What's in the Drum HazMat Update Class** **Michael Harper**

**17-10-022**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the What's in the Drum HazMat Update Class course. Funding is not requested at this time. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xviii. **Tactical Emergency Casualty Care** **Brian Stalsonburg**

**17-10-023**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to deny the Tactical Emergency Casualty Care application as the program is not sponsored by a fire department and the application was not signed by the County Training Chairperson. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xix. **Recon RIT Train-the-Trainer** **David Bridgewater**

**17-10-024**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Fire Marshal Sehmeyer** to approve the Recon RIT Train-the-Trainer application. To clarify, the instructor will provide the material that correlates with the appropriate NFPA standard. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xx. **RIT** **Daniel W. Flood**

**17-10-025**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the RIT application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- xxi. **Aerial/Tower Ladder Operations and Placement** **Richard Sherman**

**17-10-026**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the Aerial/Tower Ladder Operations and Placement application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **VI. COUNCIL COMMENT:**

**Fire Marshal Sehmeyer:** Gave the MFFTC members the new BFS patch. The Fire Marshal also encouraged all attendees to spend their allocated training funds.

**Councilperson Hondorp:** Shared that the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Municipal League are watching SB 264 and 265 closely and looking at how to implement the changes once approved.

**Councilperson Pettinger:** Encouraged all attendees to continue to take the MFFTC approved classes and to spread the word about GovDelivery. Councilperson Pettinger thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Councilperson Blomstrom:** Also thanked everyone for attending and reminded attendees to allocate funds through their County Training Chairperson.

**Chairperson James:** Thanked the MFSIA for hosting the conference and thanked the attendees for their input.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:**

**17-10-027**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

December 12, 2017 at 1:30 PM  
Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B  
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson James

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Councilmember