



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
300 E. State Street (Park Place Hotel)
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2015

1:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Vice Chairperson Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Terrence Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships 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

BFS STAFF PRESENT

Dan Hammerberg, Region 1 Coordinator
BreeAnn Hooker, Recording Secretary
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Coordinator

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Charles Noonan, Troy Fire Department
Dan Oberst, Bath Fire Department
Guy Hubbard, Perry Area Fire Rescue
Heather Raye
Don Bigger, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Mark Becmer, Bellaire Fire Department
Chad Nickels, Perry Area Fire and Rescue
Michael Slater, Detroit Fire Department
Rick Beeler, Tri-Township Fire Department
Walt Holden, Bath Township Fire Department
Philip Duczynski, Novi Fire Department
Nicholas Vaught, Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department
Ray Wilson, Saginaw Township Fire Department
Ray Wlosinski, Training Coordinator
Mike Cousins, Thomas Township Fire Department
Joseph Grutza
Jesse Silva, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association

Jack Johnson, Grand Rapids Fire Department
Steven Lowder, Bangor Fire Department
James Faughnan, Tri-Township Fire Department
Jaime Faughnan, Tri-Township Fire Department
Christopher Dean, Muskegon Heights Fire Department
Katherine Sowton, LARA
Rick Humphreys, Saginaw Township Fire Department
John Kramer, Monitor Township Fire Department
Mark Cleveland, Egelston Township Fire Department
Thea Dornbush, Spring Lake Fire Department
Joseph Baker, Bellaire Fire Department
Randy VanDenBoom, Hampton Township Fire Department
Blaine Howell, Columbiaville Fire Department
Clifford Boatwright, Bellaire Fire Department
Randall Heckroth, Tuscola Fire Department
Scott Martzke, Michigan Army National Guard
Bill Parker, Leelanau County Training Chairperson
John Baker, Portland Fire Department
Tony Kowalski, Macomb Community College
Sarah Bushee, Fennville Fire Department
Edward Sayre, Training Coordinator
Jeremy Scott, Richland Township Fire Department
Bradley Jackson, Alpha-Mastodon Volunteer Fire Department
Patrick Nahgahgwon, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Chairperson James called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

2. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

15-10-001

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

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

15-10-002

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Hondorp and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to approve the regular meeting minutes on August 11, 2015 as presented. **MOTION CARRIES.**

15-10-003

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to approve the work session meeting minutes on August 11, 2015 as presented. **MOTION CARRIES.**

4. RULE APPROVAL

Various questions were reviewed with Adam Sandoval, Office of Regulatory Reinvention, via telephone. All changes were approved with the exception of a minor correction regarding 29.403(4). Specifically, this particular item needs to remain within the ruleset.

15-10-004

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to adopt and approve the rules as amended with minor corrections, today. **MOTION CARRIES.**

A roll-call vote was requested and the results are as follows:

Chairperson James-Yes

Vice Chairperson Blomstrom-Yes

Councilperson Blackmer-Yes

Councilperson Hondorp-Yes

Councilperson Pettinger – No

Councilperson Tackett-Yes

Council Member, Ex-Officio, Deprez-Yes

5. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – Mike Deprez

a. Cross-Over Funding

When the Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15) county funding was announced, there was a question regarding when funds were to be utilized. An example was given of a course beginning in September and not ending until late November or December. The question arose whether the FY15 money could be used to pay for those courses. The Executive and Finance offices accommodated these requests however, further review determined that moving forward, all county allocations must be spent on courses beginning and ending in the current fiscal year (October 1 through September 30).

b. Reciprocity

Senate Bill 372 went through the Senate with a vote of 37-0, in support of the bill. The State Fire Marshal shall waive the examination requirements and extend reciprocity certification to a firefighter from another state if the firefighter was certified in the other state after successful completion of a program meeting or exceeding the national standard (i.e. IFSAC or ProBoard).

c. NFA Course Call

Two courses scheduled in Alpena for early November have been canceled due to low enrollment (less than the 15 minimum student requirement).

d. Training Coordinator Manual Updates

The Fire Fighter Training Division (FFTD) is in the process of reviewing and revising the Training Coordinator manual.

e. Change in Training Coordinator(s)

Various recommendations have been made through Region 1 Coordinator Dan Hammerberg, to restructure the region in an effort to be more effective and efficient.

f. AG Opinion – Council Authority and Conflict of Interest

Council has recently been asked to sign conflict of interest statements. The Attorney General's opinion was reviewed. The board of ethics maintains that a Fire Fighter

Training Council (FFTC) member should not be voting on his or her own training course teaching certification.

- g. Instructor Approvals
Seven Instructor I applicants have been approved by the State Fire Marshal's office and will be processed.
- h. Instructor Applications and Procedure
Automation of instructor applications is not currently an active feature in the SMOKE system. The current process was explained, which involves, manually validating the application, an instant approval or denial of the instructor application; with immediate notification to the instructor taking place. The instructor will no longer have to wait until the next council meeting for notification.
- i. DNR New Courses
DNR requested that 5 courses be added to the FFTD's active course listing. These 5 courses will be referred to the curriculum committee to review and evaluate relevancy to potentially adopt those courses at the next Council meeting.
- j. Introduce T.J. Richardson
T.J. Richardson has been hired to replace Gary Crum and is working out of the Lansing office.
- k. SMOKE Update
Various issues with the SMOKE system have been brought to the attention of the FFTD staff and are being remedied by priority. It is also encouraged to bring forth any issues with SMOKE to the Region Supervisors.
- l. County Fiduciary
Beginning in FY16, the state will only pay one fiduciary per county. Payments will not be made to individuals. Each County Training Chair was notified and given instructions to register and/or verify their chosen payee.
- m. Critical Positions
A November 5th strategic planning meeting is scheduled with LARA Administration. The State Fire Marshal will continue to justify the support of filling vacant positions or the reformation of positions, within the FFTD.

6. Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Vice-Chair Blomstrom

Outlined each of the 5 priorities established last year. Fire Fighter I/II and Hazardous Materials Operations exams were both reviewed and completed. Updating of the Company Officer program is also complete, through reviewing books, updating classes and bringing those into the system and determination of there being no statutory authority to provide an exam. Review of the ICS 300 and 400 curriculums, those were adopted by the Council and are now a third party program. To teach these programs, Instructors must either take the L449 Train-the-Trainer through TEX or they can go to the NFA and take the Train-the-Trainer there. Left to review are the review, addition and deletion of courses currently in the SMOKE system. Also, attempt to institute a Chief Officer training program, updating the Educational Methodology program and establishing an Instructor II program. Cleaning up the website is also a priority and will be an ongoing process.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

8. **New Business**

Non IMS Applications

16.1

15-10-005

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Rochester Hills Fire Department, Tactical Company and Ladder Ops (Live Fire) in the amount of \$2000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.2

15-10-006

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Blackmer to recommend to the State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Macomb Community College, Live Fire Course in the amount of \$2788. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16.3

15-10-007

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Hondorp and seconded by Councilperson Blomstrom to recommend to the State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Leelanau, Battle Ready Firefighters Seminar in the amount of \$8000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Thunder Bay RTC requests termination of training center status

The request from Thunder Bay Regional Training Center to terminate their status shall be filed and their status removed from SMOKE as a Regional Training Center.

2016 MFFTC proposed meeting schedule

15-10-008

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to approve the 2016 Meeting Dates Schedule as amended. **MOTION CARRIES.**

9. **Public Comment**

Don Bigger expressed his appreciation to the Council for their support.

Blaine Howell questions the Fire Officer III program and inquires if there is a solution for the individuals who have worked so hard to accomplish this goal, to show proof of the completion of this program. The developers of SMOKE are working to reinstitute this piece in the system. Various SMOKE issues were brought to the attention of the Council.

10. **COUNCIL COMMENT**

Councilpersons Tackett and Pettinger expresses thanks the Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association for hosting the FFTC meeting.

Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez encourages the public to bring forth issues, information or comments to any of the Bureau staff, at any time.

Vice Chairperson Blomstrom recognizes the Curriculum Committee and expresses his gratitude to each of them.

11. ADJOURNMENT

15-10-009

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIES**. The meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.


NEXT MEETING

December 8, 2015 @ 1:30 p.m.

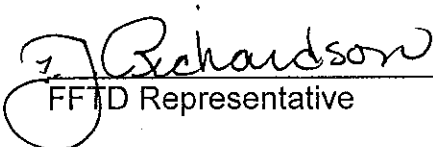
Location:

3101 Technology Blvd, Suite H, Lansing, Michigan 48910


APPROVED:



Timothy James
Chairperson



FFID Representative



Councilperson