



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Lansing Community College – West Campus
5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing, MI 48917
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
1:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Tackett, Chairperson, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chair, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Alan Styles, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Jacob Steichen, Nominee of the State Fire Marshal
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union
Kevin Sehmeyer, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Lynnae White, Michigan Fire Inspectors Society
Greg Janik, Michigan Municipal League

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:

Andrea Keown, Department Technician, Fire Fighting Training Division/Recording Secretary
Dan Hammerberg, Region 1 Coordinator

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Larry Gambotto, Rochester hills Fire Department
Aric Massingill, Adrian City Fire Department
Nick Miller, Hamburg Fire Department
Brian Stalsonburg, BDI Training
Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College
Bill Pawluk, Lansing Community College
Andre Doser, Battle Creek Fire Department
Corey Miller, Berkley Fire Department
Dawn Stone, Alpena Community College
Lisa Blumenthal, Alpena Community College
Jared Mento, Washington Township Fire Department
Stan Pochron, Taylor Fire Department
Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College RTC
Scott Tobey, ERS International
Jesse Marcotte, Northville Township Fire Department
Mark Cleveland, Egelston Fire Department
John P Skelly III, Washington Township Fire Department
Adam Carroll, Hartland Area Fire Department
Chris Mantels, Saugatuck Fire Department
Josh Mosher, Midland Fire Department
Charles C. Pichan, Detroit Fire Department
Thomas Stuck, Macomb CTC

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES

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Steve Dalton, Clinton Township Fire Department
Mike Keefe, Allendale Fire Department
Robert Harrison, Washington Fire Department
Tom Kuhn, Armada Township Fire Department
John Cieslik, Rochester Fire Department
Kurt Corradi, Bay City Fire Department
Mike Kaloz, Lansing Township Fire Department
Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Chairperson Tackett called the regular meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

20-02-08

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Steichen** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the February 11, 2020 regular meeting agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

20-02-09

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blackmer** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the following minutes as presented:

- December 5, 2019 Town Hall Meeting
- December 6, 2019 Special Meeting
- December 6, 2019 Regular Meeting
- January 23, 2020 Special Meeting

MOTION CARRIED.

20-02-10

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and supported by **Councilperson Styles** to **AMEND** the December 6, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes to reflect the county allocation amount of \$17,500 under fee limits for Fight Fighter I and II courses in Old Business. **MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED.**

IV. COMMUNICATIONS:

Fire Marshal Sehmeyer received communication from Josh Meier of Canton Fire Department and discussed public safety director requirements. Fire Marshal received an email from Bill Parker of Blair Township Fire Department, regarding the instructor I curriculum update course and the short notice to enter the course. Fire Marshal received an email from Chief of Alpena Combat Readiness Center asking to address military experience and certifications as the committee works through the Rules. Councilperson Blomstrom forwarded an email to the Fire Marshal from Jason Morin from the Jackson Area Fire and EMS Academy who is asking to allow certified school teachers to not have to take the Instructor I course.

V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

- a) **Revised FY2020 Course Summary:** The Fire Marshal gave handouts to council that provides course statistics for each MFFTC course with an exam. Mentioned that since the adoption of the new Fire Fighter curriculum in October, there has been an increase in the passing rate.
- b) Due to the update of NFPA 1041 standard in 2019, on March 1, 2020, the Fire Instructor I

curriculum will change to Jones & Bartlett, and the passing written test score will be 70%.

c) Fire Fighter Training Division Staffing Updates:

- 1) **Region Coordinator:** The Fire Marshal advised that this position is still vacant, but the TJ Richardson is still helping out and let those who have Region 2 business can still reach out to TJ.
 - 2) **Certification / Testing Specialist:** The Fire Marshal advised that the bureau will be looking to fill a certification / testing specialist position to handle the certifications for all classifications in addressed in Public Act 291 of 1966, the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council Act. We are currently working through Civil Service and LARA/Human Resources to establish the position description.
- d) Regional Training Center Annual Reports:** The Fire Marshal provided a handout to council that was sent to them electronically on February 6, 2020. The Fire Marshal noted that annual reports from the regional training centers were due on December 1, 2019.
- e) Rules Update:** The Fire Marshal updated everyone that the last work rules session was on January 23rd and really good progress is being made. Council has made it through the document once and will go through it again to discuss in state reciprocity and other topics still needing clarification.
- f) FY20 MFFTC Grant Summary:** The Fire Marshal provided council with a summary hand out and informed attendees that the grants were divided up in the 9:00am meeting. A total of 142 grants applications submitted for a total of \$976,258.42. 71 applicants that made it to the list that the council reviewed. 47 were rejected for not being specific to firefighting skills, 4 were not NFIRS Compliant, and 23 applications were Incomplete. A total amount of \$165,609.81 was awarded. A priority list of additional approved grant applications was established to be awarded as money comes back in to the Bureau between now and September 30, 2020. The list will be published after all the motions are made on Gov Delivery. The Fire Marshal advised that departments still must follow the State of Michigan criteria for purchasing. If it is over \$2,500, and you're buying props or equipment, you must have to be 3 bids and those bids need to be turned in to the region coordinator. Fire Marshal reminded that the money is awarded after the training is completed or items are acquired.
- g) Fire Instructor I Curriculum Update:** The Fire Marshal advised that he and Dan Hammerburg led a pilot Instructor I course using the new J&B curriculum in Marquette. We received positive feedback from the students, and it flowed very well. The Fire Marshal explained some of differences with the new J&B Instructor 1 course versus the former course.

VI. CURRICULUM WORK GROUP REPORT:

Councilperson Blomstrom shared that the curriculum work group met in January in Lansing, and validated the Fire Instructor I test, returned it to the bureau and they are awaiting their next task.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Revised pathway for Driver's Training course:** Councilperson Blomstrom inquired if the revisions had been made and regarding switching the test and the practical around on the website. Fire Marshal ensured that he will follow up to get that done and asked Councilperson Blomstrom to provide proposed changes in writing. Councilperson Blomstrom stated that McNeil is in the process of updating their course, however no completion date has been given.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

a) **FY20 MFFTC Grants:** Chairperson Tackett shared the total amount awarded and mentioned the \$97,434 for the priority list to be awarded as money is returned to the BFS. Fire Marshal added that if any additional funds come back to the bureau once the priority list is exhausted , the remaining grant applications could will be revisited.

b) Q Course Applications:

1) Flashover Training/Fire Behavior

Instructor: Jason R. Weber / Phone: 920-498-7175

Email: jason.weber@nwtc.edu

2) Unmanned Aircraft Systems - Part 107

Instructor: Gary Wehrwein and Jason Harris / Phone 586-242-5125

Email: wehrwein@ctwfd.org

3) RIT/Survival Techniques (8 hour)

Instructor: Brent Connell, Josh Cole, Jeff Tody / Phone: 810-614-6490

Email: bconnell1169@gmail.com

4) RIT/Survival Techniques (16 hour)

Instructor: Brent Connell, Josh Cole, Jeff Tody / Phone: 810-614-6490

Email: bconnell1169@gmail.com

5) SOFA Advanced Fire Equipment Operator

Instructor: SOFA Instructors / Phone: 248-721-0758

Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com

6) SOFA Basic Fire Equipment Operator

Instructor: SOFA Instructors / Phone: 248-721-0758

Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com

7) SOFA Advanced Fire Ground Resource Mgt

Instructor: SOFA Instructors / Phone: 248-721-0758

Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com

8) SOFA Basic Fire Ground Resource Mgt

Instructor: SOFA Instructors / Phone: 248-721-0758

Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com

9) Rapid Intervention Teams Awareness & Ops

Instructor: On Scene Training Associates / Phone: 609-743-0166

Email: onscenetraining.com

10) Engine/Truck Hands on Training

Instructor: On Scene Training Associates / Phone: 609-743-0166

Email: onscenetraining.com

11) Confined Space Rescue Awareness

Instructor: Online Program / Phone: 616-299-5772

Email: vanholstyn@ersintl.org

12) Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TCCC)

Instructor(s): Bad Day Industries, LLC / Phone: 616-710-1443

Email: b.stals@bdi-training.com

13) Rescue Task Force - 4 hour

Instructor(s): Bad Day Industries, LLC / Phone: 616-710-1443

Email: b.stals@bdi-training.com

20-02-10

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Styles** and seconded by **Councilperson Steichen** to approve Q Course Applications, FMQ20-001 to FMQ20-013.

MOTION CARRIED.

c) **Lockdown of Instructor I roster for additions and withdrawals: Councilperson Blomstrom** requests the next time SMOKE is updated, to look into the Fire Instructor I course roster locking at 28 days out so people cannot register for Instructor I course and/or there be a notification sent to instructors if a person withdraws. If a person withdraws, they will still be locked out until the instructor of Record removes them. Fire Marshal let Councilperson Blomstrom know that with the new Fire Instructor I curriculum, this issue will likely be resolved.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Scott Tobey, ERS International shared update on the Confined Space Rescue Awareness Program. It has been uploaded to their new Learning Management System, he asks for a few more volunteers before they go live with the program. The program is currently free of charge to any firefighter in the state. They are hoping to expanding to other courses; machine rescue awareness trench rescue awareness, ropes, and structural collapse.

Mike Keefe, Allendale Fire Department shared that there is currently has an ongoing academy with 32 students, using one location, and meeting as one group for lectures. He doesn't think the two separate rostered classes have the correct number of instructors for hands-on practical hours to be funded as two separate classes and are not meeting the practical hours required. He worries that there is a precedence being set if this is going to be allowed. **SFM to follow up with CTC.**

Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety enquired about invoicing for non-compliant students, asked that the students FDID numbers be listed on the roster.

Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College requested clarification on collection of funds from non-compliant students, if they (OCC) are the fiduciary responsible. How can they invoice if they do not have access to the roster. It's the role of the course manager to notify and give student address and information. Also enquired if Regional Coordinator 2 position is Lansing based.

Chris Mantels, Saugatuck Fire Department asked BFS to send out memo clarifying NFIRS requirements. SFM stated there is currently a memo out about this requirement.

Jesse Marcotte, Northville Fire Department asked when to anticipate some progress on Instructor II.

Mark Cleveland, Egelston Fire Department asked when NFA Leadership and Supervision classes are slated to start. Fire Marshal stated that there are a few courses scheduled for the end of March.

X. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilperson Blomstrom: Asked if NFA Course Call will start soon, enquired if it is to be done how it was done in the past.

Councilperson Blackmer: No comments.

Councilperson Steichen: Thanked those who submitted Grants. Thanked BFS staff for vetting and making their jobs easier.

Councilperson Pettinger: Highly encourages anyone interested to take the confined space class if they get the opportunity. Thanked them for offering it.

Councilperson Styles: No comments.

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier: Thanked everyone for coming out. Thanked everyone for their dialog. We will continue to work on the rules to get Instructor II going. Thanked the council on their hard work on the Grants. There is a rules work session scheduled for March, Oakland Community College in April and will have a rules work session then as well.

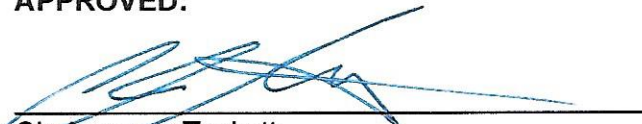
Chairperson Tackett: Appreciates everyone coming and for those who submitted applications for grants.

d) **ADJOURNMENT:**

20-02-11

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

APPROVED:



Chairperson Tackett



Councilmember