



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
3101 Technology Boulevard, Suite H
Lansing, Michigan 48910

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2016

1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Timothy James, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Vice Chairperson Brian Blomstrom, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Assn.
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Mike Deprez, Acting State Fire Marshal, Council Member ex-Officio

MEMBERS ABSENT

Terrence Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association

BFS STAFF PRESENT

BreeAnn Hooker, Recording Secretary
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Supervisor

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Greg Kowalski, Wayne County Community College District
Tom Tyler, Detroit Fire Department
Karl Holder, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Mark Cleveland, Egelston Fire Department
Sarah Bushee, Fennville Fire Department
Matthew Majestic, Oakland Community College
Philip Duczynski, Novi Fire Department
Bruce Pelletier, Training Coordinator
Julie Secontine, Oakland County
Jim Yarger, Freeport Fire Department
Ray Wlosinski, Training Coordinator
Adam Sandoval, LARA

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

Chairperson James called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

Councilperson Blackmer was previously excused due to the weather.

2. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

16-02-001

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

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

16-02-002

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Tackett and seconded by Councilperson Hondorp to approve the regular meeting minutes on December 8, 2015 as presented. **MOTION CARRIES.**

4. **STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT – Mike Deprez**

a. **Fire Marshal Appointment**

The announcement, introduction and welcoming of Julie Secontine.

b. **BFS Updates**

In reference to Fire Instructor's, the process has been streamlined, along with the addition of a checklist. Dan Hammerberg will be handling the task of processing applications. A summary of the totals from each Instructor category was reported to the Council.

As of December 31, 2015, the unencumbered fireworks funding amount remaining out of the \$1 million, is \$11,700. Based on boilerplate language, any unspent funding is to be rolled over and disbursed the next fiscal year. Before any money is spent, approval is needed from the State Budget Office. A request for spending has been submitted and the Bureau is waiting on an announcement and approval of funding.

The Disclosure of Interest form process was reviewed and explanation was given of the new form and the new procedure/policy starting next Fiscal Year.

A SMOKE update was given regarding the most recent issue being the inability to complete the roster and grading portion, which is required for all courses. That fix should be pushed to production by week end, TJ Richardson requests that any issues be brought to the attention of the Bureau. Printing of certificates can be done through an individual's training activity, provided the course has been completed and finalized, or through the registration history.

The renaming of the Michigan Company Officer I/II series is possible within SMOKE.

5. Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Vice-Chair Blomstrom

Pending Curriculum Committee agenda was handed out for the meeting being held on February 16, 2016. Anticipated agenda items were reviewed, specifically with testing and how to incorporate the Hazmat exam into the Fire Fighter exam.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. **Status of FFTC Rules**

Acting State Fire Marshal reviews the statute change to Public Act 291 allowing Reciprocity for Fire Fighter I/II, and the need to have that change included in the rules. Minor changes and edits were noted. The next step is to get a corrected draft to Liz Arasim by weeks end, following with the public hearing being scheduled.

b. **Michigan Company Officer Series**

16-02-003

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to recommend the final certificate for completing the Company Officer I and II co-requisites and 80 hour course be renamed the "Michigan Company Officer I & II Series" completion certificate regarding the company officer program. **MOTION CARRIES.**

16-02-004

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to recommend the final certification for completing the current Fire Officer III program is "Michigan Fire Officer III Series" completion certificate. **MOTION CARRIES.**

7. New Business

a. **FY 17 Fireworks Allocation**

The budget process was reviewed by Acting Fire Marshal Deprez and states that past Fire Marshal Miller did request \$1.5 million for Fiscal Year 2017, with the minimum county allotment hopefully being \$10,000.

b. **Non SMOKE Application**

16-02-005

16.31

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Pettinger to recommend to the Acting State Fire Marshal to approve the request from Resort Bear Creek Fire Department, Active Shooter Response class in the amount of \$5,000. **MOTION CARRIES.**

c. **Oakland Community College – Pro-Board Update**

Matthew Majestic briefly explains the process of what took place for RAFT to now have a Fire Officer, ProBoard program. Applications are now being submitted by Oakland Community College for their Fire Fighter I/II program to be accredited as well. There will be no changes in the curriculums or how they are administered. ProBoard does require a 75% pass rate for their accredited programs.

8. Public Comment

As a courtesy to the public, a recommendation was made by Julie Secontine to move public comment to the beginning of the agenda and meeting. Chairperson James agrees.

Bruce Pelletier voices concerns from his region regarding a number of issues. Lack of continuity and consistent leadership from the top down is starting to effect course managers and instructors by not receiving information and items in a timely manner. This is not a direct reflection on Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez or BreeAnn Hooker. A Training Coordinator meeting is requested to be seriously considered. The level of customer service is deteriorating. SMOKE has not proven to be a tremendous system, it is very frustrating. Mr. Pelletier offers his assistance, as needed.

Ray Wlosinski echoes all of Mr. Pelletier's sentiments.

Tom Tyler expresses the frustration with the instructor certification process and that process should not be delayed.

Mark Cleveland commends the Council on moving forward with the Rules. Recent memos from Acting Fire Marshal Deprez, TJ Richardson, and Dan Hammerberg have been very helpful and are strongly encouraged to continue. Instructor/Course Manager issues should be a priority within the SMOKE program.

9. COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilperson Pettinger inquires when the Bureau Director position will be filled. Acting State Fire Marshal Deprez explains the issues surrounding that position not being filled.

Councilperson Tackett discusses HMEP grant funding, including the review of programs. It is necessary to broaden how the money can be used, while following the federal guidelines. If a grant request remains within the scope of NFPA 472, there will be less limitations as to how the grant money is utilized. The newsletter is an important tool that is valued in the fire service that hopefully can be relaunched in the near future.

Councilperson Blomstrom appreciates the abundant communication from Acting Fire Marshal Deprez. The need for the Curriculum Specialist position to be filled was also expressed.

Chairperson James hopes for change and reiterates the frustrations and hurdles that all are faced with, but is encouraged to see the Rules moving forward. The public's participation is also appreciated.

10. ADJOURNMENT

16-02-006

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blomstrom and seconded by Councilperson Tackett to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIES**. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

April 12, 2016 @ 1:30 p.m.

Location:

3101 Technology Blvd, Suite H, Lansing, Michigan 48910

APPROVED:



Timothy James

Chairperson

Fire Fighter Training Division

Representative


Councilperson

