



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

MINTUES
MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910
April 10, 2018
1:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chairperson, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Chad Tackett, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs (until 3:30 PM)
Joel Hondorp, Michigan Municipal League/Michigan Townships Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union
Kevin Sehmeyer, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Timothy James, Chairperson, 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 (via conference call)
TJ Richardson, Region 2 Coordinator

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Cleveland, Muskegon County
Blane Howell, LCFA
Martin Erskine, Battle Creek Fire Department
Greg Kowalski, Wayne County Community College District
Matt Majestic, Oakland County
Bill Pawluk, Lansing Community College
Bob Ginther, Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety
Andy Steeby, Wayne County Community College District
Wes Kelley, Grand Rapids Fire Department
Greg Simmons, Saginaw Fire Department
Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft Community College
Vaskin Badalow, Dearborn Heights Fire Department
Tammi Connell, Keystone/Michigan Fire Inspectors Society
Lisa Hoffer, Keystone/Michigan Fire Inspectors Society
Brad Bender, Thornapple Township Emergency Services

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was determined present.

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

18-4-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to amend the regular meeting agenda for April 10, 2018. The withdrawal of Kirtland Community College as a Regional Training Center was added to new business. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

18-4-02

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to approve the special meeting minutes from February 13, 2018. **MOTION CARRIED.**

18-4-03

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Tackett** to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 13, 2018. **MOTION CARRIED.**

18-4-04

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Tackett** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the special meeting minutes from February 26, 2018. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Greg Simmons with the Saginaw Fire Department shared that he attended the suicide summit in Sterling Heights on March 23, 2018. In his opinion, Mr. Simmons thought that the presentation lacked information on how to recognize the signs that a person is contemplating suicide and what the available resources are for a person in need of help. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that he had attended the program in Kimball Township on March 24, 2018. There, the Fire Marshal received positive feedback regarding the program. The Fire Marshal also shared that the presenter was recommended by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Matt Majestic added that he had attended the program in Sterling Heights on March 23, 2018, and that he enjoyed the program. Mr. Simmons provided the Council with information regarding an alternate program called Living Works Education for review. The Council encouraged Mr. Simmons to submit an application for curriculum approval.

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

- a) **Fire Instructor I Pathways:** Handouts were provided to the Council detailing the process to become a Fire Instructor I. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that the pathways will also be published on the bureau website (www.michigan.gov/bfs) to provide direction on how to navigate the process.
- b) **FY18 Fund Balance Available:** As of April 10, 2018, the available fund balance is \$142,815.90. Available funds include unencumbered funds, funding from cancelled classes, and funds returned after December 31, 2017. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier reminded the Council that the funds must be used by the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 2018 and that the Council will meet for the last time in FY18 on August 14, 2018.

c) Fire Service Training Needs:

- a. Update on NFA Classes:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared a list of classes that will be delivered by the National Fire Academy (NFA) in 2019. Some of the classes listed are new and others have been updated. Each fire organization submitted two (2) classes and a backup class by the March 20, 2018 deadline.
- b. FY18 Course Summary Stats:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided the Council with an updated FY18 Course Summary for review. There was a discussion regarding the pass/fail rates. The Fire Marshal shared that the stats provided are aggregate totals. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier also shared that the Fire Instructor II Train-the-Trainer courses have not run yet but that three (3) classes will be scheduled in Alpena, Lansing and Detroit.
- c. UP Distance Education Pilot Program:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that exam for the UP Distance Education Pilot Program recently took place. The results have not yet been received by the Bureau of Fire Services but that he looks forward to seeing the results.
- d. Future Meetings:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that the following town hall meetings have been scheduled. The Council members were encouraged to attend.

Macomb Township – April 12, 2018

Grayling – April 23, 2018

Midland – May 17, 2018

- e. Fire Service Training Needs Surveys:** The Fire Marshal has continued to survey the fire service at various speaking engagements. Results from the surveys were posted in the conference room. Leadership training continues to be identified as a top training need.
- f. Reappointment:** The Fire Marshal shared that his contract was recently extended through 2020. He looks forward to the work that the Bureau of Fire Services and the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council can accomplish in the next two years.

VI. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT:

Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom shared that the Curriculum Committee was involved with the NFA course process. Other than that, the committee has not formally met in a few months.

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided an update regarding the NFA's new leadership classes: Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth (I10B); Leadership in Supervision: Perspectives in Thinking (I11B); and Leadership in Supervision: Frameworks to Success (I12B). The new classes will focus more on facilitation and each section will build on the previous section. The Fire Marshal added that while these classes may not align with the NFPA standards, they will help develop better fire officers. Until the Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules are revised, students may finish the current leadership classes.

18-4-05

A **MOTION** was made by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to require all Instructor I's and/or Instructor II's to take each of the following classes before they may teach them:

I10B – Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth

I11B – Leadership in Supervision: Perspectives in Thinking

I12B – Leadership in Supervision: Frameworks to Success

MOTION CARRIED.

18-4-06

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Tackett** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to fund three (3) of each of the following classes using FY18 fireworks funds:

I10B – Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth

I11B – Leadership in Supervision: Perspectives in Thinking

I12B – Leadership in Supervision: Frameworks to Success

The funds must be used by September 30, 2018. **MOTION CARRIED.**

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Dispersion of Fireworks Funds: Fire Marshal Sehlmeier presented the Council with a draft memo outlining a grant application process to potentially disperse the remaining FY18 fireworks funds. Specifically, grant applications would be submitted to the Bureau of Fire Services via the LARA-BFS-SMOKE@michigan.gov email address by 5:00 pm on May 25, 2018. Bureau staff would review the applications for completeness and present to the Council. The Council would then review the applications on June 12, 2018 during a morning work session and approve the applications for funding later that afternoon during the regularly scheduled meeting. Training grants awarded may be used to fund any curriculum or Q course approved or adopted by the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council prior to April 11, 2018 and must be completed by September 30, 2018. Applications to fund courses retroactively will not be included for consideration. Each fire department applicant may submit up to one (1) training grant application or five (5) or more fire departments may submit one (1) regional application. The Council discussed the draft memo and agreed upon specific criteria that each applicant must meet for funding consideration.

18-4-07

A **MOTION** was made by Councilperson Blackmer and seconded by Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom to approve the proposed grant process with the following stipulations:

1. Each individual fire department applicant and all fire department applicants on a regional request must have submitted their monthly National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) reports for twelve consecutive months during 2017.
2. Grant applications may be submitted for an amount up to \$5,000.00 for individual fire department applicants and up to \$25,000.00 for five (5) or more fire department applicants.
3. Regional grant applications will be given first priority, followed by individual fire department grant applications.
4. Curriculum/Q course requests will receive preference over requests for training equipment.

Councilperson Pettinger stressed that all fire departments must be NFIRS compliant for 2017. **MOTION CARRIED.**

b. Leadership Classes: This item was covered under the Curriculum Committee report.

c. Q Course Applications:

i. Understanding and Fighting Basement Fires

Instructor: ISFSI Staff / Phone: 800-435-0005 / Email: membership@isfsi.org

Fire Marshal Sehmeyer shared that this class will be hosted twice (once in Lansing on May 5, 2018 and once in Lapeer on May 20, 2018.) While this class is free and funded by a grant, he is seeking Q course approval at this time.

18-4-08

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blackmer** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ii. The First Five

Instructor: Fortitude Fire, LLC / Phone: 586-524-0687

18-4-09

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

iii. Propane Emergencies

Instructor: Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center Staff / Phone: 517-284-3821

Lt. Michele Sosinski shared that this is a 1-day mobile delivery course including 4-hours in the classroom and 4-hours of hands on exercises. Propane is provided if needed.

18-4-010

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blackmer** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

iv. Fire Engine Operator – Practical

Instructor: Oakland Community College Instructors

This 8-hour course is an expansion of the current Q course program at Oakland Community College. This course focuses on practical application and can be done onsite with the requestor's equipment.

18-4-011

A **MOTION** was made by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

v. Forcible Entry – 4-Hour Course

Instructor: Oakland Community College Instructors

This 4-hour course covers the same topics as the 8-hour course, but reduced content. This format is intended for paid on-call firefighters and may be taken on the road. The instructor to student ratio is 1 instructor for 6 students.

18-4-012

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

vi. Forcible Entry – 8-Hour Course

Instructor: Oakland Community College Instructors

18-4-013

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

vii. RIT Command

Instructor: Oakland Community College Instructors

This 8-hour class is taught in conjunction with the 24-hour block for 12-14 students.

18-4-014

A **MOTION** was made by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

viii. Basic Pump Operations

Instructor: John Smilnak / Phone: 734-502-1335

The applicant is requesting Q course approval for this 2-day course.

18-4-015

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the above listed curriculum. Councilperson Blackmer abstained from voting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ix. Annual Michigan Active Assailant Conference

Instructor: Various

The applicant is seeking Q Course approval so that county funds can be used for funding in the future. While this application is timely due to the unfortunate current issues, the Fire Marshal reminded all in attendance that schools must continue to follow the fire code and conduct fire drills.

18-4-016

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to approve the above listed application. **MOTION CARRIED.**

x. **Swift Water Rescue**

Instructor: Michigan Rescue Concepts / Phone: 586-784-9320

This 20-hour course is intended for 10-25 students.

18-4-017

A **MOTION** was made by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson Hondorp** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

xi. **Accident Scene Safety and Traffic Control**

Instructor: Terry Bykerk and Mike Wierenga / Phone: 616-262-8455

The above listed application was tabled at the previous meeting for lack of information. The application has been resubmitted for review and Q Course approval.

18-4-018

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

xii. **Situational Awareness and Threat Assessment**

Instructor: Terry Bykerk and Mike Wierenga / Phone: 616-262-8455

The above listed application was tabled at the previous meeting for lack of information. The application has been resubmitted for review and Q Course approval.

18-4-019

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Hondorp** and seconded by **Vice-Chairperson** to approve the above listed curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- d) **Kirtland Community College Withdrawal of Regional Training Center Status:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that the Bureau of Fire Services received a request from the college to withdraw their Regional Training Center status. Further, the college reported that they had no activity in FY17.

18-4-020

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to accept Kirtland Community College's request to withdraw their Regional Training Center status. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IX. COUNCIL COMMENT:

- **Councilperson Pettinger:** Shared that each fire organization submit for the upcoming FEMA classes and encouraged all in attendance to participate. She also thanked Mr. Simmons for his feedback regarding the Suicide Summit.
- **Councilperson Hondorp:** Shared that he recently accepted a position as the Grand Rapids City Clerk and will start his new position in two weeks. He will also stay on call for Byron Township.
- **Councilperson Blackmer:** None.

- **Vice-Chairperson Blomstrom:** Thanked everyone for attending the April 10, 2018 meeting and reminded all attended of the morning work session on June 12, 2018, followed by the regularly scheduled meeting.
- **Fire Marshal Sehmeyer:** Thanked also thanked Mr. Simmons for his feedback on the Suicide Summit and all attendees for coming to the meeting. The Fire Marshal looks forward to the work ahead on both the Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules and grant application processes.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

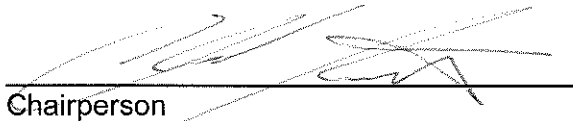
18-4-021

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

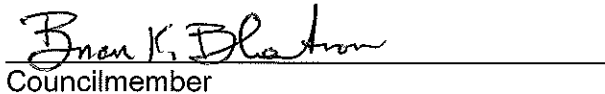
NEXT MEETING:

Special Meeting/Work Session – June 12, 2018 at 9:00 AM
Regular Meeting - June 12, 2018 at 1:30 PM
Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910

APPROVED:



Chairperson



Councilmember