



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, Room W157  
5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing, MI 48917  
Tuesday, June 11, 2019  
1:30 p.m.

**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  
Lynnae White, Michigan Fire Inspectors Society  
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association  
Greg Janik, Michigan Municipal League  
Jacob Steichen, Nominee of the State Fire Marshal  
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union  
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chris Mantels, Saugatuck Township Fire District  
Josh Mosher, Midland Fire Department  
Mark Cleveland, Muskegon County  
Chris VanLoo, Saginaw Fire Department  
Dave Glotzbach, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs  
Ryan Kept, St. Clair Shores Fire Department  
Greg Flynn, West Bloomfield Fire Department  
Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College  
Dan Reynolds, Macomb Community College  
Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College  
John Cieslik, Michigan Urban Search and Rescue  
Scott Tobey, ERS International  
Kurt Corral, Bay City Department of Public Safety  
John Brophy, Saginaw Township Fire Department  
Tim Baker, Lansing Community College  
Andre Doser, Battle Creek Fire Department  
Steve Perna, Warren Fire Department  
Jeff Slayton, Calhoun County

## **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. Chairperson Tackett asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence for the off-duty firefighters from the Lansing Fire Department that were injured in a motorcycle accident in Muskegon County over the past weekend.

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

**19-6-03**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Styles** and seconded by **Councilperson Janik** to approve the regular meeting agenda for June 11, 2019, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairperson Tackett advised that two spelling errors were corrected during the break. Revised copies of the draft minutes were provided.

**19-6-04**

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

April 9, 2019 Special Meeting  
April 9, 2019 Regular Meeting  
April 30, 2019 Special Meeting  
May 3, 1029 Special Meeting  
May 15, 2019 Special Meeting

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **IV. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:**

- a. **Course Summary:** A revised course summary handout was provided to the council for review. The Fire Marshal advised there continues to be issues with students passing the Instructor I and Instructor II exams.
- b. **MFFTC Grant Awards Update:** The Fire Marshal advised the [2019 grant awards list](#) is now available to view on the bureau's website. To date, a total of 20 grants have been funded.
- c. **Class B AFFF Best Practices Poster:** The Fire Marshal shared that together, the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE, formerly the Department of Environmental Quality) developed a best practices [poster](#) to educate the fire service on the proper use of Class B AFFF. The goal is to hang a poster in each fire station in Michigan and the bureau is seeking assistance from the county training committees to do so. For more information regarding Class B AFFF and PFAS, please visit [www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse](http://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse).
- d. **PFAS Legislation:** The Fire Marshal advised legislation to address PFAS has been introduced. The Bureau of Fire Services and the LARA Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs will continue to track the proposed bills.

## **V. CURRICULUM WORK GROUP REPORT:**

Councilperson Blomstrom advised that the Curriculum Work Group met on May 7, 2019 and May 29, 2019. Copies of the minutes were provided to the council members for review. Councilperson Blomstrom shared that the work group began reviewing the Firefighter I and II exam and has completed their review of the station checklists. The work group has requested the bureau include references from the textbook on each of the skill sheets.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **ICS 300/400:** The Fire Marshal requested clarification on this action item. Councilperson Blomstrom stated course registrations were not showing up in MI-TRAIN and that the students must be dual registered in SMOKE and MI-TRAIN. The Fire Marshal replied he would work with Lt. Michele Sosinski with the Michigan State Police on this. It was suggested that a description be added to the course offering details to clarify the registration process.
- b. **Letter to MIOSHA regarding Part 74 and NFPA 1403 Live Fire:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier reported the letter has been submitted to MIOSHA.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Instructor Investigation:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that as the result of a complaint the bureau has conducted an instructor investigation and is looking for guidance from the council on how to proceed as the rules have not been completed. The consensus was to follow past practice until the new rules are in place. Specifically, following an investigation the fire marshal will make a recommendation to the council regarding the individual's certification. The council will vote on the fire marshal's recommendation. Following the decision, the individual may appeal the council's decision during a closed session.
- b. **Curriculum Updates:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier advised that IFSTA – Essentials of Fire Fighting 7<sup>th</sup> Edition and Jones and Bartlett – Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response 4<sup>th</sup> Edition will be used in FY20 beginning on October 1, 2019.
- c. **FY18 Regional Training Center Annual Reports:** Copies of the FY18 regional training center annual reports were provided to the council for review.
- d. **Course Hours on Certificates:** Councilperson Blomstrom asked if it would be possible for the bureau to print course hours on certificates as having this information available on the certificate would be helpful to students seeking college credits. The Fire Marshal stated the bureau would look into the request and report back at the next meeting.
- e. **Clarification on Driver Training Practical Exam:** Councilperson Blomstrom requested clarification on the driver training practical exam as classes are being taught in different sequence. It was decided that the bureau would develop a flow chart outlining the process. The Fire Marshal shared that he would like the Curriculum Work Group to consider updating the test as it was last revised in 2002.
- f. **Review of Health & Safety Program Manager:** Councilperson Blomstrom requested the bureau obtain a copy of the curriculum as this course will replace Health and Safety Officer.

- g. Probationary Associate Instructor Recommendation:** A memo from Region Coordinator Dan Hammerberg was provided to council for review. In the memo, Region Coordinator Hammerberg explained that with the sunset date on the Company Officer requirements the bureau is seeing quite a few firefighters taking the Educational Methodology and Instructor Orientation courses and then applying to become a probationary associate instructor. He recommends the council decide on an end date for the bureau to approve probationary associate instructors, keeping in mind the time needed for these individuals to mentor and complete the evaluation process. Region Coordinator Richardson shared in Region Coordinator Hammerberg's absence that the intent was to allow those individuals to remain in their status if they are currently in the system to allow them to complete the process. Moving forward no additional probationary associate instructor is approved after October 1, 2019 and no additional certified associate instructor is approved after September 30, 2021.

**19-6-05**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** echoing Region Coordinator Hammerberg's recommendation. **Councilperson Blomstrom** seconded the motion. After much discussion, **Councilperson Janik withdrew the motion.**

**19-6-06**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** that no additional probationary associate instructor will be approved after October 1, 2019. Further, the probationary associate instructor must be approved as a certified associate instructor by September 30, 2021. **Councilperson Blomstrom** seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**h. Q Course Applications:**

**1. CISM – Group Crisis and Individual Peer Support**

Instructor: Susan Elben / Phone: 269-720-6852 / Email: [brusue221@aol.com](mailto:brusue221@aol.com)

**19-6-07**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Styles** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve the curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**2. The Art of Reading Smoke**

Instructor: Dave Dodson / Phone: 989-837-3412

**19-6-08**

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

**3. Machine Rescue Awareness and Operations**

Instructor: MUSAR Training Foundation / Phone: 248-651-4470  
Email: [jcieslik@rochestertermi.org](mailto:jcieslik@rochestertermi.org)

**19-6-09**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** and seconded by **Councilperson Styles** to approve the curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Awareness**

Instructor: John R. Brophy / Phone: 201-407-8902 / Email: [brophyj@aol.com](mailto:brophyj@aol.com)

**19-6-10**

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

**5. Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Operations**

Instructor: John R. Brophy / Phone: 201-407-8902 / Email: [brophyj@aol.com](mailto:brophyj@aol.com)

**19-6-11**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and seconded by **Councilperson White** to approve the curriculum. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**6. Fire Dynamics and the Fire Ground**

Instructor: Paul Norwood and Sean Gray / Phone: 678-773-0841  
Email: [ffseangray@gmail.com](mailto:ffseangray@gmail.com)

**19-6-12**

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

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**John Cieslik, Michigan Urban Search and Rescue** shared that they are interested in doing online courses. The council suggested he submit a Q course application for review.

**Ryan Kept, St. Clair Shores Fire Department** provided feedback on a proposal for Target Solutions that was approved at a prior meeting. His department began using an online management system to address the problem of people missing training. The online training is meant to supplement live/hands-on training for the department. To date:

- 872 out of 989 current active employees have registered.
- 5,000+ classes have been taken online.
- 802 people have completed more than one online training program.

This program has also helped to outline career development and they have received requests from other counties for the professional development.

**Chris Mantels, Saugatuck Township Fire District** thanked the council for their work on the rules.

**Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College** inquired about the fire officer courses in FY20. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier suggested the counties run more Q-Courses while the council continues to work on the rules. Mr. Carroll also asked if fireworks funding could be used for cadets and explorers. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that fireworks funding may be used if the student is a rostered member of a fire department. Region Coordinator TJ Richardson added that beginning in FY20, the fire department must also be NFIRS compliant for 12 consecutive months.

**John Brophy, Saginaw Township Fire Department** then asked if it would be wise to schedule a fire officer course that may run into FY20. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that he may, however, realize that the rules are not yet completed.

**IX. COUNCIL COMMENT:**

**Councilperson Blackmer** shared that he is encouraged by the online learning feedback. He feels that we are behind on that.

**Councilperson Steichen** thanked the audience for coming to the meeting and for their input. He added that the current council has been working together for a full year now.

**Councilperson White** appreciated the feedback regarding online learning and shared that she looks forward to completing the rules.

**Councilperson Blomstrom** also thanked the audience for coming and asked that they have patience as the council continues to work on the rules, adding they have some big decisions to make.

**Fire Marshal Sehmeyer** also thanked the audience and agreed with Councilperson Blackmer regarding online learning.

**Councilperson Pettinger** also appreciated the online learning report and reminded the audience that a motion had been made to provide feedback to the council. She also shared that a free community risk reduction training opportunity will be available on June 17, 2019 and that a flyer would be shared on GovDelivery with additional details. She also thanked the audience for their patience on the rules and shared the council recognizes the importance of getting the rules completed.

**Councilperson Styles** reminded the audience that the council members' [contact information](#) is available on the bureau website and encouraged them to reach out to their council representative(s) as needed.

**Councilperson Janik** thanked the audience for attending the meeting and for their support. He also thanked the council for all their work.


**Chairperson Tackett** echoed the thanks to the audience and the council.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

**19-6-13**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blackmer** and seconded by **Councilperson Styles** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Chairperson Tackett

  
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Councilmember