



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**  
**MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**WORK SESSION – RULES**

Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
9:00 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/93315201868?pwd=U0haUTdwTWJ5NUV3MWILc21TaFVnZz09>

Password: 8vXJyT

To join by telephone, dial:

(216) 706-7075

(866) 390-1828 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 394127

**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 Sehmeyer, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:**

Andrea Keown, Department Technician, Fire Fighter Training Division/Recording Secretary  
Hollie Metts, Assistant to the State Fire Marshal (virtual meeting moderator)  
Dan Hammerberg, Region 1 Coordinator, Fire Fighter Training Division

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Liz Arasim, Regulatory Affairs Officer, Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs	Greg Lelito, Madison Heights Fire Department
Adam Carroll, Hartland Twp. Fire Department	Jeff Roberts, Wixom Fire Department
Andy Bezenah, RAFT	Jerry Morawski, Addison Twp. Fire Department
Bill Parker, Blair & Paradise Twp. Fire Department	Jim Fisher, Gerrish Twp. Fire Department
Brian Michelli, Fruitport Fire Department	Joseph Kinnucan, Norton Shores Fire Department
Brian Sipe, Spring Lake Fire Department	Josh Mosher, Midland Fire Department
Bryan Ferguson, Glen Lake Fire Department	Karl Brown, Walled Lake Fire Department
Chris Mantels, Saugatuk Twp. Fire Department	Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College RTC
Dan Flood, Brandon Fire Department	Larry Gambotto, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Dave Glotzbach, Muskegon Twp. Fire Department	Mark Cleveland, Egelston Twp. Fire Department
David Hendon, Eaton Rapids Fire Department	Mark Lawry, West Bloomfield Fire Department
Ed Blight, Mundy Twp. Fire Department	Matt Majestic, West Bloomfield Fire Department
Gary Sharp, Independence Twp. Fire Department	Matt Fruchey, Beaverton Fire Department
Greg Flynn, West Bloomfield Fire Department	

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES

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Michael McLeieer, Michigan State Fireman's Association  
Mike Gladieux, Royal Oak Fire Department  
Mike Koehler, Troy Fire Department  
Paul Well, Birmingham Fire Department  
Phil Duczynski, Novi Fire Department  
Robert Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety

Rob Glenn, Schoolcraft College RTC  
Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department  
Ryan Tibbets, Kalamazoo Dept. Of Public Safety  
Scott Damon, Cambridge Fire Department  
Sean Canto, Rochester Hills Fire Department  
Thomas Moore, Milford Fire Department  
Timothy Seal, North Oakland Fire Authority

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

Before **Chairperson Tackett** called the special meeting to order, he announced a roll call vote will be done for any motion put forth to council during this meeting and read the following introduction to everyone in the virtual meeting:

*In order to minimize disruptions, until the time designated by the Council for public comment, members of the public will be muted to the Council and other attendees and participants. During the time designated by the Council for public comment, members of public will no longer be muted and may participate and provide their comments by orderly speaking using the microphone on their phone. All existing Council rules regarding public comment (including rules designed to minimize disruptions and allow for full public participation) still apply.*

*All quorum rules still apply. In the event of a disconnection caused by the meeting host, the Council will be considered to be in recess. Every effort will be made to reestablish a publicly accessible connection. If the host is unable to do so within a period of 30 minutes from the time of the disconnection, the Council will adjourn and not address any new business until its next meeting. Any decisions made prior to the disconnection will be binding. The Council will not recess or adjourn due to technical or other issues experienced by individual members of the public that render them unable to attend or participate in the meeting."*

**Chairperson Tackett** called the special meeting session to order at 9:04 A.M. Roll call was taken

Chairperson Tackett – present  
Councilperson Blomstrom – present  
Councilperson Styles – present  
Councilperson White – present  
Councilperson Blackmer – present  
Councilperson Janik– present  
Councilperson Steichen – present  
Councilperson Pettinger – present  
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – present

A quorum was determined present.

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

### **20-06-13**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Steichen** and seconded by **Councilperson Janik** to approve the June 9th, 2020 special meeting agenda, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

Chairperson Tackett – yes  
Councilperson Blomstrom – yes  
Councilperson Styles – yes  
Councilperson White –yes  
Councilperson Blackmer – yes  
Councilperson Janik– yes  
Councilperson Steichen – yes  
Councilperson Pettinger – absent  
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – yes

Eight votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **III. COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **Fire Fighter Training Council General Rules Update:** A revised draft of the Fire Fighter Training Council General Rules (dated June 9th, 2020) was provided to the council in their meeting packets and projected for all attendees to view during the work session. FFTD Department Technician, Andrea Keown made changes to the working draft document per the discussion. The meeting resumed with council adding out of state and Pro Board/IFSAC reciprocity language to Part 2 Classifications. After a ten (10) minute break, council worked through the draft document making changes to grammar and adding clarifying language to definitions.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety:** Mentioned that the “Q Course” definition should be revisited as it is limiting. Suggests adding “organizations or individual subject experts” and “the council shall review and vote to approve or deny with cause all Q Course applications.” to clarify the definition.

**Greg Lelito, Madison Heights Fire Department:** Thank you to everyone for all the time that has been put in the last couple years and appreciates it. Supports the letter from the fire chiefs that was sent to council. Thank you very much.

**Pall Wells, Birmingham Fire Department:** Agrees with Chief Lelito, supports letter from fire chiefs. Would like to see the four points followed, some of them were covered today during the meeting. Is in full support of the letter from the state fire chiefs. Thank you for your time.

**Larry Gambotto, Rochester Hills Fire Department:** Asked questions with regards to Pro Board. Feels IFSAC should be included in that section.

**Chris Mantels, Saugatuk Twp. Fire Department:** Thanked everyone for their time and efforts, appreciates the work council is doing. Supports fire chiefs letter. Believes that training council should, at minimum, accept Pro Board, IFSAC, and NFA certificates for both in state and out of state students. Appears by adding the references to RAFT MOU today, you may now be treating some other programs inconsistently, it could be that this was an oversight. I suggest removing the references to the MOU's to be consistent to all fire service disciplines. I would appreciate you working alongside the Michigan chiefs association as their letter outlines some excellent solutions. Thank you for your time.

**Michael McLeier, Michigan State Fireman's Association:** Michigan State Fireman's Association also supports the June 23<sup>rd</sup> letter sent by the fire chiefs. Thanked council for the work they have done on the rules. We want to continue to work together and continue to provide our fire department members every opportunity for recruitment and retention.

### **VI. COUNCIL COMMENT:**

**Councilperson Tackett:** None

**Councilperson Blomstrom:** Good job today, looking and moving forward with the rules process and also taking the document that was received in the late hours under consideration. I know I have to look at these documents and determine the benefits the fire service and what benefits a particular organization and is it benefitting someone politically as well. I think we made pretty good strides today. The rules document is a collaborative effort, it is not a document owned by one particular organization. There are nine people here that need to make decisions for the best of the fire service not just one organization and that needs to be understood.

**Councilperson Styles:** None.

**Councilperson White:** Agrees with councilperson Blackmer, this is a long process and there are more edits and councilis still working to address items from the chiefs letter. Appreciates the feedback but requests that Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs contact/email all members instead of sending letters to the presidents of the associations councilmemebers represent. Council members email addresses can be found online.

**Councilperson Blackmer:** Another good work session There are still things we need to touch on. We are getting there slowly but we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Looks forward to the next work session.

**Councilperson Janik:** Wants to make sure someone responds to Chief Damon's email that was sent on June 18th. Appreciates the work the fire marshal is doing bringing Pro Board and RAFT into the dialogue. Feels aligned with letter from the chiefs. There are still things we need to work out. We all need to work together to get the rules completed.

**Councilperson Steichen:** None

**Councilperson Pettinger:** Great progress today. We were able to address the IFSAC/Pro Board issue that people have been questioning. Agrees with a lot of the issues the chiefs brought up in their letter and we have been addressing them, however, would like the have future letters, if addressed to council, be sent directly to council members instead of second hand. All of these organizations should be working together.

**Fire Marshal Sehmeyer:** Good work session. There is still a lot of things grammatically that need to be looked at. We are trying to put forth a document that is consistent. Agrees with council that letters and emails should be sent directly to council and not secondhand. Thank you everyone for the continued effort and work.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT:

**20-06-14**

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** and seconded by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to adjourn the special meeting/work session.


A roll call vote was taken.

Chairperson Tackett – yes  
Councilperson Blomstrom – yes  
Councilperson Styles – absent  
Councilperson White –yes  
Councilperson Blackmer – yes  
Councilperson Janik– yes  
Councilperson Steichen – yes  
Councilperson Pettinger – yes  
Fire Marshal Sehmeyer – yes

Eight votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 12:01 PM.

## **APPROVED:**

  
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Chairperson Tackett

  
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Councilmember