



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, Room W157
Lansing, MI 48917

Tuesday, February 8, 2022
1:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chair, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen’s Association
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chad Tackett, Chairperson, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Lynnae White, Michigan Fire Inspectors Society
Jacob Steichen, Nominee of the State Fire Marshal
Greg Janik, Michigan Municipal League
Vacant, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:

Andrea Keown, Department Technician, Recording Secretary, Fire Fighter Training Division
Hollie Metts, Assistant to the State Fire Marshal

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kurt Corradi, Bay City Department of Public Safety	Danny Reynolds, Macomb Fire & Emergency
Randy Case, Bay City Department of Public Safety	Training Center
Josh Mosher, Midland Fire Department	Mark Cleveland, Egelston Township Fire
Tim Baker, Lansing Community College	Department
Dave Glotzbach, Muskegon Twp Fire Department	Robert Ginther, Beverly Hills Department of Public
Tracy St. John, BFS Training Coordinator	Safety

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Vice Chairperson Blomstrom called the regular meeting to order at 1:38 pm. A moment of silence was observed for our fallen firefighters. Roll call was taken by recording secretary, Andrea Keown.

Chairperson Tackett – Absent	Councilperson Janik – Absent
Vice Chairperson Blomstrom - Present	Councilperson Steichen – Absent
Councilperson White – Absent	Councilperson Pettinger – Present
Councilperson Blackmer – Present	Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – Present

Present: 4; Absent: 4. A quorum was not present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

All February 8, 2022 agenda items will carry over to the April 12, 2022 regular meeting agenda.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Review and approval of the December 3, 2021 regular meeting minutes will also carry over to the April 12, 2022 regular meeting agenda.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilperson Pettinger noted it was her last meeting as a council member and that it had been an honor to represent the Michigan Professional Firefighters Union. She expressed her thanks, wished all the best of luck, and to be safe out there.

Councilperson Blomstrom commented that he and the rest of council received communication regarding an instructor requesting council to review the policy on Fire Instructor I without taking it. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier responded to the instructor and addressed their concern.

V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

- a. **Council Appointments/Reappointments:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier informed everyone that all council member terms expired on January 31, 2022. The board vacancy report was submitted, and the Appointments Office is aware of the expired terms. The Bureau of Fire Services (BFS) expects the Appointments Office will be reaching out to the fire groups soon as they intend to have the positions filled prior to the April 12, 2022 regular meeting. If seeking reappointment, council members must be nominated by their organization and submit their application online.
- b. **Staffing Updates:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier congratulated Aileen Pettinger on her retirement at the Saginaw Fire Department after 25 years of service and welcomed her to her new position with the BFS as a fire inspector. There are also four new training coordinators: Kurt Corradi, Rodney Brown, Tracy St. John, and Danny Reynolds. The Fire Marshal also informed everyone present of the passing of Roger Davis, who had been a training coordinator with the bureau for many years.
- c. **FY22 Course Summary:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier gave an overview on how the FY22 courses are going.
- d. **Behavioral and Mental Health Grants:** A random drawing was done at the December 3, 2021 regular meeting to determine the funding list. Per Region Coordinator Dan Hammerberg, all grants were awarded, the funding transferred, and the applicants notified. The courses must be completed by the end of the fiscal year on September 30, 2022.
- e. **Update on Implementing the Rules:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier gave an update on the work bureau staff has done to implement the Fire Fighters Training Council General Rules since they became effective on November 3, 2021, including several form updates and enhancements to SMOKE. On December 17, 2021, a Fire Instructor II Train-the-Trainer was conducted and currently, the bureau is developing the written exam. A Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2022 to finalize the written exam. The bureau will work on Fire Officer III next.
- f. **County Training Committees:** On January 31, 2022, a memo regarding County Training Committee (CTC) requirements and chairperson responsibilities was sent out to the CTCs and on [GovDelivery](#). The CTCs shall select a chairperson before April 1, 2022 to serve a one-year term (April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023). The annual training needs survey will be sent out to the CTCs in April as well.

- g. Fatal Fire Update:** There have been 22 deaths in 18 fires as of February 7, 2022. In January, we saw a 144% increase as compared to the same timeframe in 2021.
- h. Upcoming Training:** There will be an Instructor Orientation on February 22, 2022. The JC5 Fire Training in Lansing is March 4th and March 5th at the Crowne Plaza. More information on the JC5 Training in Lapeer in April and Gaylord in May will be shared on [GovDelivery](#). A virtual Instructor I Train-the-Trainer will be held on March 8, 2022. If interested, reach out to [Dan Hammerberg](#).
- i. Wednesday Wrap-Up Dates/Times:** Upcoming dates and times for the Wednesday Wrap-Up's are February 9, 2022 at 4:00 pm and February 23, 2022, at 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

VI. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Councilperson Blomstrom provided the council with an update regarding the meeting on February 17, 2022 to review the Instructor II written exam.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Q Course Applications: All Q Course applications will carry over to the April 12, 2022 regular meeting agenda.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

X. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilperson Blackmer: Thanked everyone who made the trip to Lansing for the meeting. He thought it was unfortunate that council was not able to conduct business and apologized to those who put in for Q courses that weren't voted on.

Councilperson Pettinger: Agreed that it is frustrating for both council members and those who attend the meetings to not be able to conduct business. She highly encouraged the fire service organizations to nominate people that can commit the time.

Vice Chairperson Blomstrom: Thanked everyone for attending and agreed that he was also disappointed that council couldn't vote on any agenda items. He also thanked Councilperson Pettinger for her service and said that it has been great working on council.

Fire Marshal Sehmeyer: Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He was under the impression that there would be a quorum and apologized for not canceling the meeting sooner. He shared it's great to see people at the meetings and encouraged everyone to continue to attend. He thanked the council members for their service.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm.

APPROVED: MFFTC Regular Meeting 6/14/22 (Motion #22-06-02)