

FINAL

**FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2013**

Chaired by: Jim Steele

Meeting Date and Location: May 14, 2013, Ohio Department of Public Safety 1970
West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Committee Members Present: Eric Waltemire, Richard Sacco, Phil McLean

Committee Members Absent: Dudley Wright, Mark Lundy

Staff Present: Doug Orahod, Rachel Moore, Melvin House, John Sands

Guests: Dave Belcher, Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors; Scott Walker, Ohio Fire
Academy/State Fire Marshal

The meeting was called to order at 10:04AM.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2013 FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE
SAFETY INSPECTOR (FFSI) TRAINING COMMITTEE MINUTES.**

ACTION: Motion to approve the March 12, 2013 FFSI committee minutes.
Waltemire First. Sacco Second. None opposed. Motion approved.

OPEN FORUM

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

There is a lot going on in EMS right now with the whole merger with the Ohio Medical Transportation Board. The merger is moving ahead of schedule, it is a two part move, the Board Transition, and the operational move. With the merger of the two divisions, there will be a change up in the composition of the Board that governs both departments. The nominations and resumes' are being sent to the Governor's office for approval and selection. They cannot officially announce and appoint the Board members until July 1st. This will have an effect on the Fire Committee, because the new members of the Board will determine who will be appointed as the committee members. The number of members on the Fire Committee will be reduced from 8 down to 6. The committee questioned how they would be able to have enough members available at any one time to establish a quorum. They are currently concentrating on the investigative side of the OMTB (Ohio Medical Transportation Board), and getting the processes integrated between EMS and the OMTB. June 14th is the estimated date that the OMTB will be working out of our office; the official date that they will be combined with EMS is July

1st. With the change in the composition of the EMS Board, and the Fire Committee, the law can be changed to allow for additional fire committee members.

New staff has been added to the Division, we have a new Grants Coordinator—Julie McQuade, an API in certifications—Dawn Vondracek, and a new Executive Secretary—Sherry Harkness. There is still a vacancy in the Trauma department, they are looking for a Biostatistician, and there is a vacancy in the Education department, they are looking for help for Mr. Orahood, and Mr. Sands to help with training and writing curriculum etc.

Fire Rules: A significant piece of the fire rules requires some curriculum to be written. For the 1403 awareness courses, the division is looking into hiring a contracted employee to work on a part time basis to get the course written. The division has a little money available from the position they are holding for Mr. Pfeffer until he returns from military leave of absence. The fire rules are pretty much done, there has however been a radical change made on how they are presented and processed. It looks like they will be going to JCARR by September or October of this year. It looks like the rules will end up with a January 1, 2014 effective date, because almost every one of the rules needed to be rescinded and rewritten. Everything in the rules as far as Fire Charters are concerned will be voluntary until the rules officially go into effect.

OHIO SOCIETY OF FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTORS UPDATE

Dave Belcher presented the report before the committee today. He stated that there is a meeting scheduled for this Saturday at the Ohio Fire Academy for the Evaluator's Training with the new skill sheets. This will round out the total to 6 meetings around the state, with a total of about 160 individuals who went through the Evaluator's Training. There has been very good feedback on this training. Steve Goheen did an excellent job with the Evaluator's Training that he presented; he received compliments from Mr. Waltemire, and Mr. McLean for a job well done.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL/OHIO FIRE ACADEMY REPORT

Scott Walker presented the State Fire Marshal's report before the committee. They were able to secure an additional \$500,000.00 to offer Firefighter 1 Transition, or Firefighter 1 courses around the state beginning after July 1st. They have also been doing renovations on their "A" building which houses the apparatus. They are also working on building new roadways, and renovating classrooms. The Fire Academy is partnering with ODOT, who owns 8 houses to be used for pre-burn, and burn training, this will offer good hands-on training opportunities.

Training grants that are available from the State Fire Marshal to fire departments around the state will be reimbursed based upon successful completion of the course the department received the grant for.

FIRE COORDINATOR REPORT

2013/2014 Committee goals—the Public Safety Instructor course curriculum has gone before and been approved by the EMS Board. The course will be developed in the near future. There will be 40 hours that will be the technique portion of the course that will be

part of both the EMS and the fire side, after that, the training hours are devoted to the specific fire and specific EMS training. The 1403 Live Fire Course, and Hazmat Awareness and Operations course, the division is hoping to have money to be able to hire someone to work on developing and writing these courses. It was asked whether or not the committee wants to create a test for this curriculum. The Instructor manual has been completed; it is based on the 2012 edition. Mr. House is working to fill Mr. Pfeffer's position on a temporary basis to get someone in here that can work on the curriculum and test writing and creation. It was discussed before the committee whether or not the Objective Check-Off sheets are still necessary, or is there an easier way to handle this process. What direction does the committee want to take as far as training paperwork, check-off sheets, etc. are concerned? Mr. McLean and Mr. Waltemire think this process should be simplified. Mr. Orahod is going to be working on a new objective check-off sheet, and will be presenting it to the committee for approval, to be used in place of the current check-off sheets. The objectives list will be given; they will test with the practical skills and the written skills. Mr. Orahod will draft up some documents for the committee to review. Regarding the NFPA 1031—creating a company level inspector rather than just a fire safety inspector to match the NFPA, to help them to be able to observe and recognize hazards. Mr. House and Mr. Orahod are looking at creating a 1 week, 40 hour course for the Fire Safety Inspector 1, and additional 32 hours on top of the original 40 hours for the Fire Safety Inspector 2. When the new standard comes out, it will be reviewed and the breakdown will be decided upon at that point. They are not looking to increase the number of hours required for the Fire Safety Inspector certification.

HazMat, EVOC, Life Safety Initiatives, what testing questions will be added to the test, will the length of all the certification tests need to be increased? The committee needs to add appropriate questions to the test, which are related to this additional training being required for these certifications. The committee agrees that the number of questions in the tests does need to be increased; none of the current questions should be taken away. Perhaps an additional 25 questions should be added, to test the HazMat awareness and operations separately.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Steele would like to request that the members of the committee review the documents that are sent to them prior to the committee meetings and be ready with any comments or opinions that they may have concerning what they read, so they can offer a more helpful conversation.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Mr. Steele entertained a motion to adjourn. Waltemire First. McLean Second. Meeting adjourned at 11:55.