

FINAL

FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES September 18, 2012

Chaired by: Jim Steele

Meeting Date and Location: September 18, 2012, Ohio Department of Public Safety
1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Committee Members Present: Jim Steele, Eric Waltemire, Richard Sacco, Phil McLean,
Bob Babb, Mark Lundy, Mark Mankins

Committee Members Absent: Dudley Wright

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

Guests: Randy Hormann, Ohio Society Fire Service Instructors/Tri-C; Steve Goheen,
Ohio Society Fire Service Instructors/Clark State; Ken Klouda, State Fire Marshal/Ohio
Fire Academy; Bill Mallory, EMS Board; Bill Quinn, EMS Board

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JULY 10, 2012 FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR (FFSI) TRAINING COMMITTEE MINUTES.

ACTION: Motion to approve the July 10, 2012 FFSI committee minutes. McLean
First. Sacco Second. None opposed. Motion approved.

OPEN FORUM

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Melvin House was introduced as the new Executive Director of the Division of EMS. Mr. House shared with the committee about his many years of experience in the fire service, as well as his years of experience working for the State of Ohio. In addition to that, he shared his goals as the new Executive Director, how he is in the process of streamlining operations in order to create more effectiveness.

Pam Watkins was introduced to share the Common Sense Initiative process relating to filing the fire rules. She spoke about Senate Bill 2 which was the governor's first executive order; he created a bill to protect small businesses from adverse impact that can be caused by financial concerns relating to the rules that are being filed. The senate bill created the Common Sense Initiative Impact office as well; it also expanded JCARR's authority. She stated that public participation is a major requirement in the rule

making/updating process. We need to reach out to our stakeholders to gain any further opinions for our proposed fire rule changes. Also there is a business impact analysis that must be completed to help in the rule filing process. This gives us an idea of how this will impact small businesses around Ohio. A stakeholder meeting is planned for the beginning of November, any changes or suggestions will be brought before the committee at the November meeting.

Mr. House stated that there is not enough staff to provide support for the fire section in the division; he is committed to find some additional staff or restructure the division, in order to make things more productive.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

OHIO SOCIETY OF FIRE SERVICE UPDATE

Mr. Goheen shared the report; he stated that the Instructor Symposium is being held at Columbus Fire Academy on October 26 & 27.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL/OHIO FIRE ACADEMY REPORT

Mr. Klouda shared the report from the State Fire Marshal/Ohio Fire Academy. He stated that there is a new Superintendent at the Fire Academy, Dana Smith. He also stated that the reason the new Superintendent wasn't in attendance at today's meeting was because they were dedicating the new grain bin rescue trailer today. They also have a new air support training trailer. They will also be starting a 36 hour course which is scheduled for October.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

None

FIRE COORDINATOR REPORT

Mr. Orahod shared the certification report today as part of his Fire Coordinator report. Fire Safety Inspector Update, a couple extra staff people have been assigned to assist with updating the item bank, so that a test can be created, and we can get it put online, so people can start taking the Fire Safety Inspector test which is based on the new fire code, online. Practical skills evaluators training manual, Mr. Orahod passed out a disk to all the members of the committee which contained the practical skills evaluators training manual. The target date for practical skill testing to go into effect across the state is January 1, 2013.

Mr. Huffman supplied information for Tri-C's proposed online hybrid Fire Instructor course. He met with Mr. House, and Mr. Orahod to go over the follow up information that was requested by the committee, before a decision is made on whether or not to allow them to start. Mr. Waltemire shared some concerns he had with the outline for the class, as well as the proposed course hours. It was stated by Mr. Steele that the

committee has been waiting for four months to get this information, data and statistics from Mr. Huffman, on the pilot for their instructor course. Mr. Steele stated that he would like some time to go over the proposal before making a decision on whether or not Tri-C will be allowed to run the hybrid online Fire Instructor course. Mr. House recommended allowing Tri-C to run another pilot course to find any bugs that may exist in their plan. It was also stated that Tri-C has recently switched to a new computer system that will keep more valuable data and statistics that the other program didn't keep up with. Mr. Ford stated that he feels they should be allowed to run the pilot, and then it will give them a chance to either sink or swim so to speak. Mr. Orahod stated that the syllabus shows that the required number of hours for conducting a Fire Instructor course are included in the proposed instructor class. Mr. Huffman already has an Instructor class scheduled, and depending on the decision made by the committee determines whether it will be a direct delivery, or an online hybrid class.

ACTION: Mr. Babb moved to allow another pilot for Tri-C. Lundy second. 1 nay (Waltemire), 1 abstention (McLean). Motion approved.

Testing module, many new features have been added to the testing module, new item banks, data and statistical analysis. Test requests can be submitted electronically as part of the new testing module. The test can be set up electronically, and practical skills results can be entered into the system. The student will be certified online immediately after passing the test, they will also be given an option to get ProBoard certification if they meet the qualifications, they can print out the application, fill it out, and then submit the application and fee in order to get their certification.

Ohio Fire Awards will be held this Thursday October 20, 2012 at the Ohio Fire Academy at 1:30, Mr. House, Mr. Sands, Mrs. Moore from the staff will be in attendance, Mr. Steele and Mr. Sacco from the committee will be there as well.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Mankins stated that the core curriculum for Public Safety Instructors has been condensed from 50 hours to 40 hours. There will be 40 hours of methodology, and the 1403 module will be added to the Fire Instructor curriculum.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McLean stated that he would like to once again welcome Mr. House to the executive director job as well as the committee. He also stated that there will be a 3 day, 24 hour 1403 course that will be held by the University of Akron, in the city of Lakemore, sometime at the end of October.

Mr. Sands mentioned that the DMA form has now been eliminated as part of the certification process, effective September 10, 2012. The division is in the process of getting all the DMA forms that were part of online paperwork removed to help avoid any confusion.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

**ACTION: Mr. Steele entertained a motion to adjourn. Waltemire First. McLean
Second. Meeting adjourned at 11:29.**