

**FINAL**

**FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Chaired by: Phil McLean

Meeting Date and Location: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Committee Members Present: Terry Gill, Bob Babb, Jim Steele, Richard Sacco, and Mark Mankins

Committee Members Absent: Brent Gates, and Mark Lundy

Staff Present: Richard Rucker, Yvonne Tertel, Heather Reed Frient, Doug Orahood, Summer Boyer, Thomas Macklin, and Melissa Vermillion

Guests: Tom Beatty, Charlie Dixon, and James Holcomb

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Motion to approve the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Committee minutes. Steele first. Mankins second. None opposed. Motion approved.

**AG/LEGAL REPORT**

No report given.

**STAFF REPORT, Doug Orahood**

Mr. Orahood passed out the fire report. Informed the committee that there is one new charter application for Bethel Tate Fire Department, and that a site visit has been scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup>. Approved charter renewal for Cincinnati Fire Department this month and a scheduled site visit for Mid East JVS on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Orahood said he will speak at the Public Safety Adult Workforce Development Associations meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Orahood attended the Ohio Fire Official's Association meeting and wanted them to at least have the opportunity to review and look at the fire safety inspector continuing education since they submitted a proposal and some other work for us on what continuing

education they felt fire safety inspector should have in the state. They reviewed the rule and were very pleased with the outcome. They thanked the committee and division for giving them an opportunity to have some input.

Mr. Orahood stated that there have been approximately 2,500 persons that have tested using the web based testing. It's running smoothly, and we're not experiencing any problems. The mechanism is now set up to conduct web based testing for fire safety inspectors once the examination review is completed. Mr. Orahood stated that hopefully within the next couple of months we'll have an open book and closed book fire safety inspector web based test.

Mr. Steele asked if it coincides with the current code.

Mr. Orahood said that the building code and fire code that is now being published should be out shortly. Those tests have already been updated and already printed the books.

Mr. Gill asked if some of the volunteer test questions had been changed, and stated Chief Gates had received complaints regarding certain questions on the test.

Mr. Orahood stated the examination had not been changed. It was decided at one of the work group sessions that a few of the committee members would get together and meet and go through the item bank and find out what questions based on the objectives are suitable to ask volunteers so that we could through and develop a test so that we're not inserting a bad question with another bad question. But to date that meeting has not been scheduled.

Chief Steele asked what the pass rate was out of the individuals that are being tested.

Mr. Orahood stated that he didn't have the exact amount but that it is increasing each month.

The committee had a rather lengthy discussion regarding the 36 hour class.

Mr. Orahood said he would bring the data from a survey that was put out which asked the schools how they were teaching the course to the next committee meeting.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT, Phil McLean**

Mr. McLean gave an update on the live fire training course that we're working on putting together. We have some confirmed dates from individuals from Florida and stated he will send it out in an e-mail. January 7<sup>th</sup> through January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008. They are recommending four eight to ten hours days and it will be held in Akron, OH. Five thousand dollars has been raised thus far. Akron Fire has agreed to provide the houses and manpower and the logistics. Mr. McLean stated he will check with the representative from the Fire Chiefs at the Alliance Meeting and also the professionals.

There was some discussion regarding the live fire training articles that Mr. Sacco passed out.

### **FIRE RULES DISCUSSION**

Mr. Orahood said after much discussion it was the consensus of the EMS staff and Executive Director that the driving training language be left as it is currently in rule now and asked the committee for their approval. It currently reads that they have to complete 16 hours of emergency vehicle operations approved by the charter director. If the committee would prefer Mr. Orahood stated it could be changed to 8 hours. Mr. Orahood stated those that would be affected are 4765-11-10, 4765-11-11, 4765-11-12, and 4765-11-13.

Ms. Reed Frient asked what the exact language would say.

“In addition students must also successfully complete a 16 hour emergency vehicle operations course approved by the charter program that meets the requirements of the NFPA standard 1451.”

Ms. Reed Frient said so regardless of whether or not they’re actually going to drive it’s going to be part of the curriculum that they have to take this course.

Mr. Orahood stated it was his understanding from the committee that we have an 8 hour classroom portion and they will then need 8 hours of driving at their department before their renewal.

Mr. Mankins stated that as he recalls the discussion was that if they were in initial training before they could finalize their training they had to complete the 8 hours.

Mr. Orahood said we could reference 4765-10-02 and 1451, and develop objectives from those two standards in developing a course because we need portions of both of those standards and not just one.

After some discussion the committee stated they were fine with the rule being 16 hours.

Mr. Orahood said that he will include and define 4765-10-02 in 4765-11-01 and mention that standard so the students know the course is coming from the NFPA 1451 and 4765-10-02.

### **DRIVING TRAINING / DRIVER LICENSE**

The EMS staff’s recommendation to the committee is that we not require driver’s license – for the same reasons as before the political aspect of requiring certain religious groups that don’t drive would eliminate them from being able to be certified.

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Chief Steele asked if he was referring to all levels.

Mr. Orahood said yes.

Chief Steele said are we not going to need to require driver's license at firefighter 1 and above. If you're going to drive it seems to me you'd have to make a requirement at that level. You may not say it at the 1 A level because there's no requirement to drive. But he felt as soon as you put into rule, they have to drive at that level they have to have a driver's license.

Mr. Rucker stated he didn't see how it could be any other way. If we're going to require the driver's training at firefighter levels 1 and 2 how could they do that without having a driver's license.

Chief Gill stated that the only political ramifications are going to be at the volunteer level and volunteers will not have to take a driver's class, but that FF1 and FF2 will.

Mr. Orahood said that's what they assume.

Mr. Orahood said if it's part of the standard that you need to have drivers license does it need to be put in rule because we've already told them that they need to meet the standard.

After much discussion regarding driver's license training and the consensus of the committee was not to put it in rule and leave it up to each training institution.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Orahood asked the committee if they were comfortable with the few changes in rules as discussed in the work group session at Violet Township Fire Department.

**ACTION: Motion to accept rules after the noted changes (19 and 20) and proceed to JCARR.** Steele first. Mankins second. None opposed. Motion approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No comments were brought forward.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION: Motion to adjourn.** Steele first. Mankins second. None opposed. Motion approved.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.**