

FINAL

**FIREFIGHTER AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
November 8, 2011**

Chaired by: Jim Steele

Meeting Date and Location: November 8, 2011, Ohio Department of Public Safety 1970
West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43223

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

Committee Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rachel Moore, Winston Ford, John Kennington, Jeffrey Leaming, John
Sands

Guests: Charlie Dixon, Columbus Fire/Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors; Allen
Daugherty, Buckeye Career Center; Aaron Dupree, Ohio Fire Academy/State Fire
Marshal

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 FIREFIGHTER AND
FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR (FFSI) TRAINING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

ACTION: Motion to approve the September 13, 2011 FFSI committee minutes.
McLean first. Wright second. None opposed. Motion approved.

In reviewing the minutes from the previous meeting, it was brought to the attention of the
Committee by Mr. Sands that there were some corrections that needed to be made. The
corrections were stated, and noted to be added to the minutes.

ACTION: Motion to approve the correction to the minutes. Waltemire first. Babb
second. None opposed. Motion approved.

OPEN FORUM

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Leaming spoke to the Committee about the Ohio Society of Fire Service
Instructor's annual conference during which time the Division of EMS presented the
Ohio Fire Awards. The awards presented and the winners of them are as follows: **The
Ohio Fire Officer of the Year**—Todd German, **The Ohio Fire Prevention Educator of**

the Year—David Cox, The Ohio Fire Service Instructor of the Year—Jeremy Linn, The Ohio Volunteer Fire Department of the Year—Western Reserve Joint Fire District, The Ohio Fire Educator Lifetime Achievement—Jim Shriver.

Director Leaming went out to the Ohio Fire Academy on October 26 & 27 to observe how the IFSAC skills testing process worked, and to also pilot the ProBoard skill's testing. Changes will need to be made to the skill sheets; a meeting is planned with numerous subject matter experts to help clean up the skill sheets.

Also a decision was made by Director Leaming, he said that there will be no more bending over backwards to help out people who did not renew their certifications by the original target date, anyone who expired on 1/24/09 will need to retrain and retest if they want their fire certifications back, no excuses. Mr. McLean feels a letter should be drafted and sent out stating that House Bill 401 was created and brought about by the Fire Service, it wasn't something invented by the state to punish the firefighters.

OHIO SOCIETY OF FIRE SERVICE UPDATE

They were glad to be able to incorporate the Fire Awards as part of the Fire Instructor conference. Next year's conference is being held in Sharonville, so the 2012 Ohio Fire Awards will most likely end up being held here in Columbus in the ODOT auditorium. There were 130-140 attendees at their conference and for the first time they actually had publishers from all four book companies there as well. They also asked for an update on their proposal for modularized testing for transitioning from a volunteer to a firefighter 1 status. They wanted to know what they should share with people regarding whether or not this was going to occur. The topic was not discussed any further.

They also stated that they found many mistakes in the ProBoard skill sheets; they feel the sheets need to be looked over to make all the necessary changes, and they also feel that the implementation of the skill sheets will create a big financial impact on all the fire training schools around the state.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL/OHIO FIRE ACADEMY REPORT

The piloting of the ProBoard skill sheets went pretty well, the sheets need to be cleaned up a bit, but there is an upcoming meeting to go over and discuss the skill sheets.

The online 24/7 training/continuing education program that offers EMS and Fire training created by the Fire Academy is continuing to grow, with more and more people signing up and participating, there are a total of around 300 people currently signed up and using the system statewide.

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Mr. Kennington provided a breakdown of individuals and certifications around the state:

First Responder and Volunteer Firefighter=755

First Responder and Firefighter 1=179

First Responder and Firefighter 2=269

First Responder only=906

EMT Basic and Volunteer Firefighter=2658

EMT Basic and Firefighter 1=1709

EMT Basic and Firefighter 2=8316

EMT Basic only=8570

Intermediate and Volunteer Firefighter=481

Intermediate and Firefighter 1=215

Intermediate and Firefighter 2=622

Intermediate only=966

Paramedic and Volunteer Firefighter=642

Paramedic and Firefighter 1=446

Paramedic and Firefighter 2=11,041

Paramedic only=4445

Volunteer Firefighter only=10,119

Firefighter 1 only=1936

Firefighter 2 only=3099

The total number of certified EMT's in Ohio=14,887

The total number of certified Firefighters=15,154,

The total number of people who are dual certified=27,333,

The total number of certified providers in Ohio=57,374.

FIRE COORDINATOR REPORT

Mr. Orahod would like to propose that the committee make a strategic plan for the next five years for the Fire Service in Ohio. Mr. Leaming feels that we need to develop a road map for our committee, not just rely on our past. We need to establish goals and action items. Mr. Steele feels that it is a good idea to go ahead with creating a strategic plan for the committee.

ACTION: Mr. Wright entertained a motion to move forward with identifying stakeholders to the committee for creating a strategic plan. Mr. McLean second. None opposed. Motion passed.

Mr. Orahod is working on getting a skills testing panel together to work on correcting the skills sheets. They may move to use these skill sheets for all of ProBoard, IFSAC, and Ohio certification. Mr. Orahod wants to get a group together at the Ohio Fire Academy on November 28th, at 9:00 to discuss skills testing standards. He wants to develop a list of what is needed for the skills testing, as well as evaluator's ethics. The draft documents will be brought to the committee to decide if they can be rolled out to the state. They are aware that all the Fire Schools will not be able to conduct all the skills

training, due to finances and resources. The purpose is to find out if the school can meet the standards as far as what is needed for practical skill testing then they would be allowed to offer the practical skills tests. The purpose of the meeting on the 28th of November is to develop a list of equipment, and what's needed in order to do these practical skills and let the programs know that this is what they are going to need in order to do the practical skills testing. They are also looking at evaluator's ethics as far as having the evaluators sign a form for ethics for what they are supposed to be doing on the testing ground. We are hoping to offer on our website a listing of all the fire schools and what levels of testing are available at each of the schools, and what skills will be offered. We are hoping to have this done by January in order to get it rolled out to the state. Mr. McLean shared his concerns for the smaller fire training programs, if they cannot offer the skills testing due to lack of resources are they going to be allowed to do the training classes. He feels the financial concerns of the fire schools in doing the skills testing really needs to be discussed by the committee.

Fire Safety Inspector update, Mr. Orahod is working with the Ohio Fire Academy on writing new curriculum and a new test for the Fire Safety Inspector program. The plan is to have the curriculum completed by the end of December, and the test completed by March. He is utilizing the subject matter experts that are available at the Ohio Fire Academy.

Fire Rules update, Mrs. Moore is working on getting the fire rules typed up and forwarded to Winston Ford for review and comments, and then to the committee by January.

CHAIR'S REPORT

A flyer is being distributed regarding a 1403 Live Fire Training class being held at Stark State on December 8th. It will be a pilot of the new 1403 Fire Instructor training curriculum and will offer 7 hours of continuing education credit. It will be open to any Fire Service Instructor.

Haz-Mat Tech survey, Mr. Lundy spoke with Mr. Orahod regarding this survey and was told that we may not need to use the survey as this information has already be collected by another individual.

Nominations: Mr. Sacco nominated Mr. Steele to remain as the Chairman of the Fire Committee, Mr. McLean seconded. Mr. Wright first on closing the nominations, Mr. McLean second. None opposed. Motion passed.

Mr. McLean nominated Mr. Wright for Assistant Chairman, Mr. Sacco second.

Mr. Waltemire proposed closing the nominations, Mr. Sacco second. None opposed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

An individual had taken a Fire Instructor Knowledge exam four times, and passed it on the fourth attempt. Only three attempts are allowed, then remediation or retraining is required in order to gain three more attempts. The individual requested a waiver of any remediation and/or training so that the fourth attempt would be accepted and they could enter the Fire Instructor course.

ACTION: Motion to deny the requested waiver. Mr. Babb first. Mr. Mankins second. None opposed. Waiver denied.

Mr. Mankins is working along with Mrs. Mirarchi to create the rules for Instructor training. They are trying to fit the curriculum into a forty hour course as opposed to the current fifty hour course. They are trying to reference multiple books in the curriculum rather than being tied to only one. Mr. Mankins hopes to have more information regarding the Instructor course curriculum/rules by the January 10, Fire Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Mr. Steele entertained a motion to adjourn. Waltemire second. Meeting adjourned at 10:47.