

## Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Committee

MINUTES	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
	November 12, 2013	10:03 a.m.	ODPS – Division of EMS 1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43218	
ATTENDEES	<u>Committee Members:</u> Jim Steele, Dudley Wright, Eric Waltemire, Richard Sacco, Steve Robertson <u>ODPS-Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Staff:</u> Rachel Moore, Mel House, Doug Orahoad, John Sands <u>ODPS Staff:</u> None <u>Visitors:</u> Scott Walker, State Fire Marshal/Ohio Fire Academy; Geof Garrison, Sinclair Community College; Rob Chambers, Sinclair Community College; Richard Vober, Akron Fire; Deanna Harris, Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services			
ABSENT	Committee Members: Phil McLean			
AGENDA TOPICS				
TOPIC	<b>Welcome</b>			
DISCUSSION	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:03 by Dudley Wright filling in for Jim Steele until he returned to the meeting. The meeting minutes from September 10, 2013 were reviewed and approved without change; Waltemire 1<sup>st</sup>, Sacco 2<sup>nd</sup>.</p> <p>The visitors introduced themselves.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
None				
TOPIC	<b>Executive Director Report</b>			
DISCUSSION	<p>The Fire Training Education rules, forms, etc. are in the Public Safety legal department, and will be going to J-CARR after that. Some of the training courses will need to be replaced such as the Live Fire Training course. The division is continuing to work on the fire testing situation. The division is working on getting a PA2 (Program Administrator 2) to assist with fire training, testing, and developing curriculum. This individual will need to have many years of firefighting as well as fire training experience. The education section in the division is working on getting cross-trained so they can begin doing fire charter site visits in addition to the CE Site Visits, and EMS Accreditation visits they do now.</p> <p>The division will be putting out a document to all the fire training programs to let them know when the new rules will be officially taking affect, and to make them aware of when it is time for them to transition to the new rules, new training curriculum, etc.</p>			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
None				
TOPIC	<b>Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors</b>			
DISCUSSION	No report.			
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
None				
TOPIC	<b>State Fire Marshal</b>			
DISCUSSION	<p>Mr. Walker gave the report for the State Fire Marshal. He stated there is construction going on all over their campus, and it is currently running on target.</p> <p>The Firefighter 1 Training Grant that is being offered by the State Fire Marshal is getting a very good response from around the state. So far there is well over \$100,000 committed to about 25-30 schools to be used to transition Volunteer Firefighters to the Firefighter 1</p>			

	<p>certification.</p> <p>Mr. Waltemire stated that he is working closely with one of the schools that applied for the grant, and they stated that it was one of the easiest, lowest hassle grant processes that he has ever seen.</p> <p>Mr. Robertson asked if this grant process will still be around in the following years, Mr. Walker stated that as long as nothing changes in the legislature, the grant should be around for the 2014-2015 fiscal year as well, and possibly further on from that point.</p>
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

TOPIC	Fire Coordinator's Report
DISCUSSION	<p>As far as the online testing is going, the testing section had to pretty much start from scratch with the item banks, and creating new tests for all fire levels. The division needs to establish a process to do a local validation of all the test bank questions to make sure that they are all good questions, and usable for creating the state tests. The division is trying to reach out to Program Directors and Instructors around the state to find any volunteers who would be willing to sit down and go over the item banks to eliminate the bad questions, and who may also be able to create some additional questions of their own. What they will do is split up in smaller groups to review certain sections of the test so that the process will go quickly and more smoothly.</p> <p>One of the validation groups reviewed the item bank for the Fire Safety Inspector and came to the consensus that the Jones &amp; Bartlett Fire Safety Inspector curriculum was not sufficient enough to train Fire Safety Inspectors for Ohio. Mr. Orahood stated that they have started getting volunteers to work on the Volunteer Firefighter exam, which will be based on the 6<sup>th</sup> edition. He would also like to get together a group to review the Firefighter 1 &amp; Firefighter 2 item banks. It is a timely process, but very necessary.</p> <p>Mr. Orahood shared with the committee a report showing the breakdown of the levels of fire exams, as well as passing rates. The passing rate was based on a small amount of students who have taken the exams so far. He will continue to bring more updated copies of the passing rates to future fire committee meetings.</p> <p>As far as getting an item bank for creating tests for the Jones &amp; Bartlett curriculum, the Public Safety Legal Department and Jones &amp; Bartlett Legal Department were unable to come to an agreement on the testing item banks, and therefore the Division of EMS will not be using their item banks while creating fire testing.</p> <p>Mr. Orahood attended the Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors conference that was held out at the Ohio Fire Academy on November 8 &amp; 9. The conference was well attended, and there was a lot of good information that was shared.</p> <p>The Practical Skill Sheet review workgroup got together and made substantial changes to about 10 of the skill sheets, as well as formatting changes to all of them. They also eliminated one of the skill sheets completely. The division needs to get feedback from fire schools in order to decide if any further changes need to be made. A request for comment form will be made available on the EMS website so that anyone who has reviewed the skill sheets and would like to make changes or comments can submit this form, and changes can be decided upon by the fire committee.</p> <p>Mr. Orahood needed a decision by the fire committee to go ahead and eliminate Skill Sheet 31-1 which was unanimously decided upon by the Practical Skill Sheet workgroup.</p> <p><b>A motion was made to eliminate Practical Skill Sheet 31-1. Robertson 1<sup>st</sup>. Waltemire 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.</b></p> <p>The committee discussed the current Objective Check Off Sheets, and whether or not they</p>

remained necessary. Mr. Orahood will create a rough draft of the practical/cognitive skills, and then have a subject matter expert look at it before it will be sent out to the committee for review.

Live Fire Training Course: A letter from the University of Findlay who won the bid to create the Live Fire Training Course for the Division was sent to Director House and presented to the committee today. Mr. Wright, and Mr. Robertson believe that there need to be objectives listed on this proposal, there is no telling what objectives are being covered, and on what day. Mr. Wright feels that this course needs to be piloted so they are able to bring any mistakes or issues to the surface before this gets added to curriculum used at the state fire schools. The agreement with the University of Findlay and the fire committee is that they would have a rough draft to review by November 15. The University of Findlay has 3 more days until the deadline hits. There should be a standardized checklist that all of the state fire schools need to complete so that the Live Fire Training can be taught the same around the state. Mr. Steele was not very impressed by the plan that has so far been proposed by the University of Findlay. The committee would like to see objectives, and curriculum, and they would like the University of Findlay to run the class that they are creating. The committee rejects the idea of the University of Findlay not wanting to run a pilot class. The pilot should be attended by individuals who have gone through a Live Fire Training Pilot already, so that it will be easier to spot all the deficiencies.

The committee is still standing by the agreement that was made by the University of Findlay to have a rough draft of this training program to them by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Orahood brought before the committee a proposed Driver's Training document. It was decided by the committee that they would like a chance to review this document before making any decisions on it. The committee will have their feedback to Mr. Orahood by next week. Mr. Orahood stated that basically once the curriculum set up is decided upon by the committee, if there is a charter that is unable to comply with those requirements, they will not be able to teach Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 training.

The fire applications are all updated, and prepared to be filed with the fire rules.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None		

**Chair's Report**

Mr. Steele spoke with Mr. McLean; he did well in surgery, and is currently at home recovering.

Mr. Steele stated that the Ohio Fire Chiefs does have a Volunteer Fire Committee, and would be a good group to sit down and validate the item bank for the Volunteer Firefighter testing.

We need to get a good group of Fire Instructors as well as EMS Instructors to review the Instructor Techniques exam; we need to get the contact names as soon as possible.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Steele, Wright, first. Waltemire, second. Meeting was adjourned at 11:53.**

**NEXT MEETING**

Next meetings: (Every other month, 2<sup>nd</sup> TUESDAY. 10:00 am)

- o Tuesday, January 14, 2014
- o Tuesday, March 11, 2014
- o Tuesday, May 13, 2014

**MINUTES APPROVED**

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Jim Steele, Chair

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Date