

FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS AND TRAINING  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 4, 2000

A regular meeting of the Firefighter Standards and Training Advisory Council was scheduled at the Prime Osborn Convention Center in Jacksonville, FL on February 4, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Michael Iacona, Chairman	Fire Chief Member	Orange County Fire Rescue
Michael Gonzalez	Fire Training Member	Tampa Fire Rescue
Michael Randolph	Fire Officer Member	Tallahassee Fire Department
Shayne Stewart	Firefighter Member	Okaloosa Island Fire District
Cynthia Diven	Fire Training Member	Gainesville Fire Rescue
Larry D. Evans	Firefighter Member	Orange County Fire Rescue
Vicki Phillips-Sheppard	Fire Chief Member	Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

ABSENT:

Christian Swann	Civilian Member	Winter Park
Ben Wacksman	Civilian Member	Tampa

Quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Chairman Iacona at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes from December 6, 1999 were approved and seconded. Unanimous vote.

Chairman Iacona introduced Vicki Phillips-Sheppard as the newest member of the Council.

**Report from Division Director:**

Director Clark stated that the "glitch bill" will be re-introduced this year with a few exceptions from last year. The Florida Building Code Bill will include, by reference, the Florida Fire Prevention Code and Florida Life Safety Code.

The committee established in response to Legislative direction recommended that a Fire Code School Evaluation System be used in existing educational buildings instead of a Performance Based Code. In order to ensure all Certified Firesafety Inspectors are trained in the Florida School Evaluation System (FSES), \$35,000 is included in the Legislative recommendation to develop and conduct training on the new FSES.

The Division is working on a rule revision whereby local fire departments can be reimbursed or charge fees for school inspections. The Department of Education has agreed to this. Bureau Chief, Jim Goodloe stated that the process for this proposed rule will take approximately 6 to 8 weeks and a fee schedule may be developed.

**Report from the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training:**

Randy Napoli gave an update on the Fire Prevention Code training issue. To date, approximately 2000 of the 6000 Certified Firesafety Inspectors and Certified Special Firesafety Inspectors have completed the NFPA 1 course. Additional reminders will be sent via blastfax to all Fire Departments.

Chief Napoli reported that the Bachelors Degree program in Fire and Emergency Services is up and running and the Masters Degree program is currently being developed. University of Florida representatives, Dr. Ron Nutter

and Dr. Raymond Issa, were present and reported that 8 people are registered this term in the Bachelor's Degree program. Fire Departments throughout the State have requested a certificate type program that can be used as a pre-requisite for individuals to sit for management promotional exams. Chief Napoli stated that a certificate may be issued for five of the classes within the degree program, similar to the current Fire Officer One program, that will allow an individual to be promoted as well as complete their Bachelor Degree.

### **Old Business:**

Allen Lovvorn gave a report on the Special Firesafety Inspector Program development. Copies of the proposed curriculum revision were distributed. The three agencies involved (Department of Education, Healthcare Administration and Division of Hotels and Restaurants) have been asked to present to the Bureau Fire of Standards and Training any curriculum that they would like included in the third 40-hour elective course that is related to their particular discipline by May 1, 2000. In the absence of the agencies providing material, the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training will take two or more of the existing Inspector courses and design a 40-hour course to best fit the needs of the group. He noted that the course FFP 1300 – Codes and Standards is being revised and will include the NFPA 1 component. Existing Certified Special Firesafety Inspectors will be brought up to the 120-hour educational requirement on a CEU basis in the three year window used to renew their certification. Special Firesafety Inspectors, as well as Firesafety Inspectors, are required to have completed NFPA 1 training prior to January 1, 2001. Effective January 1, 2001, all existing Special Firesafety Inspectors will be required to complete for renewal CEU's the newly developed course described above as the third 40-hour block. This CEU requirement will be in effect until January 1, 2004. Allen will attend a meeting in Orlando, February 15, to meet with the full advisory council to finalize the proposed curriculum. A motion was made to support the staff's recommendation on the proposed 120-hour curriculum development. Motion carries.

The Officer Candidate School survey has been discussed by staff and information will be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

The Firefighter I and II proposed rule changes were previously mailed to all Council Members for review. If requested, copies of the proposed rule changes will be mailed to audience participants. A motion was made for the Council to support the proposed rule changes. Motion carries. Chairman Iacona will represent the Council at the rule workshop on February 22, 2000.

Copies of the review of Training Center percentages along with a proposed draft copy of the award for Training Center of the Year were distributed. A motion was made for the Miami Fire Department Training Center to receive the 1999 Training Center of the Year award. Motion carries. A representative will be invited from the Miami Fire Department Training Center to attend the awards ceremony in Tallahassee on February 22, 2000.

### **New Business:**

The Council asked to receive copies of any pre-filed bills that they need to be made aware of.

### **Audience To Be Heard:**

None

### **Next Meeting:**

Orlando, March 17, 2000

*(Meeting was changed to March 31, 2000)*