

PUBLIC MEETING
FLORIDA FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYMENT, STANDARDS, AND TRAINING COUNCIL
DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
JULY 22, 2003
FFCA CONFERENCE
DAYTONA BEACH

PRESENT:

NAME

James Angle, Palm Harbor Special Fire Control Dist.
Shorty Bryson, Miami Fire Department
Julie Downey, Sunrise Fire Rescue
Les Hallman, South Walton Fire Dist.
Dave Harrawood, Emergency Services of Sarasota Co.
Jon Pasqualone, FI Fire Marshals and Inspectors Assoc.
Shayne Stewart, Okaloosa Island Fire District
Charles "Scotty" Taylor Jr., Gainesville Fire Rescue
Ron Williams, Lake County Vo-Tech

APPOINTED BY:

FI Assoc. of Special Districts
FI Fire Chiefs' Assoc.
State Fire Marshal
FI Fire Chiefs' Assoc.
FI Association of Counties
FI Fire Marshals & Inspectors Assoc.
FI Professional Firefighters
FI Professional Firefighters
State Fire Marshal

ABSENT:

John Drago, City of Longwood
Stuart Kauffman
Michael Randolph, Tallahassee FD
Stockton Reeves VI, Insight Orlando

FI League of Cities
State Fire Marshal
State Fire Marshal
State Fire Marshal

Vice-Chair Shayne Stewart called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

On a motion duly made, the minutes from the Firefighters Standards and Training Council meeting on April 8, 2003 were approved. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM DIVISION:

Director Randall Napoli gave an update on division rule promulgation.

Rule 4A-62 is set for rule hearing on September 2, 2003. The council will be reviewing that document and will be asked to make recommendations.

The Florida Fire Prevention Code is in the process of being reviewed and revised. Once it is adopted some training issues for fire inspectors may be brought to the council.

The Initial Investigation Rule 4A-61 will soon be finalized and is already being used in many jurisdictions.

Director Napoli also noted that Rule 4A-64, establishing benefits for line of duty deaths in the State of Florida was changed, increasing the benefit amount.

The Director stated a letter was sent to every fire chief from Tom Gallagher outlining their responsibilities in the Fire Prevention Code and recommended that they work with school officials to resolve issues on correction actions for violations.

Director Napoli gave an update on domestic security issues.

REPORT FROM BUREAU OF FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING:

Chief Dave Casey distributed copies and reviewed the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training three-page update to the council.

Allen Lovvorn, Assistant Superintendent gave a quick overview of the computerization of training records and registration. He stated that through a request from the Governor's Domestic Security Task Force a need was identified to be able to separately track firefighters and EMT/Paramedics and their training. The new system will be an online live-registration system and it will allow training institutions, including fire departments, to sign-on as providers to run their training records through the system. It will also be a database that stores all training records and tracks CEU's. The system will allow us to identify the number of firefighters and paramedics or independently certified, and allow fire departments to keep up with their own training records for in-house training. Individuals will be able to look up their own training record, instructors and inspectors will be able to see which courses are accepted for renewal as well as how many CEU's are needed. Presentations on the system will be given around the state. Discussion was held about student confidentiality and applications.

Discussion was held regarding the FSFC A-List.

Chief Casey stated that the Meeting about Instructor Training Program for Live Fire Training will be July 31, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.

A self-study program, including a video CD, will be shipped with the Field Operation Guidebooks. It is narrated and outlines basic operations. VHS tapes are available upon request.

Chief Casey updated the progress on the Haz-Mat Technician voluntary certification. Meetings are ongoing with the Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders.

OLD BUSINESS

The Special Exemption Sub-Committee reviewed the list and status of fire departments requesting exemptions. Walt Malo, recently hired Safety Program Manager at the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training is the new Division contact. On a motion duly made, the list will be turned over to Walt to contact the remaining departments. Discussion was held regarding revised Rule 4A-62, educational elements and information available on FSFC's website. The motion was duly amended for Walt to make contact with the departments immediately and bring information on the departments still requesting exemptions to the next council meeting. Approved unanimously.

Chairman Stewart notified the council that council member James Angle writes a column in the 1st Responder Newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held regarding taking EMS First Responder out of Firefighter I. Council member Ron Williams stated that the Training Directors supports the recommendation 100%. On a motion duly made, the council voted to support the recommendation to remove the first responder course out of the 160-hour Firefighter I. Approved unanimously. Discussion was held regarding state law requirements and accepting only Florida certified first responders, EMT's and Paramedics.

Discussion was held regarding adding the "Prepare Florida" 8-hour course "Basic Weapons of Mass Destruction/ICS and FOG Orientation" in the Firefighter I course. Chief Casey stated that the State Working Group for Domestic Preparedness requested that it be added to minimum standards. Council will be updated of progress.

Council member Jimmy Angle addressed the safety officer certification issue. Chief Casey stated low staffing and domestic security has caused the delay.

On a motion duly made, Chief Bryson amended the minutes to include Shayne Stewart as being present for the last meeting. Approved unanimously.

AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

None

NEXT MEETING:

October 10, 2003, 3:00 p.m.
Florida State Fire College

ADJOURN