

PUBLIC MEETING
FLORIDA FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYMENT, STANDARDS, AND TRAINING COUNCIL
DIVISION OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL
OCTOBER 10, 2003
FLORIDA STATE FIRE COLLEGE
OCALA, FL

PRESENT:

NAME

James Angle, Palm Harbor Special Fire Control Dist.
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.
Michael Randolph, Tallahassee FD
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
State Fire Marshal
FI Fire Chiefs' Assoc.
FI Association of Counties
FI Fire Marshals & Inspectors Assoc.
State Fire Marshal
FI Professional Firefighters
FI Professional Firefighters
State Fire Marshal

ABSENT:

Shorty Bryson, Miami Fire Department
John Drago, City of Longwood
Stuart Kauffman
Stockton Reeves VI, Insight Orlando

FI Fire Chiefs' Assoc.
FI League of Cities
State Fire Marshal
State Fire Marshal

Chairman Michael Randolph called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

The council reviewed the minutes from the Firefighters Employment Standards and Training Council meeting held on July 22, 2003. Council member Shayne Stewart noted the following correction on the minutes:

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.

On a motion duly made, the minutes from the Firefighters Standards and Training Council meeting on July 22, 2003 were approved with correction. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM DIVISION:

Director Randall Napoli gave an update on division rule promulgation.

4A-60 F.A.C., the rule governing the Fire Prevention Code is up for triennial review.

4A-58 F.A.C., the rule governing the inspection of public schools is currently being revised. The Director reviewed the history of the rule and stated that the inspection of public schools may essentially fall under the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

4A-62 F.A.C. rule hearing should be scheduled in the next month.

4A-61 F.A.C. rule is in place. The Director reviewed the history of the rule and acknowledged that it is working as intended.

4A-21 F.A.C., rule governing fire equipment dealers, is currently being revised.

Director Napoli also noted that since the Department of Insurance and the Department of Banking and Financial Services merged into the Department of Financial Services the rule numbers, in the Florida Administrative Code, will now have a prefix of 69A instead of 4A.

Director Napoli informed the council that the Laboratory, which was part of the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations, is now the Bureau of Forensic Fire & Explosives Analysis.

The Director reviewed domestic security funding issues.

Discussion was held on public schools and the amount of educational material allowed on the walls. The Director stated that recommendations can be made during the revision of the Fire Prevention Code. False alarms at state universities were also discussed.

REPORT FROM BUREAU OF FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING

Bureau Chief Dave Casey reviewed the council update and introduced two new members of the Bureau: Jerome Calhoun, Student Services Manager and Al Williams, Fire College Instructor. Also distributed was an overview of USAR Team Training, Equipping and Credentialing Process, which includes drawings of proposed USAR training props to be attached to the existing burn building. Discussion was held on USAR training to be added to minimum standards.

Discussion was held on the division's authority to investigate line of duty deaths as in the case of Miami-Dade County LoDD. The division has statutory authority to investigate any fire death for criminal acts and also administratively under the Florida Firefighters Occupational and Safety Health Act.

Allen Lovvorn, Assistant Superintendent, updated the council on the computerization of registration and training records. He stated the online registration system is up and running and is located at www.floridastatefirecollege.org. Old database records were migrated into the new system giving everyone who was in the old system a profile in the new system. Allen noted that they are still working the glitches out of the new system. He reviewed procedures for instructors to enter classes into the system and CEU tracking. Discussion was held on future procedures to apply for testing.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held regarding the proposed removal of EMS First Responder out of Firefighter I. Chief Casey noted that adding training (S130, S190, Structural Collapse and Prepare Florida) to Firefighter I, and removing EMS First Responder are two separate issues. On a motion duly

made, the council voted to support the removal of first responder from Firefighter I and making Florida Certified EMT, Florida Certified Paramedic, or DOT approved First Responder a pre-requisite to obtain firefighter certification. Approved unanimously. The Director stated that any changes to firefighter certification will have to be done through an administrative rule change. Proposed additional training hours will be discussed at the next meeting.

Walt Malo, Safety Program Supervisor, updated the council on departments requesting special exemption. He stated there are 74 departments in compliance from the original exemption list. Out of the 21 on the extension list, 3 are now in compliance. Letters were mailed on August 14 asking departments if they wished to remain on the extension list. Walt is contacting the counties of those he did not hear from. There are also conflicting numbers of volunteers in the State. Walt plans to travel to departments and educate them on 4A-62 F.A.C. and assist them with starting safety programs and committees.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on safety officer certification.

Director Napoli gave a brief overview of the issue regarding time-out rooms. There is an article in the Summer 2003 issue of Alarm Alert addressing time-out rooms.

AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Matt Weinell, Division of Forestry stated that they are starting to receive the Fire Department Survey's back. Matt stated that the departments should return their survey and direct their questions to their Forest Area Supervisor. They hope to have all responses in by Nov. 1.

Chair's Comments:

Chairman Randolph thanked the Special Exemption Sub-Committee for all their hard work.

Discussion was held on the Fire Training Center of the Year Award. Council member Ron Williams stated there is still no change in the formula for the award.

Chairman Randolph thanked the bureau for their hard work and support.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 22, 2004
Prime Osborn Convention Center, Jacksonville FL
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURN