



Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council Meeting  
 April 8, 2020  
 Ocala, FL/Conference Call

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>REPRESENTING</b>	<b>TERM ENDING</b>
Carlos Aviles St. Augustine Fire	FL Fire Chiefs' Association	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Mike Bellamy Tallahassee Fire	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Kasie Crowe Division of Forestry	Florida Fire Service	Jan. 31, 2023 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Ralph Franklin Okeechobee County Fire	FL Association of Counties	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Shawn Hanson Greater Naples Fire Rescue	Florida Fire Marshals Association	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Nick Herlihy North Port Fire Rescue	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Dr. David Lee Sylvester Comprehensive	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Nicky Lovett Marianna Fire Rescue	Florida League of Cities	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Rob McGilloway Coral Springs Fire Academy	State Fire Marshal	Oct. 11, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jason Schneider Winter Garden Fire Dept.	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Randy Touchton	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**ABSENT:**

Neal de Jesus Delray Beach Fire	FL Fire Chiefs' Association	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Teresa Kinstle Jacksonville Fire Rescue	State Fire Marshal	June 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jim Millican Lealman Fire District	Florida Association Sp. Districts	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

The Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council meeting was called to order.

**On a motion duly made**, the minutes from the Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council held on January 23, 2020 were approved.

**Motion carried.**

**REPORT FROM DIVISION:** *given by Mike Tucker, Bureau Chief*

- COVID-19 The Department of Financial Services, Division of State Fire Marshal has closed all offices. Most if not all staff are working remotely
  - Bureau of Fire Standards and Training
    - 90% operational
    - All classes cancelled
    - Minimum Standards program suspended
  - Bureau of Fire Prevention
    - Continuing with inspections
    - Offering guidance where possible
  - No positive COVID-19 cases among Division staff and no known exposures
- Legislature
  - Division fared well. The grant moved through for fire service providers for equipment to minimize carcinogens in the workplace
    - Safety section of Bureau will handle – still working out the details and finalization of budget
  - The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training will keep the \$350,000 of FCO (fixed capital outlay) for repairs on campus
  - Additional Rehab facility approved for Haz Mat field

**REPORT FROM THE BUREAU:** *given by Michael Tucker, Bureau Chief*

- COVID-19 – Staff working remotely
- New FCDICE feature – students can now reprint certificates on their home printers for certifications
  - Certificates will indicate it is a duplicate copy in watermark
- The Bureau is working with multiple Academies that were in the final phases of Fire II programs. Most all academies transitioned to an online format for lecture but need to get back out in the field for hands on learning

- The Bureau is helping navigate the safety measures for their students, instructors and also for State Examiners
  - Coral Springs has tested since COVID-19 began and they went above and beyond for student and examiner safety. Using as a model for other academies
- Challenges for the written – (Person Vue) working with them to get back to testing. Moving in a positive direction
- Training Section – drop off in course submissions by about 50%, keeping boundaries for on-line offerings
- On-line distance learning policy and procedures are being worked on and hopefully completed by the end of the week
- Safety Section – no major responses needing to be addressed
- Standards – moving towards implementation of FF/II curriculum. Shooting for July 1, 2020

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- EMS Fire Officer Curriculum
  - 90-95% done
  - Many courses mirror our courses
  - Should have final product to view at next meeting

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Carlos Aviles – discussion was held on shortages of FF’s, EMT, Paramedics due to programs being shut down and current staff being quarantined due to exposure. The fire service feels a shortage is inevitable. We need to continue to feed the pipeline so as not to have a shortage. A lot of departments are not allowing ride-a-longs right now. Would like the Council to write a letter of support for consideration that the State/Att. General, get these programs (including Pearson Vue) back up and running so we can continue to provide the level of service we need to and keep the certification process moving. It should mirror what is being provided with the nursing programs.

**On a motion duly made**, the Council will provide a letter of support that the firefighter programs mirror what is being done in the nursing programs to keep our certification process in motion.

**Motion carried.**

**AUDIENCE: None**

**NEXT MEETING:**

**ADJOURN.**

*Audio file available upon request*