



Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council Meeting  
 October 8, 2020  
 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)
Jerry Forte City of Palm Coast	FL Fire Chiefs' Association	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</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)
Teresa Kinstle Jacksonville Fire Rescue	State Fire Marshal	June 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Dr. David Lee Sylvester Comprehensive	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 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:**

Rob McGilloway Coral Springs Fire Academy	State Fire Marshal	Oct. 11, 2022 (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 April 8, 2020 were approved.

**Motion carried.**

**REPORT FROM DIVISION:** *given by Julius Halas, Director*

- Personnel Retirements: ADA Stone and DCFO Jay Etheridge; a waiver by the Governor was issued to extend period before retirement due to COVID
- Effective Date 11/6/2020, Bureau Chief Casia Cinco, Bureau of Fire Prevention, has been promoted to Assistant Director of the Division of Public Assistance Fraud
- Budget Cuts
  - 6% has been held back from the state operating budget due to lost revenue (over 2 billion)
  - COVID 19 caused additional expenditures of 1.5 billion (PPE, testing, etc.)
  - CFO Patronis has asked for additional 4% from operating budgets
  - Legislature has asked each state agency for proposed possible 13% budget reduction for second half of year (includes initial 6%)
  - Hiring – not a freeze but on hold unless absolutely needed
- Grants
  - 29 member projects – 20 vetoed, 9 survived
    - 2 million FF Cancer Mitigation and Research (with possible 6% hold)
    - Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant (1 million reoccurring)
    - Fire Station/Fire Equipment now close to 30 million
    - Fire House Subs – additional 220 Decon kits
  - New Grant: 250,000 for advanced decontamination
    - 25% or greater local match
      - Extractor units
      - Exhaust systems for station, etc.
      - Rule Development to follow
- EOC
  - March 6, 2020, the State EOC was activated (with constituent group assistance)
  - March 24, \$174 million spent on PPE, critical medical facilities, etc.
  - July 9, up to \$296 million
  - As of Oct 1, DEM estimated we had spent 1.5 billion in expenditures

- Task Force 2 has been deployed for Hurricane Delta, Task Force 1 is on standby

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

- Due to COVID, training centers had put things on hold but are now back on-line which has led to our Bureau being extremely busy with testing in the upcoming months.
- Standards Section FCDICE cleanup (when compared with the State of Florida's Master Death file)
  - April – 47, 977 FFII
  - October – 45, 365 FFII
  - Total reduction of 2, 612 FFII
  - April – 25, 521 FFI
  - October – 24, 427 FFI
  - Total Reduction of 1, 094 FFI
- Certifications issued by BFST
  - 2018 – 5, 054
  - 2019 – 5, 008
  - 2020 – 3, 555
- Training Section
  - Class Offering Activities (approvals, denials, pending etc.
    - 2019 – 9, 582
    - 2020 – 12, 982 ytd
  - Course Applications Activities (expires, cancelled, pending, etc.)
    - 2019 – 928
    - 2020 – 1, 058 ytd
  - Instructor Applications Activities (expired, cancelled, approved, etc.)
    - `2020 – 1, 393 ytd
  - Provider Application Activities (expired, cancelled, approved, etc.)
    - 2019 – 332
    - 2020 – 92 ytd
- Student Services
  - Courses delivered on campus
    - 2019 – 1, 268
    - 2020 – 283 ytd
  - Volunteer Grant
    - 2019 – \$900,000
    - 2020 - \$445,000 round 1, round 2 begins in November
- Executive Development

- Transitioned Evaluating Performance Based Design class (required for Fire Code Administration) from a 45-hour traditional classroom course to a 20 hour online/instructor facilitated course. Course now makes up four (4) hour classes with a 4-hour pre-course requirement.
- Great feedback from students
- BFST worked closely with FFMIA to accomplish the transition
- Conducting a second offering this month
- FCDICE Update
  - Now operational on other internet platforms
    - IE Google
    - Safari
    - Chrome
- COVID Data
  - Report was emailed to Council

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Update from Tom DiBernardo, Department of Health

- COVID – Several incident management teams were used for mass testing sites, (fire service run)
- Incident management teams most likely used for vaccinations
- Free Leadership classes available (for all) under grant (on-line)
  - Management Operations
  - Workforce Development
  - What Does It Mean to Be A Leader?
  - Finance
- Letter sent from Council regarding EMT/Paramedic testing (COVID Impact)
  - Paramedic Licenses – moving along well - 161 deficit
  - EMT took bigger hit – down about 1,000 from last year (shorter program/bigger impact)
  - DOH – emergency order issued, granted extension for recertification, also simulation was allowed (if met standards) to replace some clinical aspects
  - Provisions were made early on – weekly meetings were held to move through the process of COVID

The Agency bill requesting an additional position be added to the Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council for an EMS/DOH representative did not pass, it is included again in the legislative goals for next session with the full support of Steve McCoy with DOH.

**On a motion duly made**, Randy Touchton was voted new Chairman of the Florida Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council.

**Motion carried.**

This will run through January when regular elections resume.

**AUDIENCE:** None

FFMIA Virtual Conference to begins Nov. 3, for more information go to [www.ffmia.org](http://www.ffmia.org)

FFMIA hosting Virtual NFPA 1 & 101 in conjunction with NFPA the first quarter of 2021, hopefully the next class will be in person.

**NEXT MEETING:** January 21, 2021 via conference call

**ADJOURN.**

*Audio file available upon request*