



Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council Meeting  
November 17, 2021  
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)
Kasie Crowe Division of Forestry	Florida Fire Service	Jan. 31, 2023 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Thomas DiBernardo Florida Department of Health	Bureau of EMS	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Darrel Donatto Town of Palm Beach	Florida League of Cities	Jan. 31, 2023 (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)
Jim Millican Lealman Fire District	Florida Association Sp. Districts	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Kevin Reed Hillsborough C.C	State Fire Marshal	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Randy Touchton	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**ABSENT:**

Mike Bellamy Tallahassee Fire	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 <sup>st</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)
Jason Schneider Winter Garden Fire Dept.	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (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 July 19, 2021 were approved.

**Motion carried.**

**REMARKS:** *given by Randy Touchton, Chairman*

- Teresa Kinstle has resigned from the Council
- Moment of silence held for firefighters being honored on the 2021 Memorial

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

- Legislative Goals
  - Clean up language on boiler safety program
  - Clarifications on national regulations
  - Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant Program – designed to help volunteer and combination departments with bunker gear/breathing apparatus, adding language to expand eligibility, keeping the focus on safety equipment
  - Fire Safety Inspector renewal criteria – no changes to ceu's, if certification becomes inactive by not renewing within the four-year period it will now be considered expired
- Training Directors meeting was this morning
  - Legislation was passed, if a FFI, under the supervision of the agency, may be hired and have a year to obtain FF2
- LBR's
  - \$937,500 is the price tag for FCDICE system
  - Seeking grant to replace apparatus at Fire College (\$500,000)
  - Staffing support (grants). Division has had over 40 million in grants over the last 6 years
  - With the support of the CFO's office, Legislature and Governor's office, US&R – our budget will administer part of the 10 million (sustainment, prime movers, training, etc.)

**REPORT FROM THE BUREAU:** *given by Mark Harper Bureau Chief*

- Standards – Gena Tucker, Supervisor
  - IFSAC Accreditation site visit
    - Visit went well, only minor corrections to be made (16 disciplines)
  - Pro Board site visit will be 6/2022 (34 disciplines)
- Firefighter Certification

- FFII – 45,082
  - FFI – 5, 457
  - Cleaning up records for accuracy – so as not to count FFI twice if individual holds FF2
- Standards has issued 6, 842 certifications ytd
  - 1, 927 are FF2
  - There are 33 more scheduled practical exams before the end of 2021
- There are currently 48 certified training centers in the State (2 are inactive – Brevard and Melbourne). There are 4 more getting ready to come on board
  - Florida Panhandle Tech College – ready for inspection
  - Seminole County – ready for inspection
  - Pompano Beach – ready by end of year
  - Osceola County – ready by end of year
- Training Section – introduced Bob Coyne as Training Supervisor
  - Two Program Specialist positions open
  - Training section receives over 1,000 requests per month (course/instructor)
  - Courses now being offered virtually (not self-paced, instructors on screen live)
    - Evaluating Performance Based Design
    - SERP
  - Bob Coyne and Patrick Giacobbe are establishing relationships with city/county departments to find out what their training needs are and sharing Bureau information
  - Quarterly Webinar (first time)
    - Based on feedback we receive from customers
    - Website review
    - FCDICE operations
- Grants
  - Volunteer Assistance Grant – 21 applicants this year (Charlie Frank)
  - De Con Equipment Grant – 52 completed applications/compliance inspections. Over 2 million in requests with only 500,000 to give out. (Susan Schell)
- Legislative Budget Requests (LBR's) Approved for;
  - Chiller pipes
  - Rehab pavilion in hazmat field
  - Deferred building maintenance federal funding of \$2,744,000 will go to;
    - Water filtration system
    - Roof on Arson/Prevention building
    - Roof Leaks on main buildings
    - Generator replacement (from diesel to natural gas)
    - Second phase of parking lot paving
    - Settling issues – windows/doors, etc.
- Upcoming Events
  - Volunteer Weekend – April 27 – May 1, 2022
  - NFA Class – April 28-29, 2022, Fire Investigations for First Responders

- NFA State Weekend May 13 – 15, 2022
- Fire Service Instructor Conference – May 19-20, 2022

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**AUDIENCE:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, January 20, 2022, 10 minutes after adjournment of  
FFIRS meeting which begins at 1:00 p.m.  
Daytona Beach, FL

**ADJOURN.**

*Audio file available upon request*