



STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 9, 2019

CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal

2251 Harvard Street, Suite 441, Sacramento, CA 95815

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Richwine, State Fire Marshal, Acting, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, Chair
Brian K. Rice, California Professional Firefighters
Ed Foster, California State Firefighters Association
Frank Lima, California Labor Federation
Michael Smith, California Fire Chiefs Association
Michael S. Williams, California State Firefighters Association
Moke Simon, County Government
Pete Muñoz, CAL FIRE Firefighters, Local 2881
*David Rocha, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs
*David Gillotte, International Association of Fire Fighters
*Robert Magee, City Government,
(* attended via conference call)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Craig Tolmie, Chief Deputy Director, CAL FIRE
Dan Terry, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
Jerry Davies, California Fire Safe Council and Insurance Industry, Vice Chair
Mark Ghilarducci, Director, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

STATE FIRE MARSHAL STAFF:

Kevin Chan, Special Assistant to the State Fire Marshal
Andrew Henning, Division Chief, State Fire Training
Greg Andersen, Division Chief, Code Development and Analysis
Jim Eastman, Fire Training Specialist III, State Fire Training
Kevin Conant, Fire Training Specialist III, State Fire Training
Mark Bisbee, Fire Training Specialist B, State Fire Training
Julie Marvich, Office Technician, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Katelyn Muir, Administrative Assistant, Office of the State Fire Marshal

GUESTS:

Taral Brideau, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
Yvonne de la Peña, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
Kaitlin Conrad, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
Brian Marshall, Fire Chief, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Larry Collins, Deputy Chief, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Richwine called the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) meeting to order at 1302 hours, at CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) headquarters at 2251 Harvard Street, Suite 441, Sacramento, CA 95815. Chair Richwine provided a logistics and safety briefing.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was held and quorum declared at 1305 hours.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions of staff and guests were conducted.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Chief Andrew Henning requested an update of the Firefighter 1 (FF1) and Firefighter 2 (FF2) 2013 legacy curriculum to move the experience and the task book requirements from Firefighter 1 to Firefighter 2. This allows candidates who graduate from FF1 academy to be eligible for State Fire Training (SFT) FF1 certification with International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and Pro Board. This puts us in alignment with most other states.

Chief Henning requested approval for digital certification issuance as a housekeeping item. State Fire Training, through Acadis and the SFT user portal, began issuing digital course completion diplomas on January 1, 2019. They would like to expand this to certifications as well, which would reduce overall operations costs by allowing candidates to print certifications from home without having to go through State Fire Training.

Chief Henning requests the reaccreditation of the El Camino College Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) and Fremont Fire Department Accredited Local Academy (ALA) at the recommendation from staff.

Skills Coach Instructor is a new instructor type as a point of clarity for what SFT instructor requirements are. This is a big push from both the Fire Control 3 Cadre as well as our Fire Fighter Cadre. This would be implemented in three phases: first phase of this approval would be Fire Fighter and Fire Control, second phase would work with their steering committee to identify what has a high need, and phase three would look at the rest of the curriculum to find what other courses could use a skill coach to augment the course delivery.

Chair Richwine clarified that the proposed consent items are not only recommended by staff, but also vetted and recommended by the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC).

It was moved by Member Williams to approve the consent items; motion seconded by Member Gillotte. Motion was carried unanimously at 1312 hours.

6. PROGRAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jim Eastman made a presentation on remodeling the FF1 and FF2 2019 curriculum into one complete delivery process. This was a recommendation made by stakeholders and cadre members. The three major National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards that are

being addressed are NFPA 1001 (Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications), NFPA 1051 (Standard for Wildland Firefighting Personnel Professional Qualifications), and NFPA 1072 (Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications). Another change is that each agency that hosts this will dictate the incoming medical level. Another standard that will be consistent is confined space. This will require a registered instructor in confined space to deliver the curriculum rather than a FF1 or FF2 instructor. Behavioral health and cancer awareness material will have two types of delivery. Firefighter survival may be delivered by either an approved FF instructor or an approved SFT instructor.

Chair Richwine asked for clarification regarding departments that do not have registered instructor. He inquired if they could still provide training without issuing a diploma. Jim Eastman confirmed that they could provide training.

The body and cadre recommend that IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800 as the minimum baseline for state employment. They are currently looking at the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) 7th edition and Jones and Bartlett 4th edition as the instruction manuals.

During this transition period, FF1 can continue to December 31, 2020 and FF2 can continue to December 31, 2021.

Jim Eastman provided a comparison of curriculum hours between prior years (473 hours) and proposed hours (400 hours).

The new process is the same (training, task book, certification exam), utilizing the 5 modules, the only difference is the experience would be delayed. If a candidate goes with FF2, there would be no change. The candidate's experience would be turned in with the application and task books, then the candidate would receive certification.

Jim Eastman noted that the office contact would be Supervising Deputy Chris Fowler. He then opened the floor for comments and questions.

Chief Henning commented that this is modular and it is up to the college if they want to combine the FF1 and FF2 curriculum. The certification retirement without state certification testing is December 31, 2021. California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) was previously Pro Board certified and a college or department can elect to use CSTI for the hazmat module. They will be treated as a reciprocity candidate.

Chair Richwine added that we list those equivalencies in the procedure manual.

Member Williams asked how long the task books last. Chief Henning responded that task books are valid for five years from the date of issuance. However, it is ultimately up to the fire chief to sign off and close the task book. Member Williams then asked how long from the time of graduation to starting FF2. Chief Henning responded five years, and if the time runs out, the task book can be re-initiated. The fire chief has the option of moving the items from the prior task book to the new task book.

Member Gillotte commented that he was comfortable with the 2021 deadline and wanted to know what the deadline was for the FF1.

Chief Henning responded that the state certification testing has to be done through the steering committee, but we are drafting a proposal for a potential pathway to FF2 based on years of experience without having the FF1 certification. That is expected to go to STEAC as a consent item for approval in the January meeting and coming back to State Board of Fire Services for review and approval.

It was moved by Member Williams to approve the curriculum; motion seconded by Member Smith. Motion was carried unanimously at 1335 hours.

Chief Henning sought approval of the Fire Inspector 2 Qualifications and Curriculum update. Fire Inspector 1 was approved and this update addresses Fire Inspector 2. This adds 8 hours to Fire Inspector 2C course plan based on cadre feedback. This also changes the criteria to initiate a taskbook. A taskbook can be initiated without an International Code Council (ICC) Fire Inspector 1 certification, but the certification would still be required to close the taskbook. These changes have no added addendums or added costs.

It was moved by Member Williams to approve the curriculum; motion seconded by Member Simon. Motion was carried unanimously at 1338 hours.

Members Brian K. Rice and Frank Lima joined the meeting at 1338. Chair Richwine acknowledged their presence at the meeting.

Chief Henning sought approval of the River/Flood Boat Technician Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) Curriculum. This was jointly funded by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), State Fire Training, and the CAL FIRE Training Center.

Kevin Conant stated that a groups of subject matter experts developed the core curriculum in River Flood Rescue and brought it up to the NFPA standards. This addresses all eight of California's FEMA and regional task forces and fire agencies who provide this type of rescue training. This updates the current catalog training from a 24-hour to a 48-hour course. The greatest impact will be on those agencies that have not gotten involved with OES and only have instructors on the old curriculum. The important thing about this curriculum is that there is a great emphasis on the dynamic water environment. In the five years it took to develop this curriculum, hundreds of lives have been saved using it without any incidents or mishaps to California fire rescue.

It was moved by Member Gillotte to approve the curriculum; motion seconded by Member Williams. Motion was carried unanimously at 1341 hours.

Chief Henning sought approval of Mid-Career California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) Course Prerequisites. Mid-level and top-level State Fire Training courses have course prerequisites to take each course. This update would permit departments who did not previously participate in the SFT system to take higher level courses.

Chair Richwine clarified that this does not qualify them for certification at the lower levels, but is only meant to meet prerequisites so they can come into the system at the appropriate level. Chief Henning confirmed.

It was moved by Member Williams to approve the curriculum; motion seconded by Member Simon. Motion was carried unanimously at 1345 hours.

Chief Henning sought approval for National Reciprocity. This creates acceptance for out-of-state or Department of Defense (DoD) certifications as course equivalencies. This is for course equivalency only and not certification equivalency.

It was moved by Member Williams to approve the curriculum; motion seconded by Member Muñoa. Motion was carried unanimously at 1348 hours.

Kevin Conant presented a first reading for Behavioral Health and Cancer 1A FSTEP course. This is in alignment for what the steering committee for FF1 and FF2 have requested along with the labor management group, the California task force on fire service behavioral health. NFPA doesn't currently recognize any job performance requirements or any curriculum on

behavior health. Suicide is outpacing line of duty deaths in the American fire service as well as an epidemic of fire fighters dying from cancer and/or contracting and being treated for cancer. This course is intended to be either included as part of a FF1 and FF2 academy, or as a standalone course for an organization that wants an entry level course.

Member Rice stated that anyone who is an instructor for this needs to be culturally competent.

Yvonne de la Peña stated that the California Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CalJAC) is looking at developing a curriculum to meet the needs of this course. She also concurred with Member Rice.

Chief Henning commented that he will be working with the cadre leads and will take this back to the cadre for input.

Kevin Conant reflected upon the recent legislation related to “peer” in California. The California Fire Technology Director’s Association is going to bring this up at STEAC and have grave concern about the current issue as well.

Chief Henning commented that they are working on this at the national level.

Member Gillotte mentioned that CalJAC has been granted the responsibility to come up with training standards per Assembly Bill 1116 and encourages the group to stay in contact with CalJAC regarding this.

Mark Bisbee presented the Chief Fire Officer 3D course update. After receiving stakeholder input, there was a lack of clarity on the appropriate level of incident management skills and the lack of time to complete course activities. A cadre was convened and, after research, are proposing to increase the course from 24 hours to 40 hours. Benefits include realigning this to expanding type three incidents and it takes an all-hazards approach that allows FSTEP courses to focus on risk specific strategic and tactical concerns.

7. STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION UPDATES

Chief Greg Andersen gave a code update. As of January 1, 2020, the 2019 Building Standards Code (BSC) becomes effective. The updates for the intervening code cycle was submitted last month. In the 2019 code, changes were made to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) code to require class A roofing in high fire severity zones, cap sheet roofing, a requirement to have WUI vents, and metal flashing where decks connect to the structure. He then discussed changes in the six different workgroups he hosts. The I-3 is mostly editorial changes. The elevator workgroup has been active and working to align regulations with California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Title 8 and addressing the conflicts. They are also bringing in the emergency venting regulations because of problems with violating the warranties of the elevator machine equipment due to moisture. Going to be more restrictive requirements for the elevator access for fire departments because the model code exempted the subterranean levels. There are changes with the L-group and elevators on transporting hazardous materials in elevators, adding compressed and liquified gasses. Integrating tall wood building code with minor formatting for California. All the 2021 code proposals were completed in October and the final vote is this month. Topics included are escape rooms, energy storage solutions, and mechanical parking structures.

Member Muñoa had a question regarding escape rooms and wanted to know how safety is being addressed.

Chief Andersen explained the International Code Council (ICC) regulations for escape rooms to the group and the safety mechanisms involved, including fire sprinklers and egress requirements.

Chair Richwine added that the provisions are coming for escape rooms, for both evacuation as well as for fire responders to make their way in. However, this will not be retroactive and only applies to new constructions.

8. OLD BUSINESS

The Board is continuing to work with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) on a training video to educate both sides on the priorities for highway incidents. CHP veteran Gordon Graham has already been enlisted to participate in the video. Member Lima suggested having someone from fire in the video as well to balance the representation. Members agreed with the suggestion. Joe Castro or Paul Stein were mentioned as potential people to reach out to.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Richwine provided an update on the State Board of Fire Services draft charter and orientation for new members. There will most likely be an extended meeting in the future to have a "Board Day" intended for orientation, discussion of topics the Board could address, as well as training for the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and Parliamentary Procedure.

10. MEMBER ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Chair Richwine opened the floor for Member organization updates.

Member Rice reiterated the impacts of cancer in fire service. He mentioned the loss of Murrieta firefighter Dean Hale to cancer, as well as the recent loss of firefighter Tammy Thacher. He emphasized the importance of behavioral health and addressing cancer in fire service.

Chief Brian Marshal mentioned that California line of duty death policy needs to be updated to address cancer deaths and suicides.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public in attendance.

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Board will be setting dates for standing meetings rather than to poll for dates.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Richwine asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

It was moved by Member Williams to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Member Gillotte. Motion was carried unanimously at 1425 hours and the meeting was adjourned.