



# STEAC Meeting Minutes

July 9, 2021 – Teleconference Meeting

## I. Introductions and Welcome

### Members Present

John Bagala, California Professional Fire Fighters  
David Baldwin, FIREScope (alternate)  
Gregory Barton, League of California Cities  
Richard Beckman, California Fire Technology Directors Association  
John Binaski, STEAC Committee Chair  
Taral Brideau, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee  
Bret Davidson, So Cal Training Officers  
Cat Frazer, CAL FIRE  
Stephen Gutierrez, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs  
Darren Hall, California Fire Technology Directors Association (alternate)  
Gareth Harris, Fire District Association of California  
Andrew Kibby, Cal Chiefs – Training Officer Section (South) (alternate)  
Brian Marshall, CAL OES  
Kirk Noffsinger, Nor Cal Training Officer  
Gaudenz Panholzer, California Fire Chiefs Association  
Ann Rosales, CAL FIRE Training Center (alternate)  
Ken Sebastiani, California Fire Technology Directors Association (alternate)  
Gail Warner, California Fire Technology Directors Association  
David Winnacker, California Fire Chiefs Association

### Members Absent

Tom Carlisle, California State Fire Fighters Association  
Sam Hoffman, California State Fire Fighters Association (alternate)  
Donavan Lacy, Nor Cal Training Officers (alternate)  
Javier Lara, Cal OES (alternate)  
Brent Stangeland, CAL FIRE  
Rich Thomas, California Professional Fire Fighters (alternate)  
Rob Wheatley, CAL FIRE (alternate)

### State Fire Training Staff

Wendy Collins, Assistant State Fire Marshal  
Kristahna Fiattarone, SFT, Office Technician  
Chris Fowler, SFT, Deputy State Fire Marshal Supervisor  
Andrew Henning, SFT Division Chief & OSFM Assistant Deputy Director

Derek Lueth, SFT, Office Technician  
Caryn Petty, SFT, Deputy State Fire Marshal I  
Kris Rose, Staff Services Manager I

## **Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 A.M. by John Binaski.

## **Roll Call/Quorum Established**

A quorum was established during introductions.

## **II. Agenda Review**

**Presenter: Chief John Binaski**

## **III. Approval of the April 9, 2021 Minutes**

**Presenter: Chief John Binaski**

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Richard Beckman moved to accept the minutes from April 9, 2021. Gail Warner seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **IV. State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) Update**

**Presenter: Andrew Henning**

Andrew Henning advised that the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) approved everything that Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) moved forward, which included three reaccreditations. They reviewed and approved the modified National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) curriculum updates plus the retirement of several courses. He mentioned that State Fire Training (SFT) will not be retiring the S-420 course, based on STEAC's recommendation. He stated that the next SBFS meeting will be August 19, 2021.

He shared that the SBFS has been working with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to develop a joint training between the California fire service through OSFM and California Highway Patrol (CHP) for tracking incidents and working together to ensure that both side's operational needs are met. They are moving forward with a video that will be joined and produced by CAL FIRE and the CHP that will have an overview of each side's operational needs. He advised that Chief Mike Richwine asked him to have a state representative to liaison since this is a training video that will most likely be included in the Driver Operator 1A or 1B course series.

M. Richwine thanked everyone for their participation and thanked Chief John Binaski for his leadership as chair. He stated that the training video was requested through the

SBFS by Fire Service Labor. He explained that they will have a representative from both CHP and the fire service talk about each of their respective roles and responsibilities on highway incidents. He shared that the goal is to reach a higher level of cooperation and understanding. They want to have a representative from STEAC and run it through the STEAC committee.

A. Henning asked if anyone is interested in attending the meeting in the next couple of months. Richard Beckman and Gareth Harris expressed interest.

J. Binaski thanked M. Richwine for attending.

## **V. Consent Items**

### **A. Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Curriculum Update**

**Presenter: Chris Fowler**

**Attachments: 1-5**

Chris Fowler advised that the driver operator series of six courses has been updated to align with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 2017 professional qualifications. She advised that SFT hosted a virtual cadre of 7 members for 6 meetings in 2021. She thanked the cadre, which included Garrett Huff, Aaron Panfilio, Matt McDonald, Anthony Stornetta, Allison Shaw, and Caryn Petty. She stated that there are editorial changes and template changes, with a few added job performance requirements and no increase to total delivery time. She explained that they are very specific that Fire Apparatus Driver Operator 1A is required for all classes, though Fire Apparatus Driver Operator 1B is not. She advised that students can now clearly see what they need to take. There have been updated JPRS in the task book as well. She advised that students currently working on a task book opened within the last 5 years can add the new JPRs with the supplemental update document 21-1 so that they do not need to start over. The current 2014 course plans will be discontinued December 31, 2021, pending successful review by the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS), and the updates will be implemented September 1, 2021. She advised that there are no changes to the instructor requirements, and they will update the Acadis profiles for all current registered instructors after September 1, 2021, pending successful review by SBFS. She clarified that there are no changes to the testing.

Darren Hall asked about the 1:5 ratio for 1B. C. Fowler answered that the ratio for 1B is listed as 1:10 for skills. They have not changed any of the ratios.

### **B. Rescue Systems Designation Change**

**Presenter: Chris Fowler**

**Attachment: 6**

Chris Fowler stated that the Rescue Systems 1 and 2 courses are currently designated in the Course Information and Required Materials Manual (CIRM) as California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses. The original intent was to create a pathway to certification; however, this was not pursued. They are proposing to change the designation for both courses to Fire Service Training and Education

Program (FSTEP) for all courses ending after August 1, 2021, which will align all 3 classes in the series. The fees would change from \$140 to \$75.

Andrew Henning advised that the rescue systems courses that just rolled out are in alignment with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006 for tech rescue. He advised that there has been a long-time discussion to develop a technical rescue track. This would include the Structural Collapse series, the Rope Rescue courses, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Trench Rescue, and water rescue courses. He advised that it would be little to no effort for SFT to develop a Rope Rescue certification track. The early implementation could be a task book only with job performance requirements from NFPA 1006. This would increase the current prices from \$75 to \$140. He explained that this would be easy to bring to the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress/Pro Board model with capstone testing.

Gareth Harris stated that he likes idea of a technical rescue certification track.

Bret Davidson asked if the urban search and rescue (USAR) group is moving that direction.

A. Henning advised that he could reach out to the federal USAR team. He recommended bringing this back as a discussion point at the October STEAC meeting after a meeting with the cadre in August.

Mike Richwine stated that this was a discussion from a decade ago, and he had asked A. Henning if a decision had been made. He stated that they want to make sure that they are representing the entire fire service.

Brian Marshall stated that this needs more research. He advised that they need to figure out how this will come together with regards to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), USAR, and California's regional task forces. He stated that the operating system description (OSD) for technical and USAR is being updated in FIRESCOPE and should probably be approved at the October meeting. He stated that he would like to set up a meeting with A. Henning and M. Richwine to discuss things and take the time to get this right the first time. He stated that if we can model some things off FEMA then things tend to align.

John Binaski agreed that it needs to be in alignment with state, local, and federal standards.

A. Henning explained that this agenda item is solely to convert the legacy Rescue Systems 1, 2 and 3 courses to FSTEP. He advised that the Rescue Systems courses will eventually be retired once STEAC and the State Board of Fire Services approve the structural collapse curriculum, with a one-year or so phase in based off the recommendation of the cadre to STEAC. He stated that they most likely will not see that until April at the earliest. He advised that the working groups doing the OSD guides are aware of this. He explained that SFT is going to structural collapse courses because FEMA is pushing on the federal USAR teams in California because the CA Rescue Systems courses 1, 2, and 3, are not in alignment with 1006. He stated that they will be using the national course title, as they are trying to use NFPA titles when they can.

Darren Hall asked if California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is aware of the new title change because the type 1 engine contracts require Rescue Systems 1.

A. Henning answered that they will work with Cal OES to make sure that this is updated.

**C. Cosumnes (CSD) Fire Department (ALA) Reaccreditation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 7**

Caryn Petty stated that the site visit took place on June 2, 2021. She stated that they are an ambitious and exemplary agency with a strong focus on training and education. They are progressive, cooperative, and focused on employee development. They provide an array of courses to meet the needs of the region with strong outreach. They are an innovative statewide Accredited Local Academy (ALA) leader with eager intent to increase SFT training participation. SFT recommends reaccreditation for a period of 5 years.

Josh Freeman thanked SFT and C. Petty for making the process easy and informative. He stated that it is a pleasure being a part of the ALA system and working through the Fire Fighter 1 testing with evaluators.

**D. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ALA) Reaccreditation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 8**

Caryn Petty stated that the site visit took place on June 6, 2021. She stated that they have a strong focus on safety, standardization, professionalism, and high-level training. They have a well-rounded and robust fire training program focused on serving the community with an outstanding focus on outreach and recruitment. They have a strong devotion to training that is indicative of a progressive model fire agency. They are also a statewide Accredited Local Academy (ALA) leader and an eager SFT participant. SFT recommends reaccreditation for a period of 5 years.

Lon Goetsch advised that they appreciate being recognized as an ALA. He gave credit to captain Jesse Ingram, who was instrumental in developing everything related to the reaccreditation. They look forward to a continued partnership with SFT. He thanked C. Petty for her professionalism and assistance throughout the process.

**E. Instructor Update Course (IUC) Discussion**

**Presenter: Andrew Henning**

**Attachment: 9**

Andrew Henning advised that the IUC was implemented in 2012 in alignment with Blueprint 2020 and the significant overhaul of how SFT delivered courses. Before the new curriculum model, SFT developed student guides, instructor guides, and lesson plans. When they transitioned based off Blueprint 2020, as well as alignment with the National Fire Protection Association and National Fire Academy, they transitioned to Terminal Learning Objectives and Enabling Learning Objectives. He explained that the IUC course taught instructors to utilize the new system and develop their own lesson plans and exams. He stated that postcards and E-News were sent out, it was discussed at every stakeholder meeting, and it was published on the website. It was delivered roughly 100 times between 2012 and 2017 and was required for instructors to continue instructing SFT courses. He advised that they were still registering instructors that did not have it, but their account in the SFT legacy database was flagged to not allow them to instruct courses. The course was retired in 2017 and there were still instructors with the legacy instructor courses that never took the IUC that wanted to instruct. Their option was to take the Legacy Training Instructor 1C (August 1, 2013 or newer) or the new Instructor 2. He explained that some legacy data did not transfer correctly to the new database when they transitioned, so some instructors did not show as suspended in the new SFT user portal in Acadis.

There are at least 24 instructors that have been teaching for at least the last 3 years that did not take the IUC course or did not complete Training Instructor 1C (after 8/1/2013) or Instructor 2. He stated that under the current process they would need to take the new Instructor 1 and 2 courses and obtain Instructor 1 and 2 Certifications. He advised that it would be in the best interest of SFT and these legacy instructors to allow a very limited rollout of no more than 3 courses between October 2021 and March 2022 via Zoom or Teams. He stated that SFT would notify the 24 applicants via their primary email addresses located in the Acadis portal, plus a couple hundred others that were registered instructors in good standing that failed to take the IUC.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Bret Davidson moved to accept the motion for consent items A-E. Stephen Gutierrez seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **VI. Accredited Academies**

### **A. Merritt College (ARTP) Accreditation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 10**

Caryn Petty stated that the site visit took place on May 22, 2021. They are being recommended for an initial accreditation for a period of 3 years following successful completion of the previous conditional 1-year accreditation. They have satisfied all the requirements set forth by SFT. She stated that they offer a comprehensive training academy with a diverse student population reflective of their surrounding community and region. They provide flexible course scheduling that is physically and academically robust that is bolstered by their active outreach to the community. There is a continued recommendation for facility expansion consideration due to the regional location, which has been noted in the staff report and discussed with administration.

Demond Simmons thanked SFT and Andrew Henning for working with them. They look forward to a continued partnership with SFT, Oakland Fire Department, local affinity groups, and the national fire service affinity group to continue to train the next generation of men and women with diverse backgrounds that will one day call themselves fire service professionals.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>David Winnacker moved to accept the motion. Gaudenz Panholzer seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **B. Southwestern College (ARTP) Accreditation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 11**

Caryn Petty stated that Southwestern College has successfully completed the conditional accreditation requirements set forth by SFT. They have been an excellent neighbor and cooperater that understands the importance of fostering their agency relationships within their region. They serve a unique and diverse student population that has not yet been reached within our state with extraordinary outreach efforts already underway. They have maintained excellent communication with SFT throughout this process and are eager participants in the system. They have begun actively engaging in the fire service training and education processes and system at the statewide level. They are an absolute up and coming Southern California leader. Their brand new training facility is near completion and should be active by fall of this year. SFT recommends an initial accreditation for a period of 3 years.

Silvia Cornejo thanked Lorraine Hutchinson for all her work. She thanked Darren Hall for starting them on this journey and thanked C. Petty for her excellent guidance and support. She thanked the committee for their consideration.

L. Hutchinson thanked C. Petty and S. Cornejo. She shared that she is honored to be here today for Accredited Regional Training Program accreditation. They have been through two conditional accreditations but have accomplished so much over the last year in difficult conditions. She stated that she was new when the pandemic started so working remotely had its challenges, but that makes the accreditation that much sweeter. They have a unique opportunity in their geographic location with the demographics in southern San Diego and can attract diversity to their program and the fire service. She acknowledged that the accreditation is just the beginning, and they will now work to maintain it. She stated that she could not have asked for better partner than C. Petty, who is always available and responsive.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Gaudenz Panholzer moved to accept the motion. John Bagala seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **VII. Curriculum Development & Delivery**



## **A. Certification Exam Simulation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 12**

Caryn Petty advised that the intention is to allow for certification exam simulation for select skills. If a student has completed the corresponding Fire Service Training and Education Program course, then this simulation can be allowed on exam day. She specified that there are 3 options for skill provision. She stated that the student can complete the course prior to attending an academy, but the course completion cannot be more than 3 years old at the time of the certification exam. It is up to the registered lead evaluator and the accredited academy to ensure that the date is being met since it is being submitted with their exam request. She stated that there are photos of a prop demonstration for Vehicle Extrication at the CAL FIRE Training Center with one manufactured prop from Rod Temple attached to the staff report. She thanked the Cal Fire Training Center and Rod Temple for their participation.

John Binaski explained that this is part of SFT, STEAC, and the State Board of Fire Services trying to get through the testing process, instructor ratios, and everything else to make Pro Board and meet the examination requirements while still meeting the economic constraints that community colleges and departments have. He stated that they have done a lot to meet the needs of both sides.

Stephen Gutierrez thanked the committee for working through the challenges that were brought up previously.

Bret Davidson thanked the committee. He recommended that they look at practical ways to make training better and stated that this was a great way to facilitate that for the community colleges and students.

**Motion:** *Gail Warner moved to accept the motion. Stephen Gutierrez seconded the motion.*

**Action:** *All members voted unanimously.*

## **VIII. State Fire Training Updates**

### **A. Title 19 Update**

**Presenter: Andrew Henning**

Andrew Henning stated that SFT recently notified all registered instructors of a new course roster that will be required starting on July 1, 2021. The roster has an employment field that is not required to be tracked or verified by the instructor or host agencies. The field options include career, paid-call, volunteer, pre-employment, interagency emergency equipment operator, and other. He explained that the goal is to start tracking who is actively using the system. This is a statistic that will be used to make decisions and will be released in the fiscal year 21 annual report.

He advised that the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and CAL FIRE will be moving into the Natural Resources Agency building, with CAL FIRE moving in August and OSFM moving in November. Due to the move, their plan is to start offering a hybrid



meeting in January 2022 at the new building. This will allow people to connect in person as well as through Teams or Zoom. He shared that there is no parking at the new building, so it is paid lots or parking meters for the most part. They will give an update regarding the parking as well as the location at the October meeting.

He thanked SFT staff for their exceptional work the last 18 months during Covid-19. There were difficulties switching to full telework, but the staff has done a fantastic job under the leadership of Kris Rose and Chris Fowler. He gave a shout out to Caryn Petty and C. Fowler for all the assistance provided to the Accredited Local Academies and Accredited Regional Training Programs for the distance education. He acknowledged that this was a challenge for the fire departments and community colleges. He thanked the stakeholders and SFT staff for getting SFT through a global pandemic. He stated that several SFT staff worked in the office during the pandemic to scan mail to secured servers for remote staff to access to ensure that certifications were being sent out. The rest of the staff are now coming back in 1 or 2 days a week with a new hybrid telework schedule.

He advised that the 2021 Procedures Manual is currently with the Code Development and Analysis division within OSFM. They liaison between the OSFM program and the Office of Administrative Law. There is currently a backlog with the program. Typically, the OSFM runs 3-5 code packages a year and this year there is about 14-20. The Code Development and Analysis division is in the process of hiring additional staff to expedite the workload. The procedures manual contains a lot of housekeeping and adopts changes that have been approved by STEAC and the State Board of Fire Services. He advised that they will keep STEAC up to date as the 45-day public comment period becomes closer.

**B. RIO Course Name Change – Registered Instructor Orientation**

**Presenter: Caryn Petty**

**Attachment: 13**

Caryn Petty advised that the course name for Regional Instructor Orientation (RIO) is being amended to reflect SFT terminology, registration processes, and basic business practices. SFT is a statewide entity not restricted to regions, so the course name is a misnomer. She stated that they will be replacing regional with registered, as they are becoming registered instructors. She stated that there is no change to the course content or anything else.

Bret Davidson asked if RIO is being brought to an online version. C. Petty answered yes, they are looking to launch an online pilot later this year.

**C. FY 2021-22 Curriculum and Related Projects**

**Presenter: Andrew Henning**

**Attachment: 14**

Andrew Henning advised that the revenue from the fee adjustment is meeting the needs of SFT, so they will be maximizing their curriculum development budget and will probably have more cadres this upcoming year since as far back as 2014. He advised

that they are looking at roughly 8 weeks of cadre work. The structural collapse cadre applications recently closed, and the structural collapse cadre will meet over two weeks in the fall with August and October meeting dates. He advised that this was brought to STEAC two years ago and was put on hold due to funding. They want to move forward because of the need from the technical rescue community and the pressure from Federal Emergency Management Agency. He advised that the plan is to update Fire Fighter Survival (FFS) and RIC Operations, which have not been updated since 2010. For FFS they will partner with the International Association of Fire Fighters to ensure that they are in alignment so that the courses will have reciprocity. They are also looking at updating the Confined Space Rescue courses to be in full alignment with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006 by building in the operations portions to make sure they teach all 3 levels and all the job performance requirements. They are also looking to update Vehicle Extrication in alignment with NFPA 1006. He advised that based on the cadre's recommendation it will most likely be 2 courses, with one being an awareness/operations course like Rope Rescue and the second being a technician level based off recommendations from STEAC. He stated that the cadres will be meeting in the Spring.

They are also looking at two non-cadre curriculum updates. He explained that when they adopted the new Fire Control 3 curriculum there was an interest in an update to Fire Control 1 and 2. The plan was to extract all the Enabling Learning Objectives and Terminal Learning Objectives that cross walked Fire Control 3 into Fire Control 1 and 2.

John Binaski asked how many students take Fire Control 1 and 2. He advised that people may use Fire Control 3 now, which means students pay for one Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) certificate instead of two.

Bret Davidson recommended we keep courses updated if we are going to teach them. If Fire Control 1 and 2 are being consolidated into Fire Control 3, then Fire control 4 may have a lot more students. He asked when we last updated Fire Control 4.

- A. Henning advised that the courses are popular with Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP). Fire Control 1 has been delivered 14 times since January 2020. He advised that they could put this on pause to bring more stats to STEAC. He answered that Fire Control 4 is the 2015 curriculum, and if there is a gap in the training then it can be added to the docket this year by bumping something else or they can have it as a priority next fiscal year. He advised that they would pull the stats for Fire Control 4 for the next discussion. He stated that they are continuing to work on updates to the Company Officer, Chief Fire Officer, and Executive Chief Fire Officer with a small cadre, as well as Instructor 1, 2 and 3. They will possibly come to STEAC in October or January. He stated that a major overhaul to the community risk reduction will be coming to the October STEAC, as well as the new NFPA standards for fire investigator which will be reviewed by a cadre. He advised that if any of the cadres do not take as long as planned then they are looking at updating Trench Rescue be in alignment with NFPA 1006.

He acknowledged that there is also demand for SFT to look at shipboard firefighting. He stated that Shipboard Firefighting for Land Based Firefighters, based off NFPA 1003, would be an easy one for them to do. He stated that there is

a new FIREScope maritime operations working group that is looking at the maritime need for training, along with California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). He advised that SFT has several of these courses but there are also several courses that could potentially be added to the system. SFT staff is committed to continue to work with Cal OES and FIREScope to figure out what that training need is. He advised that their priority is to align with NFPA, and if they start working on things with no NFPA professional qualifications then it is harder for them to develop and maintain the curriculum. They want to look if there is similar training that they can align with that is offered by the United States Coast Guard or United States Navy. He advised that he talked with some of FIREScope and Cal OES staff, and they do not have a clear picture of what courses are the biggest need for the Maritime environment. He stated that SFT will continue to work with them to look at that for fiscal year 2022/2023.

## **IX. Future Meeting Dates**

### **A. October 8, 2021, January 14, 2022, & April 8, 2022**

**Presenter: Chief John Binaski**

## **X. Roundtable**

**Presenter: Chief John Binaski**

John Binaski opened the floor for public comments limited to 5 minutes or less. This is an opportunity for the members of the public to address STEAC on any matter not listed on the agenda that is within the scope and jurisdiction of the committee. He stated that anyone that wants to be placed on the agenda for specific topics should contact SFT's office and submit correspondence at least 15 days prior to the desired period.

SFT received a public inquiry from Kelly (last name unknown) who expressed his concerns regarding Alameda County Fire Department. He stated that there was an incident in which a residential structure that hosted events was miscategorized as a warehouse and 30 people died. He stated that his group is Mission Peak Conservancy and they have filed as a plaintiff in a lawsuit against the Board of Supervisors for the facility.

J. Binaski advised that STEAC and SFT have no jurisdiction when it comes to fire code adoption or enforcement. The authority having jurisdiction would be Alameda County and the chief building official.

David Winnacker advised that he submitted a letter to the Office of the State Fire Marshal staff expressing concerns about the validity of fire chief signatures. He stated that the appropriate level of scrutiny is not being applied to determining who is a fire department and who should be authorized to sign. He questioned whether fire brigades and private fire providers should have that same signature authority, especially in the case where there is economic or staffing incentive to sign off. He proposed a future agenda item to review what should be considered a fire department based on government code, health and safety code, and public resource code.

J. Binaski agreed that it should be added as a future agenda item. He advised that he does not believe that STEAC has the authority to say that any legally formed local state or federal department cannot be recognized by the system, but there can be checks and balances. He suggested that the signature of the fire chief only be good for 3 years with an agency verification for first time submittals, but it will need to come back for discussion because this places a burden on SFT staff.

Andrew Henning stated that the SFT system was designed for the public fire department. He advised that over the last 7 years they have been codifying the process. They have codified in the procedure manual what the fire chief's responsibility is and how to be an authorized signer, but they have not codified who the active departments are. He stated that it is public fire departments for the most part. He agreed that they need to formalize this and codify it into the procedures through Title 19. He stated that to sign the red scantrons that they used to have it was a requirement that a fire department submit a letter stating what their statutory authority was. He advised that they have search and rescue teams that cannot be instructors because they do not work for a recognized fire department, and lifeguards are only able to teach courses if they are underneath a fire department. He stated that SFT is committed to putting together a draft interim procedure outlining specific requirements of how to become an authorized signer. They like the idea of needing to have a letter signed every X number of years so that they do not have an outdated authorized signer. SFT will take any other recommendations.

Gail Warner asked if we do not have a standard for the industrial fire brigades.

A. Henning answered that the SFT system is voluntary and there is no requirement in any state law to have a Fire Fighter 1 certification.

Bret Davidson asked what they are trying to solve and if this is a big issue. He stated that upon hiring at a local agency the applicant must meet the standards of the agency. He asked if this affects the fire mechanics, as a lot are private.

A. Henning stated that there is a little bit of an impact. They do have a process in place for a mechanic that does not work for a city or fire agency. He stated that SFT allows community colleges to sign off on instructor task books only not any other level of certification.

D. Winnacker stated that if someone is working on his incident, then he will not have time to look at what their background is. He advised that they have the potential to water down their certs and quals through the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) system, specifically on the 200 level quals. He stated that everyone assumes that someone else is running the due diligence of checking if someone is a fire chief recognized by either the government code for the municipal departments, the health and safety code for fire protection districts, or the public resource code for CAL FIRE.

J. Binaski agreed that they need to clarify this better in the procedures manual but advised that this will not fix the problem with the CICCS red card.

A. Henning advised that they will codify their fire chief authorized signer to those with the authority under a government code or health and safety code of being a fire

department. He advised that this will only solve the issue of SFT certifications and instructors getting a letter from the fire chief. If we want to look at the other issues with CICC's then STEAC can make a recommendation to the State Board of Fire Services to have that discussion at that level. He advised that Chris Fowler, Caryn Petty, and himself will draft an interim procedure to bring back to STEAC in October.

J. Binaski suggested that once they get the language cleaned up then other agencies like CICC's can use it.

John Bagala advised that a lot of the fire brigades are for profit, but they also tend to recruit highly trained people and it is often a post-retirement gig. He stated that his biggest concern is volunteer fire chiefs. He stated that that should be falling under the operations area, coordinators, closest municipal fire department, or CAL FIRE. He stated that if they are going to go down this path then it raises this whole other issue of whether volunteer fire chiefs can sign off. He recommended that they hold accountability at the volunteer level.

J. Binaski advised that the first step is determining who can sign under health and safety code, government code, and municipal code. Determining who can sign after that is another conversation.

Bret Davidson mentioned that the California Fire Chiefs Association is having their meeting in September and the training officers are going forward with the training symposium.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.