



# STEAC Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2020 – Teleconference Meeting

## I. Introductions and Welcome

### Members Present

John Bagala, California Professional Fire Fighters  
David Baldwin, FIRESCOPE  
Gregory Barton, League of California Cities (alternate)  
John Binaski, STEAC Committee Chair  
Bret Black, League of California Cities  
Taral Brideau, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee  
Peter Cacossa, California Fire Technology Directors Association (North) (alternate)  
Tom Carlisle, California State Fire Fighters Association  
Randy Collins, California Fire Technology Directors Association (North)  
Bret Davidson, STEAC Co-Chair, So Cal Training Officers  
Gareth Harris, Fire District Association of California  
Sam Hoffman, California State Fire Fighters Association (alternate)  
Scott Jaeggi, California Fire Technology Directors Association (South) (alternate)  
Javier Lara, Cal OES (alternate)  
Brian Marshall, CAL OES  
Gaudenz Panholzer, California Fire Chiefs Association  
Richard Rideout, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Inc.  
Ann Rosales, CAL FIRE Training Center (alternate)  
Brent Stangeland, CAL FIRE  
Rich Thomas, California Professional Fire Fighters (alternate)  
David Winnacker, California Fire Chiefs Association

### Members Absent

Chris Coates, So Cal Training Officers (alternate)  
Matthew Jewett, California Fire Technology Directors Association (South)  
Donavan Lacy, Nor Cal Training Officers (alternate)  
Jeremy Lawson, CAL FIRE Training Center  
Kirk Noffsinger, Nor Cal Training Officers

### State Fire Training Staff

Mark Bisbee, SFT, Training Specialist  
Joe Bunn, SFT, Training Specialist III  
Kevin Conant, SFT, Fire Service Training Specialist III  
Jim Eastman, SFT, Fire Service Training Specialist III

Kristahna Fiattarone, SFT, Office Technician  
Chris Fowler, SFT, Deputy State Fire Marshal Supervisor  
Andrew Henning, SFT Division Chief  
Caryn Petty, SFT, Deputy State Fire Marshal I  
Kris Rose, Staff Services Manager I

### **Guests**

Not available due to Teleconferencing Format.

### **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.

### **Member Appointment/Reappointment**

Gregory Barton – League of California Cities – Alternate

John Binaski welcomed G. Barton and thanked him for participating.

### **Past Member Recognition**

Bertral Washington – League of California Cities

## **II. Agenda Review**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

J. Binaski advised he would like to discuss the accredited academies after the State Board of Fire Services. He stated they will then start on item 12 and vote on one motion. He advised no motion is required to rearrange the agenda.

## **III. Approval of the May 8, 2020 Minutes**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

**Motion:** *Randy Collins moved to accept the minutes from May 8, 2020. Gaudenz Panholzer seconded the motion.*

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

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

Presenter: Andrew Henning

Andrew Henning advised the SBFS approved two Accredited Regional Training Program reaccreditations for Mt. San Antonio College and Oxnard College, and an Accredited Local Academy reaccreditation for Sacramento Fire Department. He stated that they also approved the state certified prescribed fire Burn Boss curriculum as well. The next meeting will be August 20, 2020.

## V. Consent Items

### A. College of the Sequoias Reaccreditation

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 1

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on June 4, 2020. She stated College of the Sequoias is an excellent neighbor and cooperater that understands the importance of fostering interagency relationships and work closely with their neighboring agencies to provide a program for their students. She advised they offer a caring and compassionate devotion to student support and personal development. They serve a diverse student population with extraordinary outreach efforts and take great care with each individual student. She mentioned their facilities do present some needs for upgrades. She advised they have continued to work closely with SFT during Covid-19 to make sure their student academy was not delayed or cancelled. She acknowledged fire tech coordinator Rick Smith as being in attendance.

R. Smith thanked C. Petty. He stated it is a pleasure to represent the college at the meeting and their proud request for reaccreditation. He explained their history with SFT goes back over 4 decades and they've been very happy to have produced people who have risen to some prominence. He stated that their current training facility is impacted by a high-speed rail development, but they have a plan with one of their cooperating agencies, Kings County Fire. He advised they are proud to serve their students, their community, and the 21<sup>st</sup> century fire service. He thanked Chief Andrew Henning and Chief Chris Fowler for their support. He mentioned that Brandon Erickson and Rene Rose were always there when he needed help. He also mentioned that they would have not have succeeded without the assistance of C. Petty, who has been terrific.

### B. College of the Siskiyou's Reaccreditation

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 2

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit was conducted on May 19, 2020. She advised this unique college has a strong and innovative fire science training program with a focus on serving the community and is one of the long-standing volunteer regions. She advised they are an excellent neighbor and community partner. The training grounds have some enhancements under way. She advised they have continued to work closely with SFT so they did not experience a delay in their academy during Covid-19. She advised Mike Wilson was point of contact for the site visit. C. Petty recommends a reaccreditation of 5 years for college of the Siskiyou.

**C. Crafton Hills Community College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 3

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on February 12, 2020. She advised that Crafton Hills presents a strong focus on recruitment and development by reaching out to their community and high schools as well as neighboring community colleges and veterans events and athletic events. She advised they present a robust, innovative, and progressive program. They continued through Covid-19 without delay and graduated many students with great success. She advised their training facility is due for an expansion in the coming months. They present a strong leadership Accredited Regional Training Program in the Southern California region. SFT recommends reaccreditation for 5 years. She acknowledged Mike Alder as being present.

M. Alder stated that this is his second reaccreditation and C. Petty has been professional and a pleasure to work with. He thanked her for her guidance along the way. He advised they couldn't have done it without SFT.

**D. Monterey-Peninsula College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 4

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on June 2, 2020. She advised that Monterey-Peninsula College represents a strong devotion to complete student development, from entry level firefighters to leadership personnel. She mentioned that some facilities and props need an upgrade and they'll be working with the college and neighboring agencies to make that happen. She advised they are an excellent community partner working closely with neighboring agencies. She advised they worked closely with SFT during Covid-19 to make sure the academy wasn't delayed. She acknowledged program director David Brown and academy coordinator Greg Greenlee. She mentioned that D. Brown will be leaving soon with G. Greenlee stepping in.

D. Brown thanked the group for the opportunity to speak about their reaccreditation. He explained that they have a long history with SFT dating back to the California fire academy back in Asilomar. For years, they have worked seamlessly with the state trying to provide the highest level of training possible. He stated that C. Petty was tremendous to work with.

G. Greenlee thanked all. He advised the site visit was great and that C. Petty had great ideas and recommendations.

**E. Moreno Valley College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 5

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on May 29, 2020. She advised that Moreno Valley College provides an affordable, robust, and well-rounded training program. They have a unique training facility that allows for the provision of various technical and specialized course delivery. They partner with CAL FIRE at the Ben Clark Training Center. They are eager participants in the SFT system and an absolute Southern California leader. She advised they worked closely with SFT during Covid-19 to ensure there was no delay in the academy. She acknowledged John Begg, who will be taking over as academy coordinator, as being in attendance as well as Jim Lambert, an instructor at Moreno Valley, and dean Art Turnier. She gave a shout out to the previous academy coordinator, Cody Eaves, with whom she worked closely with during reaccreditation. She advised that she is recommending Moreno Valley college for a reaccreditation of 5 years.

A. Turnier thanked C. Petty and everyone at the Office of the State Fire Marshal for their support. He advised this was the most cordial and easiest process that he has been through for an inspection. He mentioned that he thinks the partnership with Riverside county fire and CAL FIRE is neat as well as the training and experience they can afford their students.

**F. Porterville Community College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 6

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on June 4, 2020. She advised they provide a strong, flourishing program focused on serving the community through tradition and well-rounded training. She explained that they are an excellent neighboring community partner tending to the regional students and agencies. They work closely with Porterville Fire with the delivery of their academy. She advised they present some facilities and props in need of some upgrade, and she will be working with them to make sure that happens. They serve a diverse student population with excellent outreach efforts. She acknowledged fire technology coordinator Mario Garcia. She recommends a reaccreditation period of 5 years.

M. Garcia mentioned Porterville College has been working with SFT for close to 40 years and they are proud to serve their community. He stated that it was great working

with SFT staff, especially C Petty who was always available when needed. He thanked her and stated that it was a great experience.

#### **G. Southwestern College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 7

Caryn Petty stated that Southwestern College recently completed its 1-year conditional accreditation and all the requirements set forth by the site visit team. She advised they have maintained excellent communication with SFT and have begun actively engaging in fire service training and education at the statewide level. She advised they are meeting the needs of their region. She explained that the training facility is under construction with an estimated completion of summer 2021, at which time they will be seeking initial accreditation. She recommended a 1-year conditional accreditation. She advised conditional accreditations are an untapped resource in the procedures manual that serves as a means for academies to continue building their facilities. She acknowledged Lorraine Hutchinson as being in attendance.

L. Hutchinson thanked everybody. She advised their dean of higher education and their vice president of academic affairs are very supportive of this program, the accreditation, and the construction. She mentioned that Covid-19 has presented some challenges that were overcome with the amazing and professional C. Petty. She advised they are collaborating closely with the other fire colleges in their district. They are the farthest South so they have a great opportunity and the diversity is huge. She gave a shout out to California Fire Technology Directors Association who has been an amazing wealth of information with exceptional resources. She acknowledged Randy Collins, Scott Jaeggi, and Matt Jewett as having made this an easy transition. She thanked C. Petty and SFT. She advised they got the initial accreditation so that they can have Chula Vista Fire Department under an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) and work to run an academy. She stated that they're amazing to work with. She mentioned they will be presenting a modular academy like Miramar's, and it will be semester based.

R. Collins mentioned that Southwestern represents one of the first true and very successful ARTP partnerships with local agencies to provide that testing module that has become problematic as the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress/National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications accreditation occurred.

#### **H. Yuba College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 8

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on May 20, 2020. They represent a diverse student population reflective of the community in which it resides. They have comprehensive fire service training and a strong community focus. They presented some facilities that need upgrade and have a distinct need for additional staffing. She

advised they have interim staff in place for the academy delivery and need permanent placement of an academy cadre. She advised they worked closely with SFT during Covid-19 to ensure continuation of their academy and they are getting ready for fall semester. She recommended a 5-year reaccreditation.

**I. Victor Valley College Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 9

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on May 29, 2020. She advised they are a cooperative statewide leader with innovative training and technology advancement. They presented some facilities in need of maintenance and a distinct need for additional staffing. She advised they worked closely with SFT during Covid-19 to ensure no lapse in academy delivery. She recommended a 5-year reaccreditation.

**J. Clovis Fire Department Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 10

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on November 21, 2019 during the Fresno Symposium and they had a follow-up virtual visit on March 25, 2020. She advised they present a professional, prideful, traditional, and aggressive high-quality training academy with a strong focus on safety and standardization. She recommended a 5-year reaccreditation.

Chief Chris Ekk advised he appreciates C. Petty taking time out of her busy schedule and appreciates the support from SFT.

**K. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Reaccreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 11

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit took place on May 11, 2020. She advised they represent an ambitious and exemplary devotion to fire service training and education. They have great organizational pride with a focus on high-level training. She mentioned they have all sorts of props and scenarios. She advised they are a progressive and cooperative agency focused on recruitment, employee development, and diversity. She recommended a 5-year reaccreditation. She acknowledged Jared Jamison and Battalion Chief Jason Solak as being in attendance.

J. Jamison thanked C. Petty.

J. Solak thanked the group for having them and expressed his gratitude for SFT staff. He stated that C. Petty and the SFT staff are a wonderful asset and truly an ambassador to the fire service.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Bret Davidson moved to accept the motion for items 1-11. Gaudenz Panholzer seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

Bret Davidson stated that he appreciates SFT and C. Petty for their ability to get this done during Covid-19, and mentioned she represents SFT well. He further stated he appreciates C. Petty's customer service and professionalism.

**L. Fire Inspector 2C Implementation Plan**

Presenter: Chief Andrew Henning

Attachment: 12

Andrew Henning explained that they never set a retirement date for the old 2010 version of Fire Inspector 2C so they are formalizing the retirement on December 31, 2020 and starting Jan 1, 2021 the only option will be the new course. He stated that there is no requirement for someone that has a legacy 2C course to take the new course.

**M. Fire Marshal Certification & Instructor Registration**

Presenter: Chief Andrew Henning

Attachment: 13

Andrew Henning explained that when they rolled out the curriculum in 2018 they had a requirement for Public Information Officer (PIO) training, and the cadre originally only recognized the G290 course which has limited delivery. He stated that the cadre asked that they evaluate another PIO course that would meet the training requirements. He advised they determined the S203 course that is offered more widespread would meet the needs of the training. He advised that initially the only instructor requirement was that you had to be a Fire Marshal for 3 years, so they added that the applicant must also have experience in the course they want to instruct.

**N. Fire Fighter 1 (2019) – Fire Fighter 1C: Wildland Update**

Presenter: Chief Andrew Henning

Attachment: 14

Andrew Henning explained that every 5 years the new National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard comes out, and the standard came out when they were finalizing the 2019 Fire Fighter I (FFI). He advised this is an update to the new version

of NFPA 1051 with most changes being editorial. They added one job performance requirement about how to pack an out-of-county bag that was already covered so they just shifted some course time and training learning objectives from one module to another. There is no task book requirement, so it is an editorial change with no impact to course delivery time. He advised Jones and Bartlett released a new wildland fire training book specifically geared to wildland FFI and Wildland FFII. Right now, the only book SFT is utilizing for that course is Wildland Tactics. He advised they will be evaluating the new book to see if it meets the needs for the curriculum so there will be two textbooks to choose from.

Chris Fowler clarified that there was no change to skills sheet or course time, and it is a small change to the curriculum.

Gareth Harris asked if the curriculum now meets the requirements for CAL FIRE to hire seasonal firefighters without having to put them through the separate CAL FIRE academy.

A. Henning advised they made sure they had 2 CAL FIRE representatives on the cadre to get SFT as close in alignment with CAL FIRE as possible. He explained that SFT needs to look at what is good for the whole fire service while Chief Brent Stangeland must look at the internal training of CAL FIRE employees.

Bret Davidson advised that he teaches for Miramar and Palomar and they work with Chief Mecham, the region chief of San Diego, and his CAL FIRE staff teach those portions of the wildland academy. He explained that they still must do the employee orientation but its reduced from what it would be otherwise. He advised the community colleges have a good relationship with CAL FIRE in the region.

G. Harris advised that while that works for that county, they are looking at a statewide change. He advised the goal should be to have students graduate and be hireable.

Annie Rosales advised she is the curriculum development chief with CAL FIRE working with Chief Stangeland. She stated that to be hired with CAL FIRE you would need the basic firefighter. She advised the curriculums should meet up but there might be orientation specific to CAL FIRE.

#### **O. Upgrade and Reciprocity Candidates Application Process**

Presenter: Chief Andrew Henning

Attachment: 15

Andrew Henning stated that SFT is going through their self-assessment process for International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) reaccreditation. He advised the report is roughly 60 pages and looks at policies and procedures. He thanked his staff. He advised this is the first time doing the report since the initial accreditation 6 years ago and they have had to revamp many policies and procedures. He advised they were treating out-of-state reciprocity candidates better than in-state candidates

specifically when it came to the upgrade. He explained that the policy written 5 years ago would only let someone upgrade their legacy Fire Fighter I (FFI) certification if it was issued within the last 10 years, and they have decided to remove this policy. If your certification was issued over 10 years ago you can come in for the written and skills testing for the new FFI certification and you will be issued the upgrade of the current FFI with IFSAC and ProBoard. He advised they decided to add a 10-year requirement for reciprocity candidates coming from out-of-state. If it has been more than 10 years or if your certification is expired, then you need to do testing in California to get a reciprocity.

Randy Collins asked if that also includes wildland. A. Henning answered that all candidates have FFI and HazMat FRA/FRO from IFSAC/Pro Board, and if you don't have wildland you must do wildland testing.

#### **P. Psychomotor Skills Exam Changes**

Presenter: Chief Andrew Henning

Attachment: 16

Andrew Henning stated that they were previously notifying the skills evaluator of what the random skills were going to be exactly 3 weeks before the skills exam. The new process will be that as soon as skills testing is approved the lead skills evaluator will be notified immediately what the random skills will be for the testing. The lead skills evaluator is expected to keep the random skills confidential, especially from the instructor. The lead skills evaluator can start talking with the rest of the self-assessment team and skills evaluators at the 3-week point for planning. He advised they were randomly assigning two skills for Hazmat FRO and FRA, and they realized they could theoretically only test candidates on FRA skills and they would never have to demonstrate a FRO skill. He advised the first random skill will now always be a FRO skill, and the second random skill will be either a FRA or FRO skill. He advised the last point is the alternate psychomotor skill evaluation and was developed based on extensive conversations with International IFSAC and ProBoard. There are several Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) courses delivered in a fire fighter academy that can also be tied to a FSTEP course, including Fire Control 3, Fire Control 4, and Vehicle Extrication. He mentioned that some of these classes have a lot of consumables or specialized props. The new interim procedure will allow Accredited Local Academies and Accredited Regional Training Programs conducting the full FSTEP course within their academy to do the skills testing after the FSTEP course instead of the end of the module. He advised all other skills are still to be tested after the module except for these courses. He explained that you no longer must do the simulation during the rest of the Fire Fighter I skills exams, but it is expected that you are running that skills station as a normal certification exam at end of the Fire Control 3 class. He advised you will hold onto the skills sheet and submit it to SFT with the rest of the required skills sheets for the module.

Randy Collins suggested that they consider the possibility of getting rid of the sheet, as it sounds redundant.

A. Henning clarified that instead of doing the skills exam twice it will only have to be done at the end of the Fire Control 3 class.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Randy Collins moved to accept the motion for items 12- 16. Gareth Harris seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **VI. Accredited Academies**

### **A. Cosumnes River College Accreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty  
Attachment: 17

Caryn Petty stated that a site visit was conducted on May 26, 2020. She advised they are a unique pre-employment program serving the greater Sacramento region. She advised this is a region in need of more training avenues for the entry-level firefighter and they are stepping up to the plate for this. They have great organizational pride and a flexible course schedule so that the working adult can still attend this academy. She acknowledged Chief Kris Hubbard, the fire technology coordinator, as being in attendance.

K. Hubbard thanked C. Petty for this opportunity. He acknowledged their area dean Nancy Reese as being in attendance as well. He stated that he went through the process for accreditation of Consumes Fire Department back in 2018. He advised the college is starting to grow and they are building a lot of bridges with local high schools in the area with a focus on underrepresented groups.

C. Petty recommends an initial accreditation of this Accredited Regional Training Program for a period of 3 years.

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

**B. Merritt College Accreditation**

Presenter: Caryn Petty

Attachment: 18

Caryn Petty recognized Dr. Demond Simmons as being in attendance as program director. She advised that in accordance with California Code Title 19, Merritt College is being recommended for a 1-year conditional accreditation in lieu of the 3-year initial accreditation. She explained that they are still building their program, so they are going to be reevaluated in a year for an initial accreditation. She advised Merritt College is in a unique area and they represent a diverse student population representative of their surrounding community. She advised it is in an area with a need for additional fire service training. She advised they are going to work to bolster community relationships working closely with the agencies in the region and she expects an excellent program. She recommends 1 year conditional accreditation for Merritt College.

Randy Collins advised he was reading through the initial report that talked about some of the specific requirements for Merritt. He mentioned that it appears they will be required to deliver a separate Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) class as well as a California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) class as part of accreditation. He advised Covid-19 has made it challenging to deliver classes and he would like to hear from Dr. Simmons whether he thinks it will be a problem given the situation. He asked if they have been having trouble finding Confined Space Rescue Awareness instructors as well, as he noticed another one of the requirements was to increase their registered instructors for that course from 1 to 3.

Dr. Simmons stated that he is working with Holly Bow to offer a Regional Instructor Orientation and Skills Evaluator course in the next few months. He advised this will assist Merritt College as they build their fire academy while fulfilling a need by Oakland Fire. He advised they have enough space on campus to offer the course and stay within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. He thanked C. Petty and SFT staff for working with Merritt College over the last 1 ½-2 years throughout this process. He stated that he is looking forward to building a program and staying within the guidelines with both the district and SFT. He answered that they are looking for some additional instructors. He explained that they have some people in-house that work for the City of Oakland Fire Department that they will use initially, and as they continue the program they will hire individuals that have the certification and expertise to offer that.

**Motion:** *Bret Black moved to accept the motion. Randy Collins seconded the motion.*

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

## VII. Curriculum Development & Delivery

### A. Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness Curriculum Series

Presenter: Caryn Petty/Kevin Conant

Attachment: 19

C. Petty explained that the steering committee and other stakeholders asked staff to develop a series of courses to address fire service behavioral health and cancer awareness. A cadre of experienced experts with technical expertise in each of their disciplines were selected from various agencies statewide from various backgrounds and began meeting in June 2019. She acknowledged Kevin Conant and Mary Murphy as being on the call. She mentioned there were over 15 members of the cadre, as it could be narrowed no further. The Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) instructor requirements were developed by SFT and identified to include employment within a recognized California fire agency plus supplemental work to the specific topics of cancer mitigation and behavioral health and wellness. She advised that instructors are strongly encouraged to use culturally competent clinicians and guest lecturers due to the technical nature of the curriculum. The development of certification training standards is not required. Terminal learning objectives were established and the supporting enabling learning objectives were developed using the latest evidence-based research and industry best practice using several references and supporting documents in creating the individual course plans. The first course is Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness 1A: Frontline Responder, an 8-hour awareness-level course for any member of the fire service. It may be delivered as an FSTEP course or in an academy setting. The second course, Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness 2A: First Level Responder, is a 24-hour course providing leadership level information and best practices for the aspiring company officer and/or fire service leader and is delivered as a standalone FSTEP course. Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness 1A serves as a prerequisite for this course. The third course, Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness 3A: Organizational Leader, is a standalone 24-hour FSTEP course providing Chief Officer level information on the development of inclusive cancer prevention and behavioral health and wellness programs. Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness 2A serves as a prerequisite for this course.

Kevin Conant advised that even though these were two distinct disciplines with subject matter experts up to the doctoral level everyone dove in with a collaborative approach. He explained that early detection is our greatest opportunity to survive cancer. He stated that since the last STEAC meeting he has lost 12 friends to cancer from the California fire service. He advised it is critical that members, stakeholders, leaders, and managers recognize that cutting health programs is the same as cutting off one's nose to spite their face, even if it seems like it cuts costs on the front end. He advised the data is in now for the cost of treatment versus the cost of prescreening and early detection both in behavioral health and cancer awareness.

Mary Murphy expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to say thank you, and for the support and commitment of the group. She advised they hope this is the beginning of standards and expectations, and this needs to be a constant frontline topic for discussion.

Andrew Henning advised they are monitoring what is happening with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). He advised they aligned their titles to match what NFPA had proposed and will be sending their curriculum plans to one of the North American Fire Training Directors representatives sitting on that cadre. He advised they will update the Company Officer, Chief Fire Officer, and Executive Chief Officer when the new NFPA standard comes out and at that time will look at adding these as courses as a requirement for certification. He thanked the cadre and staff for their hard work and time creating this course from scratch and thanked the committee for their guidance.

K. Conant recognized that the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee was a terrific partner by providing both material resource as well as a potential interest in further developing the curriculum that would assist both the students and instructors.

Taral Brideau advised they are working on the committee that will be using the course plan as the outline to come up with some more detailed curriculum so that instructors aren't having to pull in data and information to make their own lesson plans for the awareness level. She explained that it is an awesome course plan but there is no textbook so they are trying to fill the gap a little bit.

John Bagala stated that a couple of years ago there was a big shift in the personal protective equipment (PPE) for the wildland firefighter to where personnel started wearing combination uniform/wildland pants 24/7. He advised the idea and the practice seem to be inconsistent with everything else surrounding cancer awareness. These individual pants are treated as uniforms when convenient and then treated as PPE when convenient. He explained that most of the fires they are going on are urban interface fires and the carcinogens are the same when you have 50 houses burning as if you were one person sitting inside of a house. He asked if it was addressed or if there are plans to do so.

K. Conant acknowledged this as a great question. He stated that in wildland fire fighting we know that the toxins are there yet we're not addressing it. He advised that one of the cadre members is engineer Derek Erwin who is taking a leave of absence from the Los Angeles County Fire Department to finish his doctoral dissertation. He is a member of the fire service cancer cohort that did a lot of data collection. Last year he started the urine task force where they are collecting urine samples from firefighters in the field at wildland fires. He explained that when they get the data they will be able to specifically look at the issues, because they know that if there is smoke or char then there are cancer causing agents. He advised this is being addressed with scientific and evidence-based practices.

J. Bagala asked if he is the only one having this problem with the wildland pants or if this is widespread. Brent Stangeland explained that they have gone to a single layer

based off a risk assessment that identified that they saw a lot less burn injuries and a higher result of heat related illnesses. He advised it was based on the data that we need to get ahead of the heat related illness and adjust tactics appropriately. He agreed that J. Bagala brought up a great point that can't be turned a blind eye to and it is a big concern that we may want to calendar on future agenda items for STEAC.

J. Bagala advised he agrees with the reasons they switched to them, but they are PPE and they're being allowed into the fire station which conflicts with everything we are doing with the curriculums and changing the paradigm. M. Murphy mentioned that a big issue is culture.

David Baldwin stated that through Firescope they are developing this behavioral health process and trying to get it integrated into the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) system. He asked A. Henning how he sees this curriculum effecting the process in terms of prerequisites. A. Henning advised these are awareness level courses.

K. Conant advised they had members from that working group on the cadre so they made sure everything they placed in their curriculum would be within their vision of seamless alignment. He advised he doesn't think there will be an issue with this being out of alignment. He advised they must wait to see what they put in the task book and what they require as prerequisites.

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

## **B. FSTEP Fire Control 3 Curriculum (2018)**

Presenter: Kevin Conant

Attachment: 20

Kevin Conant explained that there were 3 issues including gas cooling, completing the surveys, and aligning the requisites to include CAL FIRE C404 Safety Officer. He advised they have taken care of those items. He advised they took into consideration the feedback from the surveys and could provide a comprehensive report on the surveys if requested. He stated that he received one written statement from Chad Christensen. He advised this is the first live fire training curriculum that is National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant based on NFPA 1403, 2018 edition. He advised you can expect staff to come back to STEAC with an analysis and recommendation to update some of the skills sheets within this curriculum for Fire Control 3 and some of the instructor elements in the 2 instructor courses to align with the evidence-based best practice that UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute (FSRI) has come out with.

James Mendoza stated that it was a monumental undertaking to put the curriculum together. He advised they tried to focus on adding the information that is now becoming more mainstream, such as chemistry and physics, to explain underlying principles and a broad view of required skills to apply the information. He acknowledged it is probably not the curriculum that every expert in the room wanted but by consensus they came to an agreement that these were important aspects to include. He advised they expect it to be dynamic and changing as they gather more information but that is a process of science-based inquiry and application. He advised it is a culmination of many years of hard work and various points of view with a good cross section of people representing the state.

C. Christensen thanked K. Conant for the opportunity to speak. He thanked the cadre for their time and effort and advised it is an amazing and well-composed document. He advised his concern is referring to gas cooling and not meeting today's research. He advised the document needs to maintain a level of consistency with UL FSRI's research. He advised NFPA 1700 removed everything related to gas cooling and droplet sizes as a tactic. He advised he sent the information to K. Conant and would be glad assist in any way to address these issues that put CA firefighters at risk of learning things the wrong way. He advised anything related to a fog stream needs to be removed from this curriculum as gas cooling is ineffective.

K. Conant recommended approving this curriculum, and as new information becomes available they will update it. He advised he would like to offer the equivalent of a friendly amendment to pull skill number 4 out for further development. This leaves a hole in the curriculum and they must go to Andrew Henning in terms of resources, budget, time, and staff to be able to place something in there. He advised gas cooling has been a concern with stakeholders from the beginning and even some cadre members. The NFPA 1403 edition mentioned gas cooling one time with no definition or guidance so they included gas cooling to ensure compliance. K. Conant explained that there is a colloquial and scientific definition of gas cooling and he doesn't think it is worth it to rehash this out or to reject the curriculum after the 4-year process.

J. Binaski asked if there is an option to renumber the skills exercise and set this one as optional.

K. Conant advised the JPR is written as a "shall". He explained that even if we made this change there would still be issues with what some would say.

Bret Davidson explained that you need to cool down the overhead during fires and they use gas cooling. He advised the resistance seemed to be the European model of high-pressure low-GPM, which is what they don't do in the US. He thought the objection was over a European-style gas cooling style and not necessarily cooling of the room as they go along. He advised the gas cooling can be controversial but they've all done some form of gas cooling so it can be left to the instructors.

Randy Collins agreed with B. Davidson and is willing to leave the curriculum as it is.

Gaudenz Panholzer advised it is imperative this move forward and it can be revised as science moves forward.

Gareth Harris stated that he likes the idea of making it optional, but they can't leave it as a shall skill up to the discretion of the instructor.

Bret Davidson advised that as a Fire Control 3 instructor he doesn't think an instructor will not teach cooling the room, and he doesn't see it as controversial.

C. Christensen stated that he disagrees with leaving the term in. He advised gas cooling was removed from NFPA 1700 and he expects it to be removed from NFPA 1403. He advised that surface cooling and continual water flow was the most efficient way to throw water on a structure fire. He explained that by leaving it up to the instructor you have the potential for people to be hurt, especially if they incorporate a 30-degree fog into their live fire training. He advised it is not just that one skill sheet. He stated that with the American fire service tools a 30-degree fog is a horrible idea.

J. Mendoza explained that gas cooling is an important concept for fire fighters to understand. In terms of educating students in a general course about fire suppression it is important for the students to understand the science of what is happening. He advised more work and research needs to be done, but to understand future research students need to understand the basics of water droplet size, heat transfer, hang time, and the hot gas layer. He advised it isn't a political thing, rather it's a science thing and has application across the entire suite of fire suppression tools they use. He advised they haven't looked at all methodologies. He suggested keeping it in.

A. Henning advised the next time NFPA 1403 will be updated is in 2023. He advised the goal for California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses is to update within 2 years of publication and they have been doing it within about a year. He advised this is something they will keep on their radar to look at what has changed in 1403 and if updates need to be made. He advised that 1700 will hopefully be adopted and approved by the standards committee by then. He mentioned that Ray Bizal, who works with NFPA and is one of the regional directors for north America, wants to come speak to STEAC and he is looking at bringing him out soon.

Andrew Murtagh stated that he wants to applaud Chief K. Conant for being understanding. He advised the original amendment was good enough for meeting the needs of 1700 and 1710 and what they anticipate will come from 1403 and what they know from UL FSRI studies. He advised what they are discussing is surface cooling versus gas cooling, and they all cool overhead to make sure it doesn't roll over or flash over. His issue is that it requires 9-10 classroom days for incumbent instructors to meet the needs of the curriculum if they don't already have the certs, which is a heavy load. He advised it is a very tight timeline especially considering the pandemic so they may need to push out some deadlines.

K. Conant strongly recommended the ALAs form an association. He mentioned he would love if himself and A. Henning could work with the ALAs to do what they did for

the Accredited Regional Training Programs. He advised he is doing many PACEs. He explained that there is a very abbreviated way for incumbent instructors to not have to take those courses if they get either the authority having jurisdiction or the fire chief to attest in writing that instructor has been fulfilling the objectives of I-300 and fulfilling the role of the objectives stated in any of those safety officer courses. He advised the responsibility for ensuring they meet the obligation would fall on whoever is attesting. He advised that for new instructors who have never been a registered primary or senior will have an opportunity to apply for a PACE 2 and SFT subject matter experts can determine what their co-requisites are to become a registered instructor.

A. Henning advised they are offering free PACE 2's up until December 31, 2020. Starting January 1, 2021 applicants will need to pay the fee adopted by SFT. He advised the 2009 curriculum will be available until December of 2021 to allow current instructors to take the required courses or training or do the PACE.

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

### **C. Rope Rescue Awareness/Operations and Technician Curriculum**

Presenter: Joe Bunn

Attachment: 21

Joe Bunn stated that they had a great cadre and good shareholders. He advised that LA county has gone through the 40-hour Ops course and they received no poor feedback. He advised it is essentially Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations (LARRO) with a couple additional modules from Rescue Systems 1 (RS1). He explained that it is essentially an instructor update rather than a roll out because instructors are already teaching these curriculums now. He advised going from a low angle to technical rope level aligns us with the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and meets the current NFPA and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines.

Andrew Henning stated that their plan was to move to structural collapse this year. He explained that they did not have enough funding to move forward with the curriculum, and it is scheduled to be brought forward as new curriculum once they have funding available or once they have found an alternate funding source. He advised there is no NFPA standard for LARRO, just rope rescue awareness and operations and technician. He advised that based off Blueprint 2020 they have aligned themselves by having a single Rope Rescue course both at the awareness/operations and technician level.

Randy Collins state that LARRO is very popular with fire academies, has a manageable time span, and gives students hands-on applications. He advised the only concern California Fire Technology Directors Association had was the retirement of LARRO, as they would like to continue to be able to offer that class.

A. Henning explained that there is not a low angle designation with NPFA to align to, so it is essentially a legacy course now. He suggested the committee either retire LARRO, extend the retirement date, or use the curriculum as a legacy course that will not be touched by SFT. As a legacy course, it will not be able to be used to PACE or to reduce the delivery time of the new Rope Rescue Courses.

R. Collins requested that they leave the option for the Accredited Regional Training Programs.

A. Henning advised they will be removing the retirement date for LARRO but that it will not count as a prerequisite.

**Motion:** *Randy Collins moved to accept the motion. Bret Davidson seconded the motion.*

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

**D. Emergency Vehicle Technician 1, 2 & 3 (2020) – Curriculum and Certification Update**

Presenter: Jim Eastman

Attachment: 22

Jim Eastman stated that SFT has had a long relationship with the California Fire Mechanics Academy (CFMA), who is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> year. He acknowledged their president Joe Pastore and cadre member Boyd Clegg as being on the line. He advised in 2018 they came before the committee with curriculum to be approved for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1071. During that time as the CFMA was going through their modifications NFPA came along with an update. He advised that Andrew Henning made the decision to incorporate it in so that it wouldn't need to be updated a year later. He advised it will begin in transition and they will begin utilizing all the other associated NFPA references that go with 1071. He advised that they recognize there are many candidates that are in transition from the old fire mechanic curriculum program and will need to transition into the new emergency vehicle technician curriculum 2020. He advised during the rewrite they worked on combining some of the courses, so they have gone from 8 courses to 5 courses. He explained that NFPA now requires 20 hours of continuing education per year, so at the end of the 5-year certification they would submit their 100 hours to CFMA who would then submit to SFT to update in Acadis. He advised the goal is to retire out the old curriculum December 31, 2021, at which time the new curriculum will be fully implemented. He advised there is a transition for all the existing fire mechanics to cross over to the new EVT curriculum. He advised there may be some courses they must take to meet the new NFPA requirements.

Joe Pastore thanked SFT and the cadre. He advised they have been working on this since 2007 and they are eager to move forward with the crossover and the new curriculum.

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

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

Presenter: Andrew Henning

Andrew Henning advised that the SFT regulation package is with the Office of Administrative Law which has had slower turnaround time due to their teleworking. He advised he is anticipating the fee will be approved early August and start on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at the soonest, and they will be sending out an E-news. He mentioned they are still looking for a way to delay the increase until January if possible. He showed how Covid-19 has affected SFT and advised they will distribute the information to stakeholders. They are catching up on their percentages and are getting back on their feet.

He also stated that that staff will be required to take two furlough days a month and a two SFT staff have been tasked to do contract tracing when requested. They are not anticipating a big slowdown right now by looking at other ways to keep up with the demand of the programs. He advised they are keeping up with course processing and course scheduling which has been crazy with all the reschedules. He advised certifications and instructor applications are at a 30-plus day delay. He advised they saw a rapid increase for instructor registration, PACEs, and other certifications because people thought the fee increase was being implemented. He advised they are looking at ways to streamline their processes. He mentioned that most of the staff is still teleworking and that the front counter is still closed. He thanked staff.

## **IX. Future Meeting Dates**

### **A. October 9, 2020, January 8, 2021, April 9, 2021**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

## **X. Roundtable**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

None

## **XI. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:59 A.M.