

Minutes of the June 13, 2011 meeting held at the Vermont Fire Academy, Pittsford

Roll Call:

Organization Representatives / or Sub

Ex-Officio Members

Vt. Career Chief Assn.	Troy Ruggles
Dept. of Education	Absent
Vt. Fire Chiefs Assn.	Wendall Mansfield
Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec.	Absent
Vt. Professional FF	Aaron Collette, Chair Burlington FF
Dept. of Health	Bill Irwin
Vt. State FF Assn.	Al Barber
Dept. of Labor	Absent
VT Domestic Insurance Rep.	Gary Ouellette
Dept. of Public Safety	Steve Poirot
Div. of Fire Safety	Dan Zimmer, representing VFA and Jim Litevich
General Public	Absent
Committee Chair	Neil Fulton

Visitors: Terry Farr
Dan Zimmer
Todd Cosgrove
Michael Skaza

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Approved Minutes, motion by Ruggles and Ouellette seconds it, passes.

Report of the Commissioner of Public Safety:

- No Report

Report of the Chief of Training: Given by Dan Zimmer

- Wrapping up remaining courses.
- Jim Litevich will provide results at the next meeting.
- Review of online status.
- Upcoming Fire Officer program to be planned for Barre City.
- Two-State weekend/NFA program review.
- Work continuing on Aerial program, still awaiting a Train the Trainer.
- Technical Rescue program update i.e. trying to finish Swift Water in Brattleboro and the Trench Course in Barre City.
- Collette stated the Trench Trainer was one of the best coming out of the Fire Academy. Also, the Trench Instructors are meeting today to review additions of Trench Awareness as being a pre-requisite to Trench Operations.
- Review of VTC site; car and dumpster prop are being purchased.
- Discussion of Firefighter I, II and combined locations for upcoming FY 2012.
- We held 15 field courses last year and would like to stick with no more than 15 classes again this year.
- Discussion of online courses and students who will be attending practicals and live courses again this year.
- Poirot asks about the role in location selection. Collette states the Council's role is a third party role in course location selection to ensure fair division of locations.
- Discussion that Council simply reviews the course location selection recommended by Academy.
- Barber asked Academy staff if they can take 10 minutes to come up with recommendations and Dan wishes to wait.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Neil Fulton

- Discussion of approved courses based on handouts. Review of them.
- Firefighter I recommends that ICS100 be used instead of Chapter 4, same as we have been doing in the past.
- Firefighter I – Web based – same change as of above. Orientation night has been added, increasing the hours.
- Discussion of Hazardous Materials Operations can be taken online, but have to attend the practical portion is done with the live course.
- Firefighter II accept ICS200, same as this year, with ICS 200 being used.
- Firefighter II – Web based – same change as above.
- Discussion of ICS being a web delivery.
- Firefighter I/II Combined discussion and summary by Lead Ruggles.
- Hours do need to be rearranged for practical's, not going to lose any hours but just need to use the hours differently than if you were doing them separate.
- Support for the program was great with the Firefighter I trailer being onsite.
- Collette and Ruggles both agree that Firefighter II needs have more information added so as to not repeat what students learned in Firefighter I, especially for those have taken the Jones & Bartlett program.

- Blended Web based courses have the same changes as the live courses; currently do not have Firefighter II online or a Firefighter I/II combined course online.
- Discussion of Fire Instructor I Online course noting that student behavior is different when having to present in front of a class as opposed to speaking to a screen. Online takes away from the live audience as well as missing the exposure and experience of watching a seasoned instructor. In class interaction is very important.
- Discussion of Fire Officer I/II online has the only addition of an orientation night.
- Discussed adding ICS 300 and 400 as prerequisites to Fire Officer, however NFPA does not require it.
- Fire Officer I and II web based discussion.
- ***Motion to accept the class package as is minus the Fire Instructor I online, motion Ouelette, seconded by Barber to accept the curriculum committees draft packet as printed with the exception of the Fire Instructor I Online program, motion passes unanimously.***
- Flammable Gas needs to be redone.
- Natural Gas needs to be added, T. Cosgrove is trying to schedule a Mass. Academy visit for ideas.
- Discussion of VFA trying to add a RIT program.

Statue & Policy Review Committee – Neil Fulton

- No Report

Unfinished business:

- Tech Rescue pilots are still in process.

New Business:

- None

Vermont Career Chiefs: Ruggles

- October 13th Gordon Graham will be presenting at the Quechee Club.
- New England Fire Convention will be happening in Springfield at the Big E.

Vermont State Firefighters Assn.: Al Barber

- Fire Convention will be in Middlebury.

Vermont Chief's: Wendall Mansfield

- No Report

Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec.: Absent

- No Report

Professional Firefighter's of Vermont – Aaron Collette

- Discussion of Convention in Burlington, Fire Ops delivery was a huge success to draw in political attention.
- A lot of interest in becoming Instructors for the Fire Academy.
- Instructor development was also discussed and the perhaps asking other agencies to assist.

Insurance Report:

- No Report

General Public Report:

- No Report

Dept. of Public Safety: Steve Poirot

- Questions his role as his representation for DPS.
- John Wood asked that he stays on as Homeland Security expert.
- Not sure if he is an appointment to the Council and still has a vote.
- Would like this to be visited and let him know what his role is...appointed position or guest.
- Discussion of the new process for Tech Rescue funding and the process of getting reimbursed.
- Discussion of the minors being allowed into Firefighter I and II courses.
- Revisit the course location and how many courses the VFA can present.
- Chief Litevich sent an email requesting the Council approve 15 Firefighter I, II and Combined classes excluding online, with the knowledge that we only have 10 Firefighter I trailers.
- Terry Farr and Dan Zimmer gave area location recommendations.
- Firefighter I: Danville, Alburg, VFA, Windham County, Windsor, Bradford, Milton, Sharon, Middlebury and maybe Manchester based on interest.
- Firefighter II: Malletts Bay, Newport Center, VFA and maybe Arlington based on interest

- Firefighter I/II Combined: Williston and VTC
- *Motion by Ouellette, seconded by Ruggles. Discussion that Windham County be approved also. Then Windham is added to motion.*
- Motion carries.

Any other business, as it relates to the Council:

- None

Motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: September 19, 2011 VFA Pittsford 9:00A.M.

NOTE THE LOCATION CHANGE

PLEASE RSVP WE WILL NEED TO RESCHEDULE IF THERE IS NO QUORUM