

Minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting held at the Vermont Fire Academy in Pittsford

Roll Call:

<u>Organization Representatives / or Sub</u>	<u>Ex-Officio Members</u>
Vt. Career Chief Assn.	Troy Ruggles
Dept. of Education	Absent
Vt. Fire Chiefs Assn.	Wendall Mansfield
Dept. of Forests, Parks & Rec.	Absent
Vt. Professional FF	Christopher Corbin
Dept. of Health	Absent
Vt. State FF Assn.	Al Barber
Dept. of Labor	Absent
VT Domestic Insurance Rep.	Jeffrey Price
Div. of Fire Safety	Mike Desrochers – Director of Fire Safety
General Public	John Marcus

Visitors: James Litevich
Terry Farr
Dan Zimmer
Michael Skaza

Motion to accept the minutes. Motion passes unanimously.

Report from the Division: Mike Desroches (Director):

- Working on FY16 budget. Special Fund account is doing very well.
- Division is very busy with plan reviews. Having a hard time keeping up.
- Discussion of the Council facilitating a building subcommittee of a few members of the Vermont Service Training Council to assist with the Pittsford campus development. They will work with the Vermont Criminal Justice Council members to speak as one voice.
- Desrochers is willing to share the legislative calendar. Desrochers can also send out the legislative report to everyone so that they know what is being discussed. Looking for an active session.
- Discussion of the unfilled positions at the Academy. A temporary employee was hired to fill the certification technician, Kathreen Pearson, Rutland, retired state employee.
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Report of the Chief of Training: James Litevich

- Reaccreditation this year: submit application, then a site visit.
- SME test bank reviews being scheduled.
- Budget – waiting to see if any cuts will be made to our operating budget
- Fire Act Grant application was submitted for a new burn building.
- Capital Budget: will request \$300k for site work for a new burn building, if the grant is approved.
- Site: need to replace our fuel depot; 2 new gear dryers were installed in the fire station
- CPAT had 37 successful candidates
- Fire Inspector I, II development nearing conclusion.

Curriculum

- Flashover update in progress; Aaron Collette and Stephen Petit reviewing the program.
- LP Gas program to be updated by Todd Cosgrove and will integrate Natural Gas into the program
- Discussion that the Highway Safety will be redone in 2016 to meet the new national standard.
- Rapid Intervention Crews – motion by Chief Barber, 2nd by Chief Mansfield to move the program forward, passed unanimously
- Fire Inspector I, II Curriculum – motion by Chief Mansfield, 2nd by Chief Barber, approval to pilot the program, passed unanimously.

Statute & Policy Review

- None

Unfinished business:

- Discussion of the Fire Academy fit testing students.
- Discussion of who is responsible to make sure that the firefighters are fit tested.
- Discussion of students/chiefs signing off that students have been fit tested prior to entering an LDH environment.
- Discussion of the physical demands involved in taking the RIC training and how the Fire Academy is going to deal with it.
- Discussion of the pre-requisites of RIC course. Firefighter I will be at least the minimum however there may need to be additional requirements.

New Business:

Organization Reports:

Haz Mat Team Report – Absent

Department of Education: Absent

Department of Health – Absent

Career Chief's report – Troy Ruggles

- No Report

Vermont State Firefighters Assn.: Al Barber

- No report

Vermont Chief's: Wendall Mansfield

- Is trying to step down from his position on the Council but no one is stepping up to take his position.

Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec. – Absent

- No report

Professional Firefighters – Christopher Corbin

Insurance – Jeff Price

General Public – John Marcus

- No report

Other Business:

- None

Next meeting scheduled for **Thursday, June 4, 2015 at the Division of Fire Safety in Berlin** at 10 am.