

Minutes of the April 18, 2011 meeting held at the Division of Fire Safety Central Office, Berlin

**Roll Call:**

<u>Organization Representatives / or Sub</u>	<u>Ex-Officio Members</u>
Vt. Career Chief Assn.	Absent
Dept. of Education	Peter Maloska
Vt. Fire Chiefs Assn.	Wendall Mansfield
Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec.	Lars Lund
Vt. Professional FF	Aaron Collette, Chair Burlington FF
Dept. of Health	Absent
Vt. State FF Assn.	Al Barber
Dept. of Labor	Peter Maloska
VT Domestic Insurance Rep.	Gary Ouellette
Dept. of Public Safety	Keith Flynn, Commissioner of Public Safety Div. of Fire Safety
Div. of Fire Safety	Jim Litevich, Chief of Vt. Fire Academy
General Public	Lenny Zenonos
Committee Chair	Neil Fulton
Visitors:	Neil Fulton
	Terry Farr
	Dan Zimmer
	Todd Cosgrove

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**Approved Minutes, motion by Barber, Mansfield seconds it, passes.**

**Report of the Commissioner of Public Safety: Keith Flynn**

- Welcomes everyone and wants to know where we are and what he can do.

**Report of the Chief of Training: Jim Litevich**

- VTC will host 5 burns, with the postponement of the April 2<sup>nd</sup> live fire that was postponed due to the snowstorm.
- Over the next two months there is at least one live fire a weekend.
- Attempt to conduct an annual Fire Officer course at the Academy.
- Brattleboro will be finishing Fire Officer II in August.
- 7 Flashover's scheduled between regional fire school's and Firefighter II programs this spring, available for federal funding.
- Update of Two State weekend and the great response we had for those hosted at the VFA.
- Update on Online, Tech Rescue and Water Rescue in Brattleboro.
- Vermont Yankee has been using the VFA site for training this year.
- No NFA funding number has been announced yet.
- Discussion of the Firefighter I/II combined.

**Committee Reports**

**Curriculum Committee – Neil Fulton**

- Discussion of hours for each class, handouts were sent out in advance.
- Discussion of pre-requisites needed for PADO and Aerial programs.
- Driver training pre-requisite of valid driver's license.
- Aerial and Pumper driver apparatus course prerequisites are: FF I for certification, the EVO course and a valid driver's license. Certificate of attendance for those that had those but not FF I certification.
- With the success of the online FF I Chief Litevich would like to move forward and see Fire Instructor I, Firefighter II and Fire Officer I and II however, each offering would need one person to Lead and discussion of what would need to be done to move forward.
- Discussion of VTC use of Firefighter I/II combined and their comparison to the National model.
- Neil Fulton would like the curriculum committee to come back to the Council next meeting for their support of a hybrid online course for Firefighter I and II, Firefighter I/II combined, Fire Instructor and Fire Officer I/II
- Maloska says that VTC will go ahead with their program using the same layout that Ruggles is using in his Concord/Waterford FFI/II combined class this year and modifying it with online such as ICS-100b and some of the stuff that Jones and Bartlett has online. Maloska says that VTC will emphasize practicals and those without practical's they will try to do online.
- Online student evaluation results will be brought in front of the Council at the next meeting.
- Curriculum committee will look into the online delivery of Firefighter I and Firefighter II and Fire Instructor I and Fire Officer I and II and report to the Council next meeting for a vote.
- Discussion of the updating the LP Gas/Flammable Gas program.

- NFPA is coming out with an electric vehicle program. They offer the Train the Trainer program for free but delivery/offering is not free. Offering available online for free. Dept of Energy is trying to get delivery funding.

**Statue & Policy Review Committee – Neil Fulton**

- Clarity of the EVDT, Aerial and Pumper Driver Training course prerequisites.  
Discussion of the equivalency of EVDT and EVO

**Unfinished business:**

- Discussion of Tech Rescue programs still being in Pilot mode since we have not been able to deliver any yet.
- Chief Litevich would like the Council to only allow that reciprocity be given to those whose certification only goes back two editions back of the NFPA standards in regards to Haz Mat Operations.
- *Motion that from here on out that Hazardous Materials Operation will be accepted per NFPA 472 back to the two previous editions. Motion by Collette, seconded by Chief Barber...motion carries.*
- Discussion of Aerial program and how VT is waiting for NH to schedule one, but they have a new director which has slowed things down.
- Discussion of where the RIT program stands. Still waiting on Jones and Bartlett.
- Collette asked both the Commissioner and Litevich where the minor issue is standing. Commissioner says that he will ask the legal team again.

**New Business:**

- Collette asked when the minutes will be updated online. Litevich informs him that we are in the process of redoing the whole division on the website.
- Collette asked if the Fire Academy has a listing of all courses available and what they entail and the cost of delivery.

**Vermont Career Chiefs: Absent**

- No Report

**Vermont State Firefighters Assn.: Al Barber**

- No Report

**Vermont Chief's: Wendall Mansfield**

- No Report

**Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec.: Lars Lund**

- Spring classes are under way.
- New hires taking FF I courses even though they might not be part of Fire Department
- Willing to teach the Wildland courses for FF I Tech courses.
- Springfield Wildland trailer will bring their total trailers in the state to 4.

**Professional Firefighter's of Vermont – Aaron Collette**

- PFFV hosted a conference in Burlington as a donation to Steve Costello's family.
- Thanks VFA to publish/market this.
- Bi-annual convention in early June.

**Insurance Report:**

- No Report

**General Public Report: Lenny**

- No Report

**Any other business, as it relates to the Council:**

- Fire equipment was delivered around the state as part of a Wildland grant.
- In the process of redoing the VPA firing range which should no longer conflict with VFA classes.
- New Director of the Criminal Justice Training Center should be there by July.

**Motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.**

Next meeting scheduled for **Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the VFA** administration building in Pittsford at 9 am.

