

Minutes of the October 7th 2013 meeting held at the Division of Fire Safety Central office in Berlin.

Roll Call:

<u>Organization Representatives / or Sub</u>	<u>Ex-Officio Members</u>
Vt. Career Chief Assn.	Absent
Dept. of Education	Alexander Northern
Vt. Fire Chiefs Assn.	Wendall Mansfield
Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec.	Lars Lund
Vt. Professional FF	Aaron Collette
Dept. of Health	Christopher Bell
Vt. State FF Assn.	Al Barber
Dept. of Labor	Absent
VT Domestic Insurance Rep.	Gary Ouellette
Div. of Fire Safety	Mike Desroches – Director of Public Safety
General Public	John Marcus
Committee Chair	Neil Fulton

Visitors: James Litevich
Terry Farr
Gene Perkins

Introduction of the new Director of the Division of Fire Safety, Mike Desroches

Report from the Division: Mike Desroches (Director):

- Budget is being submitted. Looking to add inspector positions.
- Financially the Division is doing well.
- Division was able to hire a Fire Safety Building engineer.

Report of the Chief of Training: James Litevich

- Discussion of the 10-year plan to convert the Pittsford Campus into a convention center for OPD, Criminal Justice, VFA and Corrections.
- Legislature wants to hear one voice from the facility with a coordinated plan that takes care of everyone.
- Discussion of if the VFA needs more money from The Domestic Insurance company.
- Discussion of informational sheet that Chief Litevich put together.
- Discussion of online versus live class students.
- Discussion of the dropout rate and potential causes of it.
- No Report on Aerial class.
- Inspector I course development is underway and discussion of it.
- CPAT end of the month.
- Discussion of NFA programs, both in Emmitsburg and direct delivery in VT.
- Discussion of USAR training courses coming up.
- Discussion of the VTC digester and where it is being built.
- Discussion of state agencies trying to find a location to build a driving facility.
- Discussion of the different little classes that the Haz Mat Team delivers to local departments.
- Discussion of the geographic locations and numbers for the Firefighter I and II and Combined programs.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee – Neil Fulton

- No report

Statute & Policy Review Committee – Fulton

- RIT program is still being worked on.

Unfinished business:

- Discussion of an email that Dan Zimmer sent out about an alternative Highway Safety course.
- Discussion of how the alternative online programs is.
- *Collette makes the motion to allow Responder Safety Learning Network as an alternative/equivalent program to the VFIS program. Second by Barber. Motion passes unanimously.*

New Business:

- Discussion of the how/why VTC and other high school non-VFA affiliated Firefighter I courses will be using the Challenge process with eight stations.
- Discussion of what is on a Firefighter I trailer.
- Discussion of VFA no longer providing VTC a trailer because our trailers are all assigned to VFA sponsored courses.
- Barber asks Northern for a list of equipment lists so that the Council can reach out departments around the state and maybe get the equipment they need.
- Use of SME's with the development of the Fire Inspector I program, which means the new curriculum development process is being used.
- Discussion of how the VFA transitioned to the new Jones and Bartlett Edition and used SME's.
- Discussion of 10 year PPE expiration and how the Academy deals with it.
- Discussion of if the VFA should be conducting Mask Fit Testing on VFA students.
- Discussion of the forms that are handed out at orientation and adding a new form that asks that students be fit tested and have the proper gear.
- Discussion of Aerial Course student minimum being lowered.

Lars Lund makes a motion that Aerial course minimum be five students per aerial apparatus available and practicals require 2 instructors per 5 students. Motion passes unanimously.

Collette makes a motion that PADO student minimum be 15 students. Motion passes unanimously.

Department of Education: Alex Northern

- No Report

Department of Health – Christopher Bell

- No Report

Career Chief's report – Absent

Vermont State Firefighters Assn.: Al Barber

- No report

Vermont Chief's: Wendall Mansfield

- No report

Dept. of Forest, Park & Rec. – Lund

- Attended a Wildland Fire Investigator conference.
- It was suggested to Lars that air quality tests be conducted prior to giving out burn permits.

Professional Firefighters- Aaron Collette

- No report

Insurance: Gary Ouellette

- No report

General Public – John Marcus

- No report

Other Business:

- None

General Public – John Marcus

-No report

Collette makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lund. Motion to adjourn passes unanimously.

Next meeting scheduled for **Monday, January 6th at the Vermont Fire Academy in Pittsford** at 9 am.