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LIEUTENANT PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the January 5, 2022 Meeting
Webex**

Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:10 am on January 5, 2022.

Members roll call attendance: Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros, Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Fire Marshal Michael Swain, Chief Dave Celino, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier, Chief Frank Barresi, Assistant Kurt Ruchala, Firefighter Billy Cabral, and Jason Cardoso.

Also present were State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney, Director of Operations Dave Clemons, Special Hazards Coordinator Paul Betti, MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, Curriculum Specialist Sara Walsh, Webex monitor Linda Crowley, and Administrative Assistant Susan Neaz.

Not present: Chief Richard DeLorie, Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, Chief Sheri Bemis, Ret., Chief Richard Donovan and Chief Tim Nelson.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Firefighter Billy Cabral made a motion, seconded by Chief Frank Barresi, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Training Council Meeting. The roll call vote was nine (9) in favor and one (1) abstention of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

Deputy Marshal Maribel Fournier noted that the trust fund balance is -\$16,547.28, however the open receivables from gas training is outstanding and when paid will put us in the black. No concerns with the fund and we're scheduled to be in the positive by the end of the year.

C. Update of Affiliated Members - Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts

- Chief Nelson--representing part paid/part call – not present
- Chief Delorie--representing metro – not present
- Chief Barresi--representing call – nothing to report
- Chief Donovan--representing full-time -not present

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Firefighter Cabral—Monthly meeting is coming up.

- Lieutenant Medeiros—CT scan testing has begun and members are signing up. New legislative session begins soon. Receiving questions regarding mandates for recruits.

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller--nothing to report
- Assistant Chief Ruchala—nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Assistant Chief Connerty--nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Fire Marshal Michael Swain—We continue to hold in-person monthly meetings but that may change.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso—nothing to report.

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Chief Dave Celino—Presented wildland fire data collection for 2021: # of fires: 1,134; acres burned: 1,676; resident homes threatened: 306; resident home damaged: 15; 102 other structures impacted and DCR assisted in 230 fires. A lot of fire activity takes place in March, April and May. We are trying to extend our seasonal staff beyond March as activity increases.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Ret. Chief Sheri Bemis—not present

D. Legislative Update –DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney

- The legislative session begins on Friday 1-7-2022. Note of interest for the fire service was a article in the legislation that \$4 million is being set aside for sprinklers in certified sober homes through a grant program.

E. DFS Update – Fire Marshal Ostroskey

- Continuing to take a look at our services with regard to the pandemic, we are in a great position to continue these services. We will continue to monitor the situation in order to protect our staff on our campuses and in the field.
- We're doing a lot of work on PFAS items, including the work being done on cancer awareness. We continue efforts to clean up Stow and have additional treatment options available.
- We accepted the master planning document for Bridgewater and are actively working with DCAMM, our architect and engineering on plans for the water reclamation system.
- Working with Boards and Commissions groups to submit annual reporting to EOPSS.

F. Academy Activities Report - Deputy Marshal Fournier

- Update on Director's position – posted since mid-November; we will do another push to other sites over the next couple months. So far, we have 11 applicants.
- Backfills on full-time positions – new Registration Coordinator and Office Support Specialist will begin on 1-18-2022.
- New instructor positions were posted and we have about 16 applicants so far. Staff Services is conducting interviews. We have 25 openings and once those are filled, we will post for another 25 instructors sometime in March.
- Recruit assignment list: filling the March class in Springfield – currently 20 in that; filling Bridgewater August class and the July Stow – total of 214.

- DFS and MFA will be participating in the FCAM conference in early March. Members of Staff Services will be doing some heavy recruiting trying to get instructors. We have not seen any impact from COVID in the field or on campus and have been able to maintain services.
- Starting FY22 mid-year budget review – will have program coordinators do an assessment of the programs they have coming up this semester.
- Assistant Chief Connerty noted that he is under the understanding that the civil service list will be coming out in March. They have put a hold on hiring from the list and they will be coming out with the list every year instead of every two years.

F. Old Business

- Training Council Annual Report – Draft – Glenn Rooney suggested that a discussion be opened if anyone had any edits to the document. Assistant Chief Connerty made a motion, seconded by Firefighter Billy Cabral, to accept the annual report as drafted and for DFS staff to submit to the Governor’s office and to EOPSS. Jonathan Miller appreciated the report would like the Council to get a better understanding of Academy curriculum so that we may better fulfill our responsibilities and to possibly report on the future goals of the Academy. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. New Business

- MFTC chairman and Vice Chairman Election – Firefighter Billy Cabral made a motion to nominate Lieutenant Paul Medeiros for Chairman of the Training Council and Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty seconded the motion. Chairman Paul Medeiros accepted the nomination. Chief Dave Celino closed the nomination and the roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty made a motion to nominate Chief Tim Nelson for Vice Chairman and Chief Dave Celino seconded the motion. Chief Nelson was not in attendance and therefore a motion was made by Firefighter Billy Cabral to table the nomination motion until the next meeting and Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Fire Marshal Swain announced that he is retiring in February and will have to resign from the Council. He will be in attendance for the next meeting.

H. Policy Presentation/Adoption

I. Review of Correspondence

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 11:00 am. Meeting venue will be announced as it gets closer to the date.

L. Public Comment

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Assistant Chief Connerty made a motion, seconded by Marshal Swain, to adjourn the meeting at 11:55. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.