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LIEUTENANT PAUL J. MEDEIROS  
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council  
Minutes of the June 2, 2021 Meeting**

Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council via webex with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:05 am on June 2, 2021.

Roll call attendance: Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier, Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros, Fire Marshal Michael Swain, Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Chief David Celino, Chief Richard DeLorie, Jason Cardoso, Chief Frank Barresi, Chief Tim Nelson, and Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala.

Also present were DFS Counsel Steven Rourke, DFS Deputy Counsel Glenn Rooney, Director of Operations Dave Clemons, MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, Assistant Chief Tim Choate, Educational Specialist Sara Praguski Walsh, Call/Vol Coordinator Chris Norris, Linda Crowley (host), and Administrative Assistant Susan Neaz.

Not present: Firefighter Billy Cabral, Chief Richard Donovan, and Retired Chief Sheri Bemis

**A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chief Rick DeLorie made a motion, seconded by Chief Dave Celino, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2021 Training Council Meeting. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**B. Fiscal Affairs Report**

Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier presented the MFA Trust Fund report for the period of 3/28/21 through 4/17/21. We still have open contracts and the receivables are coming in. We expect to be in the positive at the end of the year.

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

- Chief Nelson –representing part paid/part call –nothing to report
- Chief Delorie - representing metro –we had our first in-person metro meeting in Lexington; terrific to be in person again.
- Chief Barresi - representing call – nothing to report
- Chief Donovan – representing full-time – not present

**Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts**

- Firefighter Cabral – not present

- Lieutenant Medeiros – Departments are hiring and I have received calls about moving up in the career recruit list.

### **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 – nothing new

### **Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry**

- Jason Cardoso – nothing to report

### **Bureau of Forest Fire Control**

- Chief Celino – 775 wildland fires since January 1<sup>st</sup>. Over 300 resident homes were threatened. We've seen an uptick in Volunteer Assistance grants. Not a lot of training right now with the fire departments but hopefully we expect it will ramp up.

### **Citizens of the Commonwealth**

- Ret. Chief Sheri Bemis – not present

### **D. Legislative Update –Counsel Steve Rourke**

- There will be a public safety hearing on June 9 and there a number of fire related bills. We'll keep an eye on those bills and report back on any movement.

### **E. DFS Update/Academy Activities Report –Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier**

- Starting after the next three classes on June 14, the assignment list is 153. Filling July for Springfield; Stow and Bridgewater November class. Remain at 24 in Stow and two classes of 18 will begin in Bridgewater.
- The governor has been made changes and therefore on July 1 we will start open mixed classes of 100% capacity. We looking at a hybrid model for full time employees and will have details next week.
- Interviews for the three candidates for the Director will be next week with myself and the Chairman on the interview team. Maybe we'll have a director by the September meeting.
- The search & rescue prop bids will be out next week and will close the first week in July.
- Relative to the master plan for Bridgewater, we are having planning meetings and working group meetings weekly.
- The CT scan program has nearly 500 approved participants and will end this month. We have re-drafted the new bid for posting. It will also include an advanced blood test.
- Still going through the FY22 budget process.
- Counsel Rourke noted the governor's executive order is repealed effective June 15; back to the Open Meeting Law. He filed a bill to extend some of the remote participation. The Council will need a physical quorum unless the it votes to have remote participation. Chairman noted the Council does not meeting in July & August. In-person meeting will take place in September.

### **F. Old Business**

## **G. New Business**

### **I. Policy Presentation/Adoption**

- Recommendation from Policy Sub-Committee: Career Recruit Rules & Regulations Revision. Chairman Medeiros reported the Deputy Marshal reviewed the changes to the section on deficiency points and the Committee discussed the changes with regard to the change in standard and program. Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty made a motion, seconded by Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, to adopt the changes by the full Council. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

### **H. Review of Correspondence**

### **K. Determination of Next Date and Location**

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 11:00 am tentatively in Bridgewater.

### **L. Public Comment**

### **M. Adjourn Meeting**

- Assistant Chief Connerty made a motion, seconded by Chief Nelson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:45. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.