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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Massachusetts Fire Training Council*

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CHIEF CHRISTOPHER MADDEN
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the October 2, 2024 Meeting**

Chairman Christopher Madden opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and began the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:04 am on October 2, 2024, in the Boards and Commissions Room.

Members attendance: Chairman Chief Christopher Madden, Chief Justin Alexander, Chief Fire Warden David Celino, Capt. John Bonadio, Capt. John Lombardo, Chief Francis Barresi, Asst. Chief Jonathan Miller, Capt. Drew Piemonte, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Acting MFA Director, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier

Also present were State Fire Marshal Jon Davine, DFS General Counsel Glenn Rooney, Instructional Design and Curriculum Development Specialist Sara Praguski Walsh, MFA Deputy Director Dennis Ball, Christine Dansereau and Administrative Secretary Susan Mondy Sykes

Not present: Chairman Firefighter William Cabral, Mary Clare Higgins and Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chief Francis Barresi made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2024, Training Council Meeting, seconded by Capt. John Bonadio. The vote passed all in favor of the motion with one (1) abstention (Chief Justin Alexander).

B. Fiscal Affairs Report – Acting MFA Director, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier

- **Trust Fund Report:** Ended fiscal year for the Trust approx. -\$185,000 --normal to start but will increase as outstanding funds are received.

C. EOPSS Update – Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey -- not present

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

- Chief Madden – FCAM will set legislative agenda next meeting and will prioritize bills.
- Chief Barresi – nothing to report
- Chief Justin Alexander – nothing to report
- Vacant (part call/part paid)

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Firefighter Cabral—not present
- Capt. Piemonte – nothing to report

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller—
 - The fall issue of Smoke Showin' is now available online: [Smoke Showin' Current Issue](#)
 - During the Fire & Life Safety Education Conference on 9/18-19 MCVFA president Mike Goldstein was honored to introduce the keynote presenter, Tammy Pozerycki,
 - Region IV meeting was held on 9/25 in Leverett
 - OSHA public hearings starting 11/12 – MCVFA leadership will testify on call/vol FF behalf regarding OSHA's proposal for further regulation of fire departments
 - MCVFA Annual Meeting Saturday 11/2 at Upton Fire Station, starting at 08:00
- Assistant Chief Ruchala— nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Capt. John Bonadio – nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Lt. John Lombardo –Going to ask the membership to put together a group to work with Certification Group hoping to get the Fire Prevention Officer credentialing into a ProBoard certification.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Community Action

- Mary Clare Higgins—not present
- **Bureau of Forest Fire Control -- Chief Fire Warden David Celino** – we're currently in a drought induced wildfire season. We're still below the 5-year average for acres burned—about 535. We have 1 person out on western mobilization. Monitoring EMAC requests to help if needed. We will begin prescribed burns in southeastern part of the state in October if weather continues to cooperate.

Citizen of the Commonwealth

- Vacant

E. Legislative Update – DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney

- Update -- Building code 10th Edition will go into effect on October 11th with a concurrency period with the 9th edition.
- **DFS Update – Marshal Jon Davine**
- Beginning stages of looking into Community Risk Reduction software to provide communities with CRR software.
- The new ISU trailer had successful first deployment to the Big E and received good feedback. It is up and operational if any Chiefs' Associations are interested in a demonstration or if it is needed it for an event—contact DFS.
- FY26 budgets have been submitted and are being reviewed.

- Fire equipment grant paperwork has been sent out.
- SAFE grant should be available by 10/15.
- Dave Clemons busy with the preparations for the 250th anniversary of the battles of Concord and Lexington taking place on Saturday and Sunday, April 17 and 18, 2025. And Monday is the Boston Marathon.
- EMAC requests over weekend from North Carolina after Hurricane Helene for engine company strike force and swift water rescue. Six (6) departments were interested and available for deployment. We submitted package Monday afternoon but were notified Tuesday evening they were no longer needed. Dave Clemons will work with MEMA to possibly offer seminars in how to prepare paperwork for these requests.
- Glenn Rooney and Rachel Perlman have been out presenting supervisory liability in the fire service—they continue to update and revise the presentation with feedback on the information presented. Next virtual delivery has about 200 people registered.
- Dennis Ball Deputy Director Training MFA asked to work with Hayden Duggen to create an Internal CISM group for DFS/MFA for any incidents that could occur similar to what happened with Mass. State Police training academy recently.
- **DFS Update – Deputy Marshal Maribel Fournier**
- Presented MFA Director Job Description for informational purposes; should be posted before the end of October.
- Bridgewater Campus update: Phase 1 infrastructure being done now; footings for Class A burn building have been poured; three 40,000-gal water reclamation tanks are in the ground. Next step is second floor of burn building. Putting out advertisement for Phase 2 for hiring architect to design firehouse and crib.

MFA Update – Acting Director Deputy Marshal Maribel Fournier

- Several Program Coordinator (PC) and Assistant Program Coordinator (AC) positions have been posted and others to be posted: including Flammable Gas, HazMat, Public Safety covering ASHER and Fire Investigator, AC Certification and PC and AC for Call/Volunteer. Some of these positions are in the interviewing process or hiring process or waiting to be posted. Full time PC for Recruit is reviewing applications.
- Recruit classes: we're filling classes: Stow -- December 30 class with 4 openings; Bridgewater – February class with 21 openings; Springfield filling January class with 24 openings.
- ProBoard accreditation possibly happening in November; waiting for date confirmation.

Old Business – none

New Business –

- Capt. Bonadio asked question about Recruit Program JPRs process how they are selected.
- Deputy Director Fournier said they are based on the NFPA standard and as provided on the certification exam and skills sheets.

Policy Presentation/Adoption – MFA Director -- none

Review of Correspondence -- none

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- Policy Sub-committee needs to meet 15 minutes prior to the next council meeting to approve minutes from September 4, 2024, policy sub-committee meeting.
- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 11:00 am at the DFS/MFA Bridgewater Campus in Classroom 135.

- **Public Comment -- none**

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Chief Justin Alexander motioned to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Asst. Chief Ruchala. Voted unanimously to adjourn at 12:34 p.m.