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CHIEF CHRISTOPHER MADDEN  
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council  
Minutes of the November 6, 2024 Meeting**

Chairman Chief Christopher Madden opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and began the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:10 am on November 6, 2024, in Room 135 at the DFS/MFA Bridgewater Campus, 911 Conant St., Bridgewater, MA.

Members attendance: Chairman Chief Christopher Madden, Chief Justin Alexander, Capt. John Bonadio, Capt. John Lombardo, Chief Francis Barresi, Firefighter William Cabral, Asst. Chief Jonathan Miller, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey, Acting MFA Director, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier

Also present: DFS General Counsel Glenn Rooney, Deputy Director of Operations David Clemons, MFA Deputy Director Dennis Ball, and Administrative Secretary Susan Mondy Sykes, and members of the public.

Not present: Chief Fire Warden David Celino, Capt. Drew Piemonte, Mary Clare Higgins and State Fire Marshal Jon Davine.

**A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chief Justin Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2024, Training Council Meeting, seconded by Chief Francis Barresi. The vote passed all in favor of the motion.

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

- **Trust Fund Report:** Final Trust Fund Analysis shows ending balance of \$216,168.68 to carryover to FY25.

**C. EOPSS Update – Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey** – nothing to report; however, would like to extend appreciation and support of Chief Fire Warden David Celino and all Firefighters in the Commonwealth who have been battling the wildfires throughout the state.

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

- Chief Madden – nothing to report
- Chief Barresi – nothing to report
- Chief Justin Alexander – nothing to report
- Vacant (part call/part paid)

#### **Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts**

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

#### **Mass Call/Vol**

- Assistant Chief Miller—MCVFA had their annual meeting on 11/2/24; nothing to report at this time
- 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 –after meeting with the membership, would like to request a meeting with MFA and the FPAM President to begin discussions on getting 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 – not present

#### **Citizen of the Commonwealth**

- Vacant

#### **E. Legislative Update – DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney**

- Update – special meeting of the BBRS on October 21 for the Building code 10<sup>th</sup> Edition which will run a 6-month concurrency period with the 9<sup>th</sup> edition through June 30, 2025.

#### **DFS Update – State Fire Marshal Jon Davine -- not present**

#### **DFS and MFA Updates – Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier**

- Reminder that Firefighter of the Year awards is November 18, 2024, at Mechanics Hall in Worcester.
- White Powder Symposium at Gillette Stadium is next Friday, November 15, 2024, and is still open for enrollment.
- Submitted FY26 budget last week to EOPSS and A&F for review.
- Busy with brush fire reports; thankful to Chief Fire Warden Celino, National Guard and MEMA for all the hard work.

- MFA Director Job posting has been approved by EOPSS; we are drafting the advertisements for several different outlets, and it should be released this week.

#### **MFA Update – Acting Director Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier**

- Full time Program Coordinator position for Recruit is in the first round of the interview process.
- Recruit classes: filling classes: Stow – February 3 class with 8 openings; Bridgewater –February 18 class with 7 openings; Springfield filling January 6 class with 13 openings.
- Call/Volunteer classes: Bridgewater – December class full, with 5 on waiting list; Stow – February class with 14 openings; Springfield/South Deerfield class with 26 openings.
- Still working on getting all the Program Coordinator and Assistant Program Coordinator positions advertised and filled.
- Call/Volunteer Program Coordinator and Assistant Program Coordinator positions have been drafted in MassCareers and should be released shortly to begin the process to fill those positions.

#### **Old Business – none**

#### **New Business –**

- 2024 Annual Report review – discussed retirements and resignations; new members; new policies; updating basic information; draft to be provided at next meeting.
- MFTC membership vacancies—DFS has submitted the names received to Governor’s Office for consideration of the 2 vacant positions: 1 for Citizen of Commonwealth and 1 for FCAM for Part Paid/Part Call.

#### **Policy Presentation/Adoption – MFA Director -- none**

#### **Review of Correspondence –**

- Letter from Chief Glenn Davis Town of Lynnfield – SAFER grant for 4 firefighters to have 4 seats available in Career Recruit Class 329 beginning January 30, 2025. Acting Director Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier indicated the Academy will have the 4 seats secured for them.

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

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 11:00 am in the Boards and Commissions Room at the DFS Stow Campus.

#### **• Public Comment -- none**

#### **M. Adjourn Meeting**

- Asst. Chief Jonathan Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Chief Justin Alexander. Voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:38 a.m.