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LIEUTENANT PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the December 2, 2020 Meeting**

Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council via webex with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:07 am on December 2, 2020.

Roll call attendance: Chief David Celino, Fire Marshal Michael Swain, Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty (arrived after roll call attendance), MFA Director Dave Evans, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Vice Chairman Chief Tim Nelson, Retired Chief Sheri Bemis, Jason Cardoso, Chief Richard Donovan, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Chairman Lieutenant Paul Medeiros, Chief Richard DeLorie, Chief Frank Barresi, and Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe

Also present were Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier, Operations Director David Clemons, DFS Counsel Steven Rourke, DFS Deputy Counsel Glen Rooney, MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, Assistant Chief Tim Choate, Educational Specialist Sara Praguski Walsh, and Call/Vol Program Coordinator Chris Norris.

Not present: Firefighter William Cabral.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chief Richard Donovan made a motion, seconded by Chief Richard DeLorie, to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 Training Council Meeting. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

Director Evans presented the MFA Trust Fund report for the period of 10-25-20 through 11-21-2020. You'll see on the report that we're in the red over \$110,000. Training has been conducted and we are in the process of billing and receiving monies for this training. We continue to quote departments for requested training.

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

- Chief Nelson –representing part paid/part call –nothing to report
- Chief Delorie - representing metro – nothing to report
- Chief Barresi - representing call – nothing to report
- Chief Donovan – representing full-time – nothing to report

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Lt. Medeiros – has questions and has received calls regarding certification; will bring up in new business.
- Firefighter Cabral – not present

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller – nothing to report but will reach out to the group
- 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 to report; next FPAM meeting is next week.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso – nothing to report

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Thank you to the Fire Marshal's office for always working with our fire district wardens. So far for 2020, there have been 1,889 fires for a total acreage of 769. Fire departments kept fires under an acre. We are planning training for when it is safe to do so.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Ret. Chief Sheri Bemis – nothing to report

D. Legislative Update –Counsel Steve Rourke

- Nothing new on the legislative side.

E. DFS Update –Fire Marshal Ostroskey

- We are sad to lose Dave Evans but wish him well.
- The department has been actively updating fire codes and the Fire Service Division is continuing code compliance.
- There have been positive COVID-19 test results of students and instructors. Both the MFA and Facilities staff have kept up safety protocols.
- DCAMM's studies on props for Bridgewater is moving forward.
- The FY21 budget is in good shape for the Department. We have full funding of the SAFE program as more departments are involved.

F. Academy Activities Report –Director Evans

- The Academy has had recent COVID exposure issues with Career and C/V Recruit. Notifications have been made to students, staff, instructors, and chiefs.
- The Academy follows CDC, DPH & DFS Protocols for screenings, masks, and social distancing. The EMS Coordinator has instituted and re-instituted safety protocols for agency.
- Career Recruit combined graduation on 12/4/2020 Stow 287, Bridgewater BW06, and Springfield S-19.
- Class Assignment Lists:
 - Bridgewater: 25 Recruits, currently filling BW-11 (Start 2/22/21) 12 seats available
 - Springfield: 4 Recruits, currently filling S-23 (Start 1/25/21) 5 seats available

- Stow: 48 Recruits, currently filling 293 (Start 3/22/21) 7 seats available
Total: 77
- Call/Volunteer:
 - Springfield: Class 088 – Graduation 12/12/2020
 - Essex County (Hamilton): 089 – Grad 3/3/2021
 - Western Mass (Leicester): 090 – Grad 3/4/2021
 - Stow: 091 – Feb – June
 - BW: 092 – Feb – June (Full – 16 on Waitlist)
- Certification upcoming exams:
 - SPFD – 12/12/2020 Open Written
 - Stow – 12/19/2020 Open Written
 - BW – 12/29/2020 Open Written
- Course Deliveries/Restart:
 - Fire Officer 1 – Completed 12/1 & Finish 12/28
 - Fire Officer 2 – Finish 12/10 & 12/30
 - Fire Instructor 1 – Started 12/1 (75 students)
 - Flashover – 12/5 Easthampton
 - MPO – Gloucester (3/11, 4/21, 6/4)
 - Live Fire Quals – 12/7
 - ICS – Structural Collapse – 12/21
 - Contract Hires: Brookline & Gloucester
- Kevin Robinson has been promoted to Certification Program Coordinator; he has been doing the job since Bob Rand retired.

G. Old Business

H. New Business

- Chairman Medeiros inquired about notification to the Training Council regarding Academy COVID positive tests. Counsel Rourke and Deputy Counsel Rooney responded that persons in close contact with the positive case were notified only. Ultimately, Training Council members will be notified of a positive case, with no specifics as to person's name or department, so that members' will have information if they need to notify their constituencies.
- Ret. Chief Bemis is on committee for new edition of IFSTA Aerial & Engine Operators manual; manual will be out in 2025.

I. Policy Presentation/Adoption

I. Review of Correspondence

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be Wednesday January 6, 2021 at 11:00 am via webex call unless otherwise noted.

L. Public Comment

- Tim Choate asked the Marshal for a timeline of release of the new fire code; sub-committee will be meeting soon.
- Chairman Medeiros asked members to keep the Worcester Fire Department in their prayers as the anniversary of the Worcester Six LODD is tomorrow.

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Director Evans made a motion, seconded by Chairman Medeiros, to adjourn the meeting at 12:10. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.