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CHIEF CHRISTOPHER MADDEN  
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council  
Minutes of the March 5, 2025 Meeting**

Chairman Chief Christopher Madden opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and began the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:08 am on March 5, 2025, in the Boards and Commissions Room, Stow Campus, 1 State Rd, Stow, MA.

Members attendance: Chairman Chief Christopher Madden, Chief Francis Barresi, Capt. John Bonadio, Capt. John Lombardo, Asst. Chief Jonathan Miller, Chief Fire Warden David Celino, Chief Andrew Puntini, Capt. Drew Piemonte, Dr. Michael Goldstein, Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey and Acting MFA Director, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier

Also present: State Fire Marshal Jon Davine, DFS General Counsel Glenn Rooney, Deputy Director of Operations David Clemons, Instructional Design and Curriculum Development Specialist Sara Praguski Walsh and Administrative Secretary Christine Dansereau.

Not present: Firefighter William Cabral, Mary Clare Higgins and Chief Justin Alexander.

**A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Michael Goldstein made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2025, Training Council Meeting, seconded by Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey. The vote passed all in favor of the motion.

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

- The report is from January 18<sup>th</sup> to February 14<sup>th</sup>. The beginning balance is \$502k. We received \$53k in revenue. We have \$72k out in receivables and some other contracts that are pending.

**EOPSS Update – Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey – nothing to report**

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

- Chief Madden – Metro Fire meets tomorrow, March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Chief Barresi – the Call/Vol class in Bridgewater is full, there is still a demand out there for that.
- Chief Justin Alexander – not present
- Chief Andrew Puntini (part call/part paid) - nothing to report

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

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

### **Mass Call/Vol**

- Assistant Chief Miller— things are going great. Fire extinguisher prop moved across the state.
- Dr. Michael Goldstein— nothing to report

### **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors**

- Capt. John Bonadio – nothing to report

### **Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts**

- Capt. John Lombardo – FPAM educational conference will be in May in Southbridge. We are trying to line up the presenters.

### **Citizen of the Commonwealth – Community Action**

- Mary Clare Higgins— nothing to report

**Bureau of Forest Fire Control – Chief Fire Warden David Celino** – Our fire season off and running. We have shy of 50 fires in the system. Devens has a 15-acre fire in the system. Our staffing has not changed as far as the start dates of March 9<sup>th</sup>, we have 9 vacancies have been posted to be filled. Coming out of the fires in the Fall and in California, there is interest in communities producing wildfire protection plans or strengthening the wildfire portion of their local hazard risk assessment. There are 3 communities that applied for the community wildfire defense grant, Lowell, Lynn and Barnstable County. As expected, there have been a lot of requests for training.

### **Citizen of the Commonwealth**

- Vacant

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

- The bills that have been filed have been referred to committee and the assignments are still being made.

### **E. DFS Update – State Fire Marshal Jon Davine –**

- We did the second round interviews for the MFA Directors position on Monday.
- Our safe grants went up to EOPSS and we are waiting to get the ok on those.
- Today at noon, we have fire officials from Paraguay visiting DFS this afternoon. They have a large wildfire problem in Paraguay, so Chief Fire Warden Dave Celino and Deputy Fire Warden Andy Regan are going to give them a presentation on wildfires.
- Senior Fire Officer Forum went out the other day and is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>. The presenter will be the Captain from Las Vegas who does the solar panels, scooter bikes and battery storage.

- Fire equipment grants deadline has passed so we are working on putting that together and getting that out.
- Call Vol had a graduation last night in Lynnfield and they have one tonight in Stow and we have a Career Recruit graduation on Friday.

**F. DFS and MFA Updates – Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier**

- Pro Board accreditation visit went extremely well on February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Our application has gone through the review process and will be up at the April meeting.
- We have filled several coordinator and assistant coordinator roles. The program coordinator for Call/Volunteer, tonight will be Chief Chris Norris' last graduation. He served that role for 12 years. Chief Rob Rogowski will be taking over the Call/Volunteer program. The Assistant Coordinator position that Chief Mike Dupuis held and has stepped down, we are filling that position now. There are two Assistant Coordinator positions for the Fire Officer program posted.
- Full time positions that are being filled is the Recruit Program Coordinator, an Office Support Specialist in Registration, we have two openings. We gave two offers and only one accepted. The Administrative Assistant for the MFA Director has been posted.
- Update on the Bridgewater site. The current project is still underway now that the ground is thawed out. The work on the electrical underground infrastructure is underway. Masonry work is being done on the burn building. We are in study and design for project b which is for the firehouse and crib room an architect has been chosen.

Wait list numbers for career recruit, 332 in Stow that starts on 6/26, has 14 seats, BW36 in Bridgewater that starts 7/21 has 14 seats, and S42 that starts on 7/28 has 22 seats. The website with current registration status' <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/mfa-recruit-class-calendars>

**G. Old Business – nothing to report**

**H. New Business –**

- **Cadet program update** – DFS General Counsel Glenn Rooney - as discussed at the last training council meeting, the training council now has the responsibility of evaluating cadet programs. This will be a joint approval process with HRD. To be discussed at the next meeting is a draft evaluation form that has been created that offers some criteria that the training council can look at. Does the cadet program need to meet some, all most of the criteria in the evaluation.
- Subcommittee will meet prior to the next training council meeting on the criteria evaluation
- **Donation from PGANE** – DFS General Counsel Glenn Rooney - pursuant to the chapter 6 section 165a, when the academy accepts any kind of donations, they are subject to the approval of the training council. PGANE is generously looking to donate \$55k to the academy to make necessary upgrades, repairs and improvements to the above ground storage tank in the gas school.
  - **Captain John Lombardo motioned to accept the PGANE donation and seconded by Chief Frank Barresi. Voted unanimously by roll call.**

**I. Policy Presentation/Adoption – nothing to report**

**J. Review of Correspondence – nothing to report**

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

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 11 am via Microsoft Teams.

**L. Public Comment -- none**

**M. Adjourn Meeting**

Captain John Lombardo motioned to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Captain Drew Piemonte .  
Voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn at 12:00 pm.