**Massachusetts Fire Training Council**

**Minutes of the March 8, 2017 Meeting**

Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:15 am on March 8, 2017 at the Department of Fire Services, Classroom 127. He began with a request for a nomination from the Council for a Chairperson to run the meeting because the Chairman and Vice Chairman were not present. Chief William Scoble made a motion, seconded by Deputy Director Klucznik, to nominate Robert Craig to chair the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Members in attendance were: Undersecretary Patrick McMurray, Captain Rick Tustin, Lt. Drew Piemonte, Captain Kurt Ruchala (left after the State Fire Marshal’s presentation), Chief William Scoble, Chief Tim Nelson, Robert Craig, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, and Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik.

Several members of the Fire Service Commission were in attendance along with the Collins Center Working Group.

Also present were: Curriculum Specialist Maggie Crisham, Department of Fire Services General Counsel Steve Rourke, Newton Fire Chief Bruce Prioa, Clinton Fire Chief John McLaughlin, Deputy General Counsel Peter Senopoulos, Jason Cardosa representing James Pappas, Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier and State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey.

Not present were: Chairman Chief Mario Orangio, Captain Andrew Connerty, Vice Chairman Firefighter Paul Medeiros, and Chief Dave Celino.

Mr. Craig addressed the Council for a request to take the agenda out of order to hear the Collins Center DFS Agency Report under DFS Update. Chief Scoble made a motion, seconded by Deputy Director Klucznik, to take the agenda out of order. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A. DFS Update – Marshal Ostroskey began the presentation by stating that the Collins Center report on the DFS agency will be a tool to strengthen the organization. He felt that with our 20 years of experience and a new Fire Marshal, this was a perfect time to evaluate the organization. The Marshal introduced Mary Aicardi from the Collins Center to continue the presentation. Mary reviewed the areas outlined in the Organizational Review of the DFS to All DFS Personnel from the Fire Marshal. The members of the Working Group reviewed some of the topic areas from the memo. Some questions were taken from the audience and Mary stated that everyone was welcome to contact her or members of the Working Group if there were further questions. The Marshal closed by stating that the review will be a tool to continue dialogue and to continue to be open with information to everyone involved with the DFS. At that time, Robert Craig dismissed the body with the Fire Training Council moving to the Boards & Commissions Room.

Chief Scoble made a motion, seconded by Deputy Director Klucznik to reconvene meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Assistant Chief Miller made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to change the order of business to begin with Policy/Presentation. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Policy/Presentation

* Lack of policy pertaining to PAT requirement – The MFTC Policy Sub-committee met on March 3 and voted to forward questions to the DFS General Counsel. After his review and consultation with HRD, the Policy Sub-Committee will review the request again. Chief Scoble mentioned that HRD does not have the June 30 deadline to move. They are looking at private vendors to take over the PAT.
* Career Recruit Readmission Previous Training Credit Restriction – The Policy Sub-committee voted to approve the proposed change in terminology from training day 1A to training day 1. Assistant Chief Miller made a motion, seconded by Lt. Piemonte, to approve the revision. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
* Modifications to Call/Vol Rules & Regulations - Deputy Director Klucznik reviewed the proposed modifications and one new change. Assistant Chief Miller made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to approve the revisions. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
* Career Recruit Admission Restriction - The Policy Sub-committee voted to approve the proposed change in terminology from training day 1A to administration day. Captain Tustin made a motion, seconded by Chief Scoble, to approve the revision. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
* Lack of policy regarding “no returns” after Career Recruit – The rule Career Recruit has had for many years is that any recruit that successfully completes the program cannot return again for training. It is intended for newly appointed firefighters. The Policy sub-committee voted to have the MFA staff draft a policy for further review by the Committee.
* The MFTC Certification Sub-committee met on February 27 and discussed the proposal to add two new tech rescue certifications: surface water rescue and swift water rescue. This configuration meets the needs of the standard and the Certification group will request Pro-Board approval to have the certification available when the program is introduced this semester. The sub-committee voted to recommend approval to the full Council. Lt. Piemonte made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to approve the Certification Group’s Request for Policy Addition to add Surface Water Rescue I/II and Swift Water Rescue I/II. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Assistant Chief Miller made a motion, seconded by Deputy Director Klucznik, to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2016 Training Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. Fiscal Affairs Report

Deputy Director Klucznik reports the MFA Trust Fund Report continues to grow and there is nothing new or out of the ordinary.

E. Update of Affiliated Members

Fire Chiefs’ Association of Massachusetts

* Chief Nelson – nothing to report
* Chief Orangio –not present
* Chief Scoble – FCAM professional development conference was a success with good reviews.

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

* Lieutenant Piemonte - nothing to report

**Mass Call/Vol**

* Assistant Chief Miller – nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

* Captain Connerty – not present

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

* Captain Tustin - next monthly meeting is Tuesday, 3/14. Quarterly meeting counts for four (4) points towards FPO credentialing. Discussion topic is the motion picture industry pitfalls with smoke detection regulations.
* The Board is concerned that there is still no information on the website regarding FPO credentialing. The Fire Marshal responded that the program is under evaluation and we will provide information when approved.
* The Board is concerned that the FPO II program is too short but we will wait to see how the participants of the pilot program feel about the program.

Insurance Industry (Citizen of the Commonwealth)

* James Pappas – not present. Jason Cardosa representing.

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

* Chief Celino - not present

Citizens of the Commonwealth

* Bob Craig – nothing to report

F. Legislative Update

* Steve Rourke – no updates since the last Council meeting.

G. DFS Update – Marshal Ostroskey

* We are working on host of projects. We rolled out the Active Shooter program at FCAM conference and held the instructor train the trainer this week. We continue to work with OEMS and mass police training committee. We would like to see a joint training program including all disciplines to receive the same training.

H. Academy Activities Report – Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik

* The current waitlist for career recruit is 174 and we are currently filling class #257 beginning 7/13/17; there are 19 openings. Springfield class #S04 beginning on April 11 is full. We currently have 20 openings in S05 which will begin July 10.
* Presented the Academy summary statistics through January, 2017 and reviewed the list of requested courses. MFA implemented a new way to request courses through online submittals and the requests are great in all areas.
* Call/Volunteer classes in Spencer and Groveland have had their graduations.
* An Instructor Improvement class for the FPO II program was held this week and some tweaks need to be made. The rollout program begins next week and ends April 14. We are looking to run one more program this semester.
* We’ve completed the student UAT for the LMS project. We are looking at an internal “go live” in May and an external in June.
* We have recently hired 22 new instructors of which 16 have begun their audit time and the rest will begin next week.
* MTU vendor training is taking place this week with a rollout next month.
* We have received verbal confirmation that we will be awarded the AFG grant which will provide us with a new SCBA Maze Trailer, a new Flashover Simulator, and a new tow vehicle.
* The arson prop is 90% completed and will have a security fence placed around it soon.
* The Special Hazards Training Coordinator met with his hazmat coordinators and the western Mass chiefs association to discuss running a hazmat tech program in Springfield next spring.
* A question was asked about the cleaning of training turnout gear. DD Klucznik said that we inspect the gear annually and when there is live burn going on, the gear is cleaned at the end of day. We have had communications with the crib and manufacturers for a cleaning process.

G. Old Business

* Counsel Rourke reported that the Accident Waiver is written and is waiting to be integrated.

H. New Business

* Update of Certification appeal – a student presented to the Certification Sub-Committee a request to waive the practical examination for FFI/II. After hearing the presentation, the Committee took it under advisement and ultimately sent a letter from the Training Council to the student denying the request.
* Clinton Chief McLaughlin requested to speak about his opinion that our recruit program is not tough enough in giving deficiency points. He feels there are students graduating that are not qualified to be a firefighter. After some discussion, Deputy Director Klucznik stated that he will reach out to the coordinators in career recruit for discussion and any changes would likely be recommended to the new Academy Director and Recruit Coordinator.

J. Review of Correspondence

* Mr. Craig read the thank you note sent from Mario Orangio to the Training Council.

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

The next meeting of the Training Council will be Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 11:00 in the Boards & Commissions Road

**L. Adjourn Meeting**

Chief Scoble made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to adjourn the meeting at 1:25. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.