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FIREFIGHTER PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the November 1, 2017 Meeting**

Chairman Firefighter Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:15 am on November 1, 2017 at the Department of Fire Services with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members in attendance were: Chairman Paul Medeiros, Captain Andrew Connerty, Vice Chairman Captain Rick Tustin, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, MFA Director Dave Evans, Robert Craig, Scott Bassett, Forest Fire Control, and Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller.

Also present were: MFA Curriculum Specialist Margaret Crisham, DFS Counsel Steven Rourke, DFS Operations Director David Clemons, Certification Coordinator Bob Rand, Instructor Michael Moriarty, Clinton Chief John McLaughlin, Call/Vol Program Coordinator Chris Norris, and Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier.

Not present were: Chief Tim Nelsen, Undersecretary Patrick McMurray, and Lieutenant Drew Piemonte.

Chairman Paul Medeiros announced that the Council will be going into Executive Session at the end of regular business. He also announced that Chief Bruce Proia of the Newton Fire Department replaced Chief Mario Orangio representing the metro region. Scott Bassett of the Department of Conservation is representing Chief David Celino (letter on file).

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller made a motion, seconded by Robert Craig, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2017 Training Council Meeting with one correction. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion with one abstention from Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala as he was not at the last meeting.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

Director Evans reported on the beginning and ending balances of the MFA Trust Fund dated September 24 through November 21, 2017.

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

- Chief Nelson – not present

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Paul Medeiros - Nothing to report

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chiefs Miller and Ruchala reports the Massachusetts Call/Vol Annual meeting was held last month.

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Captain Connerty – nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Captain Tustin - The next meeting is November 14 at Plymouth Plantation. The educational topic is by-directional antennae and radio systems that affect fire alarm systems. Just a note that the 500th FPAM meeting was very well attended.

Insurance Industry (Citizen of the Commonwealth)

- Position vacant

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Scott Bassett – The fall fire season was very minimal. We are in the final stage of hiring our Fire Program Coordinator. The Wildland Fire Training with Call/Vol went very well. Chief Celino wants to touch base with Chris Norris to fine tune it.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Bob Craig – nothing to report

D. Legislative Update

- Counsel Steve Rourke – no change

E. DFS Update – Deputy Marshal

- Recruit program coordinator was posted for last two weeks and we are reviewing the applicants. We're hoping to hire by the beginning of the year.
- We are getting ready to hire 50 instructors and will put them through Orientation in the coming weeks.
- Update: One of the items that came out of the Collins report was the lack of training. People need more information on how Human Resources and Purchasing works throughout the Commonwealth. We have conducted two HR and Purchasing trainings. With the climate the way it is these days, we felt it necessary to hold personal safety training. This mandatory training has been held once already with another scheduled for the end of the month.
- One of the things we heard from divisions was that the agency needs communications improvement and more interaction between groups. We had a Halloween event yesterday; employees had the opportunity to bring family members to trick or treat. Our state troopers offered DNA testing and Director Evan's wife Lisa offered children's dental impressions.

F. Academy Activities Report – Director Evans

- Deputy Klucznik and Paul Betti is interviewing for a Firefighting Skills, HazMat and EMS coordinator positions.
- The waitlist for career recruit is 159 for both Stow and Springfield. We are filling class 265 beginning May 10, 2018.
- Career Recruit Class 258 graduation is Friday; Call/Vol Class 067 graduation in Stow is tonight.
- Career Recruit Class 260 class begins tomorrow; two Call/Vol classes begin this weekend in West Newbury and Spencer.
- Our on-line classes were taken down and are being worked on and working to bring them up by Friday.

G. Old Business

- Adjunct Instructor Policy–Director Evans is working on it; the task is bigger originally thought.

H. New Business

- The Certification Sub-committee met before the regular meeting today. Two items on agenda: 1) The Barnstable county fire training academy director requested that the MFTC make a modification to our policy to allow their out of state instructors the benefit of sitting for certification exams. We looked at all of the materials from previous recommendations. The Certification sub-committee recommended unanimously not to grant. Captain Tustin made a motion, seconded by Scott Bassett, to deny the request based on the Sub-Committee's recommendation. Barnstable County Training Academy is an independent entity and therefore would not fall under a state agency or other entity included under enabling legislation. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Misrepresentation of certification – we met in executive session regarding a misrepresentation case and will have a review hearing with all parties and all situations surrounding it.
- Clinton Chief John McLaughlin addressed the Council with his opinion that was too easy to pass the Recruit Program. He came six months ago and was told that when the new director comes on, he could voice his opinion at that time.

I. Policy Presentation/Policy

- No presentation

J. Review of Correspondence

- No presentation to review

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 11:00 in the Boards & Commissions Room.

At this time, non-voting members of the Council were asked to exit the room so that the voting members could go into Executive Session. A roll call vote of the voting members was called by the Chairman and was unanimous in favor of an executive session.

A motion was made by Captain Tustin, seconded by Robert Craig, for a roll call to end the executive session. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

L. Adjourn Meeting

- Director Evans made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion