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FIREFIGHTER PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the April 4, 2018 Meeting**

Chairman Firefighter Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:00 am on April 4, 2018 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, Robert Craig, Chief Bruce Proia, Jason Cardoso, Chief Tim Nelson, Interim Chief Kurt Ruchala, Undersecretary Patrick McMurray, Chief Fire Warden David Celino, Lieutenant Drew Piemonte and Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller.

Also present were: Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, DFS Counsel Steve Rourke, Director of Operations, David Clemons, Curriculum Specialist Maggie Crisham, Call/Vol Coordinator Christopher Norris, Richard Donovan, Randolph Fire, Recruit Coordinator Dennis Ball, Jason Gilliland, ECFC President, George Kramlinger, ECFC Training, Lisa Eichel, Merrimac Fire, and Duncan Weaver, West Newbury Fire.

Not present was MFA Director Dave Evans.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Captain Connerty made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2018 Training Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

Operations Section Chief – trust fund is very healthy with no issues.

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

- Chief Nelson –representing part paid/part call –nothing to report
- Chief Proia representing metro – nothing to report
- Position open – representing call
- Position open – representing full-time

D. Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Paul Medeiros – I've received questions regarding: 1) students not receiving certificates from academy anymore; now they just receive an email; 2) what selection process is in place for classes, and 3) a question about a recruit stepping away from a class.

- Drew Piemonte – nothing to report

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller – next week we'll be looking at AFG grants.
- Interim Chief Ruchala – nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Captain Connerty – nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Captain Tustin - The next meeting of FPAM will be next Tuesday. The annual conference is April 30 & May at the Southbridge Conference Center. Registrations are on-going by April 6.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso - Nothing to report.

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Chief Celino - In 2017, we trained a little over 1,200 firefighters in wildland firefighting. We're up from previous years. As the rep for the Northeast Wildland Coordinating Group, we have been tasked with defining the type 3 incident management team.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Bob Craig – nothing to report

D. Legislative Update – DFS Counsel Steve Rourke – update of bills in various committees

- House 1288 – carbon monoxide alarm in schools bill - still alive
- House 2535 – employees of DFS group 4 bill - still alive
- Senate 1380 – tech rescue coordinating council – still active
- House 3520 – bulk purchasing program of industrial washing machines for fire departments relative to cancer precautions– still active

E. DFS Update – Marshal Ostroskey

- At the end of the agenda, there will be a budget presentation.
- The Department is spending a lot of time with active shooter/hostile event response program. Training has been very well received.
- After Parkland, there have been many questions. We developed an advisory to fire and building personnel to strengthen communication between the schools and public safety.
- The department attended the New England School Resource Officers Conference and spoke about active shooter response.
- The Marshal was appointed to the NFPA 3000 committee and met for a week to discuss public comment. There is an interesting cross section of folks involved to provide a standard for active shooter/hostile event response.
- The Department is working on approving training for the implementation of welding code for July 1st.
- Yesterday we took delivery of the SCBA and Flashover props purchased through the last AFG. We applied for an additional AFG for a search and rescue prop in Springfield.

- Governor Baker signed a statute stating that municipalities will fall under OSHA regulations. Information sheets have been circulated. We feel we should work with the Department of Labor Standards to provide information to fire departments.

F. Academy Activities Report – Dave Clemons reported on Deputy Klucznik's report

- Currently, 196 recruits are waiting to attend the Academy; we are filling class 269 beginning October 12 and have 26 openings. In Springfield, we are currently filling class S09 beginning on August 29 and have 10 openings.
- We have received 112 training requests from January 1st through March 17th. Impact courses are the most requested (43), with Cancer Awareness being the most popular (12).
- We are in the process of hiring an additional 25 Instructors. We currently have 386 individuals in the Instructor ranks.
- We are holding an FPO I Final Review on Thursday, April 19th, to ensure that we are ready to roll out the program.
- We now have 8 online courses available – Compressed Natural Gas, Chemical Suicide, Firefighter Rehabilitation, Fire Service Air Management, Solar Panels, Transitional Fire Attack, FPO-Basic and Traffic Incident Management. Confined Space Awareness and Positive-Pressure Ventilation have been created and we are going through the final checks before we place them online.

G. Old Business -

H. New Business

- Election of MFTC Chairman and Vice Chairman – The MFTC is required to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman and will take a motion for nominations. Andrew Connerty made a motion, seconded by Drew Piemonte, to nominate Paul Medeiros for Chairman of the Training Council. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. Andrew Connerty made a motion, seconded by Robert Craig, to nominate Rick Tustin for Vice Chairman of the Training Council. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Policy Review Process – Director of Operations, Dave Clemons addressed the Council with a request from the Marshal to task them to review all policies. Are they still applicable? Is it in a standard format and found on the website? Instead of staff receiving a request, bringing to the Council, the Council then assigning a Sub-Committee, we would like to recommend that staff go through Chairman of Council to assign the request to a Sub-Committee and in turn will make the recommendation to the full Council. Chief Nelson made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to accept the request to direct staff to work with the Chairman and subcommittee prior to bringing it to the full Council for a vote. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

I. Policy Presentation/Policy

- MFA Attendance/Cancellation/No Show Policy Revision – The Policy Sub-Committee met prior to the Council meeting and their recommendation is to approve the revisions made by MFA Registration with regard to including a time frame for no show offenses. Chief Nelson made a motion, seconded by Captain Tustin, to approve the recommended revisions. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Reaccreditation Status Update – The Certification Sub-Committee reviewed a proposed policy change from Certification Coordinator Bob Rand for Incident Safety Officer: Hazardous Materials Operations and Incident Safety Officer: Fire Suppression. Changes were based on NFPA standard changes and the need to have

these changes approved by the Pro-Board. The Sub-Committee recommended the policy changes be approved by the Council. Captain Tustin made a motion, seconded by Interim Chief Ruchala, to support the committee's decision. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

J. Review of Correspondence

- Request from Merrimac Fire Chief – A student addressed the Council with a request to make up a mandatory day she missed as a result of a hospital stay. The day missed was a combined evolution day. She asked to make an exception because of the extreme circumstance she had. Coordinator Chris Norris reminded the Council that when someone misses a mandatory day, they are immediately dismissed from the program without prejudice. Interim Chief Ruchala made a motion, seconded by Chief Proia, to make an exception subject to receiving a doctor's note reinstating her to full duty. Rick Tustin asked if the Call/Vol program has a readmission policy similar to Career Recruit. Currently, the Call/Vol program does not have a readmission policy. Mr. Norris noted that in order to graduate from the program, the student is required to have 70% average which enables them to sit for the final exam (certification). There have been cases where a student completes the program but fails the final exam. They are allowed to sit for the certification exam within one year to receive their Firefighter I/II certification. She will be required to successfully complete the program in order to take the final exam. It was stated that the MFA Call/Vol combined evolution day is June 24, 2018. The Marshal suggested we clarify the motion so the candidate be allowed to complete the program in order to take the final (certification) exam. Interim Chief Ruchala amended the motion, seconded by Captain Connerty, to state that she be allowed to enter back into the program to complete the mandatory day. It was suggested that the motion include a one year time frame. Chief Ruchala further amended the motion, seconded by Captain Connerty, that she complete the program and exam within one year. Each amendment was voted unanimously in favor of the motion.
- SAFER Request from New Bedford – The New Bedford Fire Department has requested we reserve five (5) spots in the July 2018 Career Recruit class. At the time the request was received, the July class was full. Captain Connerty made a motion, seconded by Interim Chief Ruchala, to approve New Bedford's request and have held five (5) spots in the August, 2018 class #268. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Request from Essex County Fire Chief's Association – Chief Gilliland and Chief Kramlinger would like the Training Council to consider a waiver/one-time exception to allow students to register for the Essex County Company Officer II course if they are enrolled in the Company Officer I course. The current registration system doesn't allow a student to enroll in Company Officer II until they complete Company Officer I. Anyone can enroll for an open enrollment class and the Chiefs are concerned there won't be any spots available at the end of Company Officer I. Director Clemons stated that the Academy Director's position is that the course can be done as a muni-hire. Assistant Chief Miller made a motion, seconded by Chief Nelson, to create a waitlist of Essex County Company Officer I candidates eligible to apply to Company Officer II. Upon successful completion of Company Officer I, students will be enrolled into the remaining spots of Company Officer II. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

DFS Budget Presentation – State Fire Marshal Ostroskey

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council is Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 11:00 am in the Boards & Commissions Room.

L. Public Comment

- Dennis Ball introduced himself as the new Recruit Training Coordinator.

M. Adjourn Meeting

Captain Tustin, made a motion, seconded by Robert Craig, to adjourn the meeting at 1:05.
The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.