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FIREFIGHTER PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the October 3, 2018 Meeting**

Chairman Firefighter Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:05 am on October 3, 2018 at the Department of Fire Services with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members in attendance were: Chairman Paul Medeiros, Chief Bruce Proia, Jason Cardoso, Chief Tim Nelson, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Vice Chairman Captain Rick Tustin, MFA Director Dave Evans, Chief Dave Celino, and Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller.

Also present were: DFS Counsel Steve Rourke, Director of Operations David Clemons, MFA Curriculum Specialist Maggie Crisham, Deputy State Marshal Maribel Fournier, State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, Special Hazards Training Coordinator Paul Betti and Certification Coordinator Bob Rand.

Not present were: Captain Andrew Connerty, Lt. Drew Piemonte, Sheri Bemis, and Undersecretary Patrick McMurray.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Jonathan Miller made a motion, seconded by Rick Tustin, to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2018 Training Council Meeting as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

The MFA Trust Fund report for the period of 8/26/2018 through 9/22/2018 was presented. Director Evans noted there's a lot going that goes through the trust fund. Fall River has large AFG for a HazMat Technician class and we're working on a proposal for that.

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 – We had members nationally and locally from tech teams deployed to North Carolina, in addition to FEMA members. Our members were involved in the fires in the Merrimac Valley and we're looking to help. Active shooter events continue to be an activity that we need to work on.
- Drew Piemonte – not present

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller – The annual meeting for the MCVFA is October 13.
- Assistant Chief Ruchala – nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Captain Connerty – not present

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Captain Tustin – The next monthly meeting of FPAM will be next Tuesday, October 9. The topics include an update on BDA in accordance with the 9th edition of the building code and chemical process safety requirements for Massachusetts. It will be worth 4 points for FPO credits.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso - Nothing to report.

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Dave Celino – Statewide, fires are very low. Cape and Islands have dry spots. We've had two mobilizations this year; one in Quebec and one in Montana. Fire management plans for wildland fires are in final draft. We've made a bid for the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy doctrine to come to New England. The workshop will be presented in October, 2019 in Plymouth. I will report more on that in the future.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Sheri Bemis – not present

D. Legislative Update – DFS Counsel Steve Rourke

- Legislature remains in informal session.

E. DFS Update – State Fire Marshal –

- Regarding the PAT, DCAM and Civil Service are working to fix the building to get it back in service in a week or so. PATs should resume in the very near future. They have identified a location to move to. Once they sign the lease, it's about a three month time frame to retrofit the building and move. We will probably see the new location within the next six months.
- The AFG for the Springfield Search & Rescue prop work is going well.
- OSHA requirements will be enforced under a new regulation through the Department of Labor Standards and is set to be implemented in February. We've offered our facility as a test bed for DLS to get familiar with fire service operations and to understand the impact on local fire departments.

- Active shooter – we worked with the Governor’s and the Secretary’s Office to host three sessions of an active shooter symposium. They were all received very well with over 500 representatives from over half of the commonwealth’s municipalities. We received excellent feedback. Governor Baker attended and was impressed with the presentation. We continue to offer the active shooter curriculum through the fire academy. We’re working closing with the MPTC to make sure that our programs and planning are on the same page.
- We are unable to access funding for extractors and cancer screening, unfortunately, language is unclear. We are talking to the legislature to change the language to facilitate the release of those funds.
- We’re going through budget exercises and the agency will turn in the FY20 budget to ANF probably on Friday.
- The Marshal shared that DFS and MFA have been in conversations with Secretary Bennett for another site in the southeast region. The vision in the past was to have regional training.
- The Secretary has asked us to participate in a new project and Maribel has been assigned to the Large Venue Protection Committee. The Committee will take a look at plans for the protection of large venues in Massachusetts. This is a Homeland Security initiative and it’s a way for us to formalize plans that have been around for a while.
- Our staff is doing an excellent job in response to the Merrimac Valley incident in support of communities. This will be a case study in the future because it’s different from some of the other incidents we’ve seen. We worked with local, state and inter-state mobilization teams. The fire chiefs in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover have done a great job working for their communities. As we progress through the recovery process, our Fire Safety Division has been involved with communities in regard to safety code regulations.

F. Academy Activities Report –Director Dave Evans

- The Career Recruit Waitlist is 184 in Stow and 25 in Springfield; Class 269 will begin on October 12. We’re filling Stow class #275 in May and Springfield class #S11 in April.
- Graduation for class #267 is October 15 with Chief Proia as the MFTC rep; Call/vol class #072 graduation is on 10-29-18 in Springfield and Chief Nelson will represent the MFTC; Call/vol class #073 graduation is in Stow on 11/1.
- We are holding a cancer awareness day on November 8 in Springfield with skin and oral screenings. As a result of the last screenings, six people were referred to their doctor for a follow-up.
- The AFG Search and Rescue Building committee is meeting in Springfield as we speak. They are planning the ground and building architecture.
- The next Senior Fire Officer Forum is 10/16. Jason Hoevelman from Missouri is talking about Leadership & Development for the Fire Officer.
- One of our Tech rescue instructors, Mark McCabe, southeast tech rescue team leader, was deployed to the hurricane area. Deputy Director Klucznik asked him to put a presentation together for a future Senior Fire Officer Forum.
- One of our long-time instructors, Don Jasmin, has retired. Don was instrumental in the development of the 10-week career recruit program as well as a former Assistant Coordinator for our Impact programs.

G. Old Business

- As a follow up with last month's discussion with the call/vol chiefs, Jonathan Miller reported that there was no negative feedback from Western Mass and MCFVA meeting. The consensus was that it seemed like a good solution for Springfield as well.
- The Chairman asked about the vacancies on the Training Council. The Marshal reported executive office is starting to see some progress from the Appointments Office in Boston.

H. New Business

I. Policy Presentation/Adoption

J. Review of Correspondence

- SAFER hold request from Reading Fire Dept. to hold four (4) spots in the Career Recruit Class after February 23, 2019. Rick Tustin made a motion, seconded by Dave Evans, to approve Reading's request. The spots will be held in the May class. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- SAFER hold request from Holden Fire Department to hold eight (8) spots in Career Recruit class Springfield in April. Jonathan Miller made a motion, seconded by Tim Nelson to approve Holden's request. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council is Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 11:00 am in the Boards & Commissions Room.

L. Public Comment

- Marshal reported that this year's SAFE conference in Southbridge was very successful.

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Kurt Ruchala made a motion, seconded by Tim Nelson, to adjourn the meeting at 12:15. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.