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LIEUTENANT PAUL J. MEDEIROS
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the January 2, 2019 Meeting**

Chairman Lt. Paul Medeiros opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council at 11:00 am on January 2, 2019 at the Department of Fire Services with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members in attendance were: Chairman Lt. Paul Medeiros, Chief Bruce Proia, Jason Cardoso, Captain Andrew Connerty, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Vice Chairman Captain Rick Tustin, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Chief Frank Barresi, Chief Richard Donovan, and MFA Director Dave Evans.

Also present were MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, Special Hazards Training Coordinator Paul Betti, Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier, Certification Program Coordinator Bob Rand, and MFA Curriculum Specialist Maggie Crisham.

Not present were: Chief Tim Nelson, Lt. Drew Piemonte, Chief Sheri Bemis, and Chief Dave Celino.

The Chairman welcomed Chief Frank Barresi, representing call fire departments, and Chief Richard Donovan, representing full-time fire departments, to the Fire Training Council.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Dave Evans made a motion, seconded by Bruce Proia, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2018 Training Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

The MFA Trust Fund report for the period of 11/25/2018 through 12/22/2018 was presented. Dave Evans reported that the reason the ending balance is -\$17,900 is a number of courses are being run and the bills for these courses haven't been paid yet.

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

- Chief Nelson –representing part paid/part call –not present
- Chief Proia representing Metro – nothing to report
- Chief Barresi - representing call – nothing to report

- Chief Donovan – representing full-time - nothing to report

D. Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Lt. Medeiros – we mourn the death of Firefighter Christopher Roy from Worcester. The funeral was on a Saturday and both Call/Vol Recruit classes and another 26 full-time recruits and 10 instructors participated in the ceremony.
-We got word the flame retardant legislation has been passed and is waiting the signature of the governor.
- Lt. Piemonte – not present

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller – nothing to report
- Assistant Chief Ruchala – nothing to report

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Captain Connerty – nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Captain Tustin – our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, January 9 in Auburn at 10:00 am. Topic will be to review the 26f-26f ½ requirements and any additional smoke detector requirements as required by the 9th edition of the fire code.

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso - Nothing to report.

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Chief Celino – not present

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Sheri Bemis – not present

D. Legislative Update – DFS Counsel Steve Rourke

- The new FY20 legislative session has started. Some initiatives that the Department has been working on is: 1) boiler pressure vessel requirements for installations, 2) Corrective language for the Extractor/Dryer trust fund; how DFS would disperse funds, 3) Tech rescue- adjust language for DFS to assist by dispersing funds, 4) Safe cigarette-amendment to the trust fund, 5) 26i, sprinklers with four or more units, has been amended, 6) state police has asked to amend M.G.L. c. 148, section 39 to regulate reactive targets with binary agents to prohibit sales or to be able to track. Refiles: sprinklers in schools; CO detection in schools; increasing penalties and fines that will have some kind of punitive effect; and bringing building code fire protection provisions over to the fire code.

E. DFS Update – Deputy Marshal Fournier

- Undersecretary McMurray's last day was 12/21/18; hope to have someone to replace him soon.
- The Marshal mentioned that we were working on acquiring another piece of property in Bridgewater this January. We have submitted a FY20 expansion budget for start-up costs.
- We'll start working on preparing for the Boston marathon as it gets closer.

- SAFE funds have been awarded to 246 fire departments; 240 departments are receiving Sr. SAFE funds.

F. Academy Activities Report –Director Evans

- Stow waitlist is 214; 44 in Springfield. We're running a RFO class today. Graduation for Class 270 is 2/1/18 and Class 271 is 3/8/19. We're filling classes 277 beginning 8-8-19 and 278 beginning 9-19-19. Springfield Class S10 will begin on 1-24-19, S11 will begin on 4-11-19.
- Two call/vol classes are running- Class 075 in Leicester will graduate on 2/27/19 and Class 074 in West Newbury will graduate on 2-28-19.
- Both Fall River and Stow Call/Vol classes that begin in February are full with 40 in each class.
- The AFG Search & Rescue construction project – DFS is asking for delegation of authority from DCAMM for oversight. Completion on June 31, 2019.
- OSHA implementations will commence on 2/1/19. Mike Flanagan is available to answer questions of any departments. OSHA will come here to see how we teach hose handling.
- Alanna Malatos is back from extended leave and will work part-time for two weeks, then return to full time. She in charge of all officer and instructor programs.
- Chairman Medeiros mentioned he received calls regarding FPO II issues. People are still having a difficult time with the credentialing process.

G. Old Business

- The Chairman reminded all members about the Appointed Member Absence legislation.
- Counsel Rourke gave an update on two discrimination claims against the Training Council: 1) The MCAD dismissed one case but hasn't received an appeal. 2) There is litigation arising from someone that was dismissed from the academy. We have been looking at a potential for settlement. The person would still have to be on a department and we would treat failing the test as the first try. He would then get a second bite of the apple. It's still under consideration by the town and we await a response.

H. New Business

I. Policy Presentation/Adoption

- Training Out of State Firefighters Policy- MFA recommended the policy be revised because most of the requirements indicated on the old policy are stated in the LMS system when a person registers for a class. The sub-committee discussed it and unanimously voted to recommend the change to the policy. Dave Evans made a motion, seconded by Jonathan Miller to approve the policy revision. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- The Director noted that MFA would be reviewing the Instructor Employment Policy for Sub-Committee review.

J. Review of Correspondence

- The Cohasset Fire Department SAFER request for two Career Recruit spots. Andrew Connerty made a motion, seconded by Richard Donovan to approve Cohasset's request for two spots in the next available Career Recruit class after February 27. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council is Wednesday, February 6 or February 14 at 11:00 am in the Boards & Commissions Room.
- The Chairman noted that voting for Training Council Chairman and Vice-Chairman will take place at the February meeting.
- The Council took a recess. The Council then resumed the meeting to give former Council member Robert Craig a plaque for serving on the Fire Training Council for 28 years.

L. Public Comment

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Andrew Connerty made a motion, seconded by Rick Tustin, to adjourn the meeting at 12:35. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.