



FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING COUNCIL

September 18, 2014 Minutes

Chairman Harwood called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

Members present:

Fire Members: Donald Harwood (Chair), William Abbott, Jamie DiPace, Tim Tharau,

Office of Education and Data Management: Craig Russell, Bonnie Becker, Doug Schanne, Michael Gilbertie and Lisa Rochester

Member introductions were provided by council. A quorum was present.

Approval of March 5, 2014 Minutes: A motion was made by Donald Harwood and seconded by Jamie DiPace to approve the minutes. All in favor. The motion was carried.

The meeting began with **Staff Reports**.

OFFICE OF EDUCATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT (OEDM)

Michael Gilbertie gave an overview of the revised Fire Inspector Certification Class. Mike discussed the effectiveness of editing and revising the certification program as opposed to rewriting from scratch. Mike clarified that the fundamentals had not changed, only definitions, along with formats (15 chapters) which were modified based on student's needs.

Mike noted that the process was completed by himself, Sheila Taridona, John Doucette, and Mike Sinsigali who vetted the test bank questions. Mike also noted that the test was given as 'closed book' for the first time and has received positive feedback from students. Mike G gave an open invitation for anyone to come in and audit a class or two to see how the program works.

Doug Schanne verified that Fire Investigation classes began this week with 22 attending on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as Michael Gilbertie's classes are currently meeting Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with both modules continuing through November. Doug noted preliminary planning for spring 2015 programs; Fire Investigations starting sometime in February, followed by Fire Code Stature module beginning in April. Doug advised that announcements will be worked on and out later this fall.

Bonnie Becker discussed the changes in the Pre-Certification application process as of October 2014 and Career Development. Bonnie noted that previously to become a certified Fire Marshal, 30 separate CEU certification hours were necessary under Fire Safety Code Inspector, Hazmat, and Fire Investigator. Bonnie advised that now the two credentials to become a certified Fire Marshal will be Fire Code Inspector (Hazmat included) and Fire Investigator.



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Bonnie advised that OEDM's database was changed to include the pre-requisites that will take effect October 1st. Bonnie noted that non-appointed people will be required to send in documentation to validate that they meet one of the 6 pre-requisites, otherwise the Appointing Authority will have to attest that the attendee is qualified.

Bonnie discussed that OEDM is looking to find a way to grandfather in those who are already in the database who are eligible to become certified, to actually be certified. Bonnie also discussed OEDM wanting to get all of the different categories, not just Fire Marshal; but, Fire Investigator, and if someone is Hazmat and Fire Safety Code Inspector they would be certified as a Fire Code Inspector.

Bonnie noted that in the past OEDM tracked any appointment and now will only track Fire Marshal appointments. Bonnie also noted that word needs to get out to all jurisdictions that OEDM does not need to know when a Fire Investigator or Deputy Fire Marshal is appointed; only Fire Marshal and that credit hours will continue be tracked for all.

FOLLOW UP ITEM:

Susan Bransfield brought up the concern of an elected official of how he/she keeps track of their staff. A Fire Marshal has legal jurisdiction and his/her appointment is for a lifetime. The appointment of a Building Inspector in some districts is for a lifetime and a 4 year appointment at others. This presented the subject of how it is determined if someone is up to date as a Fire Marshal or Building Official without having to call OEDM to inquire.

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of May 1, 2014 meeting approved.

MOTION ON MINUTES:

Approved

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Council Chair/Vice Chair

Susan Bransfield nominated William Harwood for Chair, motion was made and seconded.

Susan Bransfield also nominated Jamie DiPace for Vice Chair, motions was made and seconded.

Correspondence

Donald Harwood went over State Fire Marshal Richard Palmer's resignation email as of Tuesday, September 17, 2014 which was accepted with regret. William suggested that a Certificate of Appreciation be sent out to Richard signed by the commissioner. William advised the need to reach out in order to keep an active quorum to look at back-filling the appointed position.



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Role of Training Council

- Donald Harwood highlighted page 1 of **CGS Section 29-298(3)** regarding the preparation and conducting of the training program with successful completion of which shall qualify an individual to be certified as it ties in with the Codes and Standards committee.
- A member of the council should be present if there is a hearing
- Encourage public commenting/input/presentation on agenda
- Invite Codes and Standards to meetings as per **CGS Section 29-298(a)**
- Develop together training and educational programs
- 3 members of FMTC are supposed to sit on the Code Training and Education Board of Control (financial arm) /follow-up we would like to be represented on Code Training and Education Board of Control per statute **CGS Section 29-251(c)**
- Request for membership certification data and decertification data
- Request for membership of financial arm

Item:

- Donald Harwood will attend classes in Rocky Hill to represent council with feedback
- Codes & Standards/Wednesday, October 8, 2014

Confirmation of next meeting:

FMTC Meeting November 13, 2014 (tentative) Room 441

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:42pm.

Donald Harwood, Chair
Building Code Training Council

Absent from meeting

Rev. Edward Hyland, Chair
Fire Marshal Training Council
Stephanie Cummings



State of Connecticut
DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
Division of School and State Construction Support Services
Office of Education and Data Management

Victor Mitchell
Jeffrey Morrissette

Fire Code Training Council\2014\September