



Dudley H.A. Wright II, Chair
Kent Appelhans, Vice Chair

Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director

FIREFIGHTER & FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR SUBCOMMITTEE

STATE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL, FIRE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MEETING of July 14, 2020

MINUTES

Committee Meeting Location: via Microsoft Teams Virtual Meetings

I. **Welcome – Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. **Roll Call**

- a. Committee Members Present: Timothy Thomas (Chair); Dudley Wright (Vice Chair); TJ Cullison; Jeremy Guenther; and Phil McLean
- b. Committee Members Absent: Bill Mastroianni
- c. DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Robert Wagoner, Interim Executive Director of the Ohio Division of EMS; James Burke, Chief of EMS Fire & Education; Doug Orahood, EMS Fire Testing Coordinator; Ted Kienzle, EMS Program Administrator II, and Jayn Mayton, EMS Administrative Professional IV
- d. Public Present: Dave Belcher; Dick Glessner; Mark Resanovich; Dallas Terrell

III. **Open Forum**

Review and approval of the Firefighter & Fire Safety Inspector Subcommittee Meeting minutes of May 12, 2020

ACTION: Motion to approve the Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee meeting minutes from May 12, 2020. Mr. Guenther – First. Mr. Cullison – Second.

Roll call vote:

Chair Thomas - Aye

Vice Chair Wright - Aye

Mr. Cullison - Aye
Mr. Guenther - Aye
Mr. McLean – Aye

The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Interim Executive Director Wagoner report

Director Wagoner provided a brief update on the status of a few groups with which the Ohio Division of EMS (ODEMS) is involved, which communicate frequently. A monthly call occurs with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's (ODPS) Director Stickrath, ODEMS, the Ohio Fire Chief's Association (OFCA) and The Fitzgibbon Group. This call continues to be very helpful for identifying trends, sharing information and improving communication among the participants. ODEMS also remains engaged in zone calls three mornings a week; in touchpoint calls with the Emergency Support Functions – 8 (ESF-8) public health partners at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC); and also in strike team calls when there are hot spots, which occur in an unpredictable fashion.

Lastly, Kris Miller, EMS Program Administrator II, and Director Wagoner will attend the board meeting at Tolles this week to present a certificate of recognition to Tim Detwiler, for his many years of service and quality education in his long-held role as EMS instructor there.

V. State Fire Marshal Report – Jack Smith

Mr. Smith was not in attendance, so no report was given.

VI. Ohio Fire Organizations Reports

a. Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors (OSFSI) – Mr. Belcher

Mr. Belcher was not available as a presenter, so no report was given.

b. Other

There were no other reports.

VII. DEMS Fire Education Report

a. Ohio Hall of Fame Fire Service & Ohio Fire Awards

A ballot form was distributed to the committee members prior to the meeting. The question arose as to how to indicate an option of “none of the above”. It was determined that this year that would be indicated either by not checking any box under the category in question, or writing in “none of the above”. The ballot will be edited to add that option in 2021.

The votes from the attending committee members were conveyed by ballot, by four of the members, and by phone, by one of the members. The results will be tallied by the ODEMS staff and relayed to the Committee members after the meeting.

b. Request Approval for Fire Safety Inspector (FSI) Skill Sheets

c. Request Approval for Hazard Recognition Officer (HRO) Skill Sheets

Mr. Burke distributed the HRO and FSI skill sheets prior to the meeting.

The FSI skill sheet set was amended as requested by the Committee in the May 12, 2020 meeting.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Fire Safety Inspector skill sheets as amended. Mr. Cullison – First. Mr. Guenther – Second.

Roll call vote:

Chair Thomas - Aye

Vice Chair Wright - Aye

Mr. Cullison - Aye

Mr. Guenther - Aye

Mr. McLean – Aye

The motion was approved unanimously.

Regarding approval of the HRO skill sheets, it was requested that the vote to approve them be tabled until the next meeting, to allow for further review. This item is tabled for approval at next meeting.

VIII. Old Business

a. Review Feed Back from Program Directors on HRO and FSI Skill Sheets

This item was discussed under **VII. B.** and **c.**, above.

b. Instructor Emeritus Review

Chief McLean provided a handout describing the concept of the Instructor Emeritus position. This position would allow an instructor or inspector instructor to be allowed to teach with or without a valid instructor card. The position would require at least 20 years' experience as an instructor and affiliation with a chartered institution, among other requirements. This concept has been evolving since it was first introduced in 2017 when there was a loss of experts teaching the inspector class. In the ensuing discussion, Vice Chair Wright confirmed a rule change would be required. Mr. Burke offered to send the concept to the committee currently reviewing Instructor I and II updates under discussion at this time, so that it could be looked at alongside similar changes which will result in adoption 1403. Executive Director Wagoner agreed to send the Instructor Emeritus position concept to the committee to evaluate.

Action Item: to send the Instructor Emeritus position concept to the committee currently reviewing Inspector I and II rule changes, to evaluate in conjunction with those proposed updates. - Executive Director Wagoner

IX. New Business

a. Distance Learning – James Burke and Mark Resanovich

Mr. Resanovich facilitated a discussion from the subcommittee about the need for, and the best approach to, enhancing distance learning in anticipation of a potential prolonged COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Burke pointed out that hybrid education, for classes other than the Fire Safety Inspector and Fire Instructor, is being allowed during this state of emergency, which is not

according to rule. He asked that the subcommittee consider what is being allowed during this pandemic and what we might want to allow on an on-going basis in the future.

X. Other

Executive Director Wagoner informed the subcommittee that the National EMS Certification is looking at increasing the amount of continuing education credits (CE) that can be taken in general, and online, in preparation for a prolonged pandemic.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting of the Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee at 10:47 a.m. Mr. McLean – First. Mr. Cullison – Second.

Next meeting:

September 8, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Venue to be determined