



Kent Appelhans, Chair
Mark Marchetta, Sr., Vice Chair

Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director

FIREFIGHTER & FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE

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

Meeting of March 9, 2021

MINUTES

Committee Meeting Location: via Microsoft Teams® videoconferencing

I. Welcome – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 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: James Burke, Chief of EMS Testing & Education; Doug Orahood, EMS Fire Testing Coordinator; Ted Kienzle, EMS Program Administrator II, and Jayn Mayton, EMS Administrative Professional IV
- d. Public Present: Jack Smith, Ohio Fire Academy, State Fire Marshal's Office; David Belcher, Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors (OSFSI)

III. Open Forum

Chair Thomas opened the floor to any topics the Subcommittee members may wish to address. There were none.

IV. Review and approval of the Firefighter & Fire Safety Inspector Subcommittee Meeting minutes of January 19, 2021

The meeting minutes from the January 19, 2021 Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee meeting were reviewed and approved.

MOTION: Motion to approve the Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee meeting minutes from January 19, 2021. Mr. Guenther – First. Mr. Cullison – Second. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

V. Executive Director Wagoner report

As Executive Director Wagoner was not available to attend the meeting, Mr. Burke gave the report. The Division of EMS is continuing to implement accommodations made for the pandemic in all areas. House Bill 404 provides extensions of certifications that expired from March 9th of 2020 through April 1, 2021, extending those through July 1, 2021. The education personnel are preparing a training course for the new vaccine coming out, which will be in the Public Training Campus section of the EMS website. The education team continues to support charters and all of the schools which are making pandemic protocol accommodations for their students.

VI. State Fire Marshal Report

Mr. Smith stated that there was nothing to report for either the Ohio Fire Academy or the State Fire Marshal's Office.

VII. Ohio Fire Organizations Reports - Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors (OSFSI)

Mr. Belcher reported that OSFSI is still deferring activities until later in the year. There will be no traveling again this year, but his priority is to continue working with the Ohio Fire Academy and the State Fire Marshal's Office to bring the Ohio weekend at the National Fire Academy back to Ohio, and possibly offering courses for the event regionally.

VIII. DEMS Fire Education Report

Ohio Hall of Fame Fire Service & Ohio Fire Awards

Mr. Burke stated that planning talks are ongoing for the Ohio Hall of Fame Fire Awards. Ms. Mayton gave more details on the recent all-hands meeting where the State Fire Marshal's office informed planners that there is a large scale overhaul of the full awards ceremony underway, so no awards will be held for 2021. They are talking about raising the profile of the awards ceremony and will use this time to analyze the whole process: what they are wanting to achieve in the future, look at some other events for inspiration and venue ideas, and possibly hire a professional media company that specializes in event videos.

IX. Old Business

Live Fire Instructor Course Pilot Report

a. Update of the LFI objective packet

Mr. Kienzle reported that Great Oaks is just completing their live fire pilot, and Toledo Fire and Stark State are starting theirs. Handouts were emailed to the subcommittee members before the meeting which include the LFI Pilot Course Hours Guide, with revised course objectives. The course objectives have been rewritten to include OAC

4765-24-15's recommendation that the live fire course can be a minimum of 24 hours. The hours guide details that, with the first pilot utilizing Jones & Bartlett FSI 3rd ed. or the live fire book, it is possible to accomplish the live fire objectives within a 24-hour period. The LFI Course Syllabus tab ensures that all requirements can be accomplished in a timely fashion. It is also important to consider the cost factors, especially for a two-day burn.

b. Review, approval of Appendix A, Acquired Structures to the approved burn plan

Mr. Burke brought the members' attention to the Appendix A, Acquired Structures document. He is proposing adding this appendix to the burn plan template that is posted to the EMS website. While not many certification trainings use acquired structures for their live fire burn courses, in-service trainings are more likely to, so the appendix was created. Filling out Appendix A would be required for any burn plan where an acquired structure is being used.

The subcommittee members were asked for feedback and approval to add Appendix A to the burn plan template, and for continuing with the LFI pilot program and the revised course objectives. Upon discussion, it was agreed that the appendix is thorough and will be useful, and with the successful results of the pilots, they should proceed.

MOTION: Motion to approve the Live Fire Instructor Course, including the LFI course objectives, and adding Appendix A, Acquired Structures to the burn plan template. Mr. McLean – First. Mr. Cullison – Second. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

X. New Business

a. Review and approval of updated objective check-off packet for all levels

Mr. Burke shared several objective check-off packets for approval. Currently, there are approximately 68 pages per student to fill out. After reviewing the core purpose of the objective check-offs and the individual skill objectives being documented, Mr. Kienzle was tasked with taking each level - from volunteer to FSI Fire Safety Inspector – and creating a check-off sheet aligning them with the NFPA and the correlating practical skills packet numbers for those skills, to transform them into check-off sheets.

The subcommittee members were asked for feedback and approval to implement the check-off sheets for all levels. After very positive feedback and appreciation for Mr. Kienzle's work, a motion was passed.

MOTION: Motion to approve the updated objective check-off sheets and to implement them immediately. Mr. Cullison – First. Mr. Guenther – Second. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

b. OAC Rule Revision

Mr. Burke brought the subcommittee members' attention to changes to the OAC fire rules, which add five regulatory restrictions. More specifically, he pointed out the requirement that two or more existing regulatory restrictions must be removed for every addition. Regulatory restrictions are defined as "shall," "must," "require," "shall not," "may not," and "prohibit". No action from the subcommittee is required.

XI. Other

Mr. Belcher reported getting some inquiries from charter members and instructors concerning certified fire safety inspector JPRs and skill sheet check-offs, in particular about the 100% check-off requirement, and if the intent was that each charter is supposed to identify the actual correct answers on those. Mr. Burke answered that there has never been an answer key for any skills that have been put out, nor have any been found for previous skills. An answer key would not be secure, since there is no restricted access for the program directors; for example, the skill sheets are all posted on the open web. Mr. Burke supposed that it was always assumed the instructors would be able to create the correct answers to that certification course.

Mr. Belcher clarified his question about the 100% check-off requirement. He thought in the past there was the criteria of a scale system of scoring a passing rate vs. a 100% completion of each line item. Mr. Burke will go back and take a closer look at those skill sheets, specifically the FSI skill sheets, and report back with his findings.

Action: Check for past records of critical criteria and a scale system of scoring a passing rate for fire safety inspector skills on skill sheet check-offs. – Mr. Burke

Lastly, Chair Thomas updated the members on the news of Chief McLean's retirement from the Village of Richmond Fire Department, and thanked him for 45 years of service. Chief McLean is the last remaining original subcommittee member, starting in 2000. He also served as the chair for quite a while. A suitable replacement has not yet been found, and Chief McLean is welcome to stay as long as he is willing.

Adjournment

Chair Thomas requested a motion to adjourn at 10:35 p.m.

MOTION: Motion to adjourn. Mr. Guenther – First. Mr. Cullison – Second. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Next meeting:

**Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Microsoft Teams® Virtual Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**