



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 MINUTES

November 12, 2019

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Thursday, November 12, 2019, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, at the ODPS Shipley Building, Conference Room 1107, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223

I. 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; Bill Mastroianni; and Phil McLean
- b. Committee Members Absent: None
- c. DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Melvin House, Executive Director of EMS; Joe Posey, EMS Program Administrator II; Ted Kienzle, EMS Program Administrator II; and Jayn Mayton, EMS Administrative Professional IV
- d. Public Present: Dave Belcher, Jay Clevenger, Tim Feldman, Dick Glessner, Patty Glessner, Dan Reed, Jack Smith, Dan Swords, and Scott Walker

III. Open Forum

New member Lt. William (Bill) Mastroianni introduced himself. He has been a firefighter for 25 years, most of which have been in the city of Euclid. He is currently OAPFF Director of Operations, and was recently appointed to this subcommittee.

Review and approval of the Firefighter & Fire Safety Inspector Subcommittee Meeting minutes of July 9, 2019

There was a request from Mr. McLean that the minutes of July 9, 2019 be amended to include a summary of the discussion concerning a possible designation of Fire Safety Inspector Instructor Emeritus.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee meeting minutes from July 9, 2019, with the addition of the discussion concerning Fire Safety Inspector Instructor Emeritus. Mr. McLean – First. Mr. Wright – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

IV. Executive Director House report

Executive Director House reported that the Ohio Division of EMS is completing a draft of the new instructor course which Education Chief Burke will present before a group of interested stakeholders from both fire and EMS. This group will preliminarily review a draft proposal for a course and then bring the proposal back to this committee and the Board for approval. Essentially, the proposal will create an Instructor I and II course, as well as resolve some issues with the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules regarding the current Instructor course. For example, currently EMS instructors cannot sit in a fire instructor class but a fire instructor can sit in an EMS instructor class. DEMS is hoping to allow charter programs and credit programs more flexibility. Executive Director House asked those who are interested in participating in that group to notify him or Education Chief Burke.

V. State Fire Marshal Report

Mr. Smith reported that the deadline on the Firefighter I grant is approaching, and the State Fire Marshal's Office is nearing the maximum dollar amount being allocated and spent. The grant has been renewed for the next biannual period.

VI. Ohio Fire Organizations Reports

Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors (OSFSI)

Mr. Belcher stated that the OSFSI had a great symposium at the Fire Academy with the State Fire Marshal's office and Jack Smith's staff. Speakers and vendors participated in the event, and there were approximately 185 attendees. In the future, OSFSI is interested in offering this symposium annually, to be followed by the DEMS Program Directors Conference. The OSFSI would like to continue with a date of the third week in October, if that will coordinate with the DEMS conference.

Other

There were no other reports.

VII. DEMS Fire Education Report

- a. **Ohio Fire Awards** - Executive Director House reported the outcome of the Ohio Fire Awards after-action review. According to the comments of the organizers, the awards ceremony went as planned, with no major difficulties. The organizers focused their attention on how to further improve the pre-event tasks; in particular, how to be more effective in getting the nominees and nominators to send in their best-quality photos and videos for the recipients' award videos.
- b. **Program director in-service** - The Ohio DEMS Program Director conference was held on October 30th. Executive Director House provided attendance totals: 59 of Ohio's 61 charters attended. This in-service provided the opportunity to clear up some confusion occurring in the last few years about live fire instructor, and to roll-out new data available for the schools. DEMS is now able to measure pass rates for charter schools, and rates of success or lack of success for many categories. Executive Director House felt the conference was a great success, and thanked Mr. Cullison for representing the subcommittee at the in-service conference.
- c. **Request approval for Firefighter I skill sheets** – Mr. Posey passed out revised skill sheets and thanked all the charters for their reviews and feedback on relevant skill sheets. Updates were made based on those recommendations. There were questions about what to teach as a “flip the

switch”; in other words, subjects that can be trained and tested the same day. Regarding the format for the FFI and FFII skills, the numbering changed a little to line up with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. Mr. Posey directed the members to the appendix at the back of the skill sheets, where there are some recommended procedures. The appendix provides clarification which will hopefully reduce the number of errors in implementation.

Mr. Posey pointed out that the reviewers added flexibility in what is being regarded as the random category in tests. Charters can now choose which category best fits their area of operation. This ensures that DEMS will not assign a random skill that will never be encountered in their area.

Regarding the time standard for 4.7 Search and Rescue, Mr. Cullison asked that the appendix show a flexibility in the time allocated, depending on the size of the area. All agreed to this change.

After a discussion regarding 4-13 Vertical Ventilation, it was determined that the evaluation could be considered Flip the Switch if the structure being used is an acquired structure. It was also agreed that 4-5 Field Decontamination would be changed to Flip the Switch evaluation.

In 4-16 Ladders, the candidate must demonstrate the ability to tie off the halyard. There will be an addition to the skill evaluation and the appendix that this is not applicable if the halyard is closed.

The random skill evaluation of 4-8 Fire Attack – Exterior will become a Flip the Switch evaluation.

The 4-19 Portable Extinguisher skill evaluation is not a Flip the Switch. It also must specify a Class A fire for the evaluation.

The 4-29 Ground Cover Fire evaluation will become Flip the Switch.

Mr. Posey brought the subcommittee’s attention to the fact that in the appendix, 4-30 Air Monitoring was changed to add that simulators approved by the AHJ may be used. The subcommittee agreed that JPR 4.1.2 should be added to 4-30 Air Monitoring, to ensure that the general skill of researching standards in the JPR is written as a requirement.

ACTION: Motion to approve the recommended changes to the Firefighter I Practical Examination Skill Sheets. Vice Chair Wright – First. Mr. Cullison – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

d. Request approval for Firefighter II skill sheets

Moving on to the Firefighter II skill sheets, Mr. Posey stated that 5:13 Service Testing Fire Hose will be made Flip the Switch.

Mr. Clevenger pointed out that 5.4 Coordinate an Interior Attack should include two more key phrases from the JPR. Where it says “efforts are coordinated with...” it should also say, “Coordination is maintained”. He also requested that “hazards are reported” be added. Upon further review, it was apparent that Mr. Clevenger was looking at an earlier draft because these items were included in the final draft.

ACTION: Motion to approve the recommended changes to the Firefighter II Practical Examination Skill Sheets. Mr. Guenther – First. Mr. McLean – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

- e. **Initial review of the Hazard Recognition Officer skill sheets and approval to send to program directors for comment and review; and**
- f. **Initial review of the Fire Safety Inspector skill sheets and approval to send to program directors for comment and review**

Executive Director House expressed his appreciation to the charters who are sending back comments on the skill sheets. DEMS is extending this process to the Hazard Recognition Officer and Fire Safety Inspector skill sheets. He requested approval to send the initial skill sheets to program directors for comment and review.

ACTION: Motion to send out the initial Hazard Recognition Officer and Fire Safety Inspector skill sheets to program directors for review and comments. Mr. Cullison – First. Mr. Guenther – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Executive Director House made additional comments about changes in future skill sheets. He informed the subcommittee that DEMS is also reviewing the practical skills for volunteer firefighters. DEMS will bring that to the subcommittee for review when it is available. In addition, all course packets are now being designed so that it is clear if one is using Jones & Bartlett or IFTSA, and what students need to study to improve particular skills. Everything will be in sync.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. New Business

There was no new business.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

ACTION: Motion to adjourn the meeting of the Firefighter Fire Safety Inspector Training Subcommittee at 11:02 a.m. Vice Chair Wright – First. Mr. McLean – Second. None opposed. None abstained. Motion approved.

Next meeting:

January 23, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Conference Room 1102

Ohio Department of Public Safety

1970 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH

EMFTS Board Retreat:

February 11, 12, & 13

Times vary

ODNR Division of Geological Survey

Horace R. Collins Laboratory

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