



**THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIRE FIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

April 26, 2017

The meeting of the Tennessee Commission on Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education was called to order by Chairman Mathew Sorge at 1:00 P.M. Eastern on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at the Park Vista Hotel, 705 Cherokee Orchard Rd., Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

- I. **PRAYER** - (Commissioner Kerley)
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – (Commissioner Naifeh)
- III. **ROLL CALL** (Coordinator Linda Brown) – Members Present:

Commissioner Brian Biggs
Commissioner Tommy Kelley
Commissioner Darryl Kerley
Commissioner Jay Moore
Commissioner Michael Naifeh
Commissioner Stephanie Specht
Commissioner Toran Hedgepath
Commissioner Mathew Sorge
Commissioner David Windrow

Members Not Present:

Commissioner Julie McPeak – (ex-officio non-voting member)

A quorum has been established.

Commerce and Insurance / Fire Prevention Staff Present:

Gary West – Deputy Commissioner – Dept. of Commerce and Insurance
Steve Majchrzak – Assistant Commissioner - Dept. of Commerce and Insurance
Randy Fox – Executive Director – Fire Commission
Steve Cross – Fire Coordinator/Educational Incentive Pay Program Mgr. – Fire Commission
Linda Brown – Fire Coordinator/Accreditation Mgr. – Fire Commission
Joseph Underwood – Attorney at Law – Dept. of Commerce and Insurance
Jeffrey Elliott – Fire Service Program Director – TFACA

Guests:

Michael Shillings – Wacker Polysilicon Fire Department
Dan King - Wacker Polysilicon Fire Department
Shane Bass - Wacker Polysilicon Fire Department
Marshall Blair - Wacker Polysilicon Fire Department
Chris Hall - Wacker Polysilicon Fire Department

Guests, Cont.:

- Phillip Mitchell – McMinnville Fire Department
- Daniel Snyder – Cookeville Fire Department
- Christopher Todd Torbett – Madisonville Fire Department
- Mike P. Flynn, Sr. – East Ridge Fire Department
- Chad Ketron – Ricky Rescue
- Jeromy VanderMeulen – Ricky Rescue
- Charlie Cole – Gatlinburg Fire Department
- Martin M. White – McMinnville Fire Department
- Chris Knutsen – Pigeon Forge Fire Department
- Rickey Walker, Sr. – Collierville Fire & Rescue
- Rick Rader, MD – SNAP Training Provider
- Skyler Phillips – Chattanooga Fire Department – SNAP Training
- Jim Everhart – Kingsport Fire Department
- Greg Miller – Gatlinburg Fire Department
- Kory Green – Martin Fire Department

IV. MINUTES

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER Specht

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER Hedgepath

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes from the February 2017 Commission meetings.

VOTE: ___9___ FOR ___0___ AGAINST ___0___ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Presentations by Chairman Sorge

Former Commission Chairman Mark Finucane received a plaque from the Commission thanking him for his time and dedication to the Fire Service. He served the Commission for two terms for 12 years and was Chairman for several of those years. Former Chairman Finucane thanked the members stating it was an honor and a privilege to serve on the Commission and also stated he missed serving as well. He stated early in his career with the Commission, he was guided by Director Terry Woody, Chief Clarence Cash (Shelby County), and Battalion Chief Frank Cotton (Memphis) who he appreciates what they did for him, his career and his time on the Commission. He thanked Exec. Director Randy Fox and his staff for the excellent job they are doing, and stated that the Commission made the right choice when they picked him to be Director. He also wanted to recognize and thank Commissioner Gary West for keeping the promises he made to him and for his passion for the fire service, especially the Fire Commission.

Chairman Sorge also recognized Former Commissioner Tom McCormack who was not able to be at the meeting, for his service and his dedication to the fire service. Former Commissioner Finucane spoke for Former Commissioner McCormack and thanked everyone for the plaque and stated that he wanted to convey for Tom his appreciation to the Commission and to Director Fox and his staff for all of their hard work.

b. Introduction of new board member.

Chairman Sorge introduced and welcomed our new board member, Commissioner Jay Moore from Lawrenceburg Fire Department.

VI. GUESTS

a. Jeff Elliott – Fire Service Program Director, TFACA. Director Elliott stated that Former Commissioner Finucane was joining the instructor staff at TFACA. He has become a part-time instructor with the Academy teaching Fire Officer I & II, and Instructor I.

TFACA has 20 recruits scheduled to graduate next Friday. All of them are Awareness and Operations certified.

Johnson City and Kingsport area also has 18 firefighter recruits scheduled to graduate May 8th.

Training opportunities: Smokey Mountain Weekend – hosted by Gatlinburg Fire Department – just under 500 applicants have been registered. Currently there will be 42 classes that are being offered. There are still opportunities for Tennessee firefighters to register for the classes.

Applications are available this week for the Tennessee Virginia National Fire Academy Weekend – 5 classes are being offered: Introduction to Unified Command for All Hazardous Incidents, Best Practices in Community Risk Reduction, Fire Service Safety Culture: Who Protects firefighters from Firefighters, New Fire Chief and Command and Control of Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Operations for the Structural Chief Officer. These classes are being held on September 23, 2017.

Courses are set for the Tennessee Fire Chief’s Annual Conference held in Murfreesboro, TN – July 22nd. The NFA direct delivery class – New Fire Chief’s Challenging Issues will be offered at this function.

The roll-out for the Mobile Training Tower curriculum will begin in July. The specific curriculums will be discussed later in the meeting.

The Academy has received a new mobile forcible entry prop that was from an AFG grant award. The cost for the prop was about a \$130,000.

The Academy also received word that we have been awarded the grant that was applied for last year, for four (4) pump simulators.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Ricky Rescue Letter on Accreditation – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). They have been working toward this accreditation for a couple of years and were recently awarded this accreditation.

b. Fraternal Order of Leatherheads Society (Middle TN Chapter) – letter. This organization wants to host a Firefighter I & II Live Burn Practical @ Ft. Campbell. They thought because they were in Kentucky there might be an issue, but according to Director Fox and reviewing the Rules, there is no issue with Tennessee Firefighters completing these courses in Kentucky.

VIII. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

a. Report from legal – Joe Underwood, Chief Legal Counsel – Discussed rules changes during the Commission Work Session held this morning. The next Rule Making hearing meeting will be held September 13, 2017 in Oakridge, TN @8:45 A.M. and we will accept comments from the public regarding any rule changes at that time.

b. IFSAC Report – Director Fox – Accreditation Coordinator Linda Brown and Director Fox attended the IFSAC Conference in Oklahoma City, OK a few weeks ago. We had opportunities to attend several workshops and had opportunities to network with others. There are issues to be addressed regarding the transition from NFPA 1006 to the new standard. The changes that are to be made include for example: Rope I & II will change to Awareness, Operations and Technician for each one of those levels. The Commission will adopt the new standard when it is issued.

Another interesting fact that was discussed is the transition from NFPA 472 to NFPA 1072 that was discussed this morning in our Rule making review. The NFPA will be tying NFPA 1001 to NFAP 1072 as the next progression step, and will eventually move away from NFPA 472. That is why we wanted to incorporate both into the current Rules.

Next IFSAC meeting that we will be attending will be in October, Cleveland, OH.

c. Contractor status - have two new contractors that began with the Commission in March: Phillip Grooms, Mt Pleasant Fire Department serving Middle Tennessee, and Michael Miranda, Gatlinburg Fire Department serving East Tennessee.

d. 2016 Educational Incentive Pay Report – Director Fox provided a report to Commissioners with the Educational Incentive Pay information. The total amount sent to Fiscal - \$2,244,000.00 for 50 fire departments and 3,740 firefighters. Currently we have 6,034 total and a few that are still being worked on.

e. Reciprocity Report – Linda Brown – Coordinator Brown submitted a reciprocity report to all Commissioners. Due to the changes that were implemented, to comply with the Rules, reciprocity applications have decreased overall. However, because of the decision this morning to change the employment verification time period, the number of reciprocity applications should return to normal or increase. Information on reciprocity applications that have been denied and the reason for the denial has also been included in the reciprocity report.

f. Training Program(s) (Courses by Submittal) Report – This information consists of the fire departments that have submitted programs that were approved in-house and sent back to them. All this information has been attached to their files in Acadis.

g. 2017 Training Programs Report – Coordinator Steve Cross – At the last Commission meeting it was reported that we had 105 participating fire departments with 108 programs. If the waiver submitted by Springfield Fire Department is approved it will be 106 departments, with 109 programs.

h. Audit Drawing Results for 2016 Educational Incentive Pay

The departments selected for audits for the 2016 Educational Incentive Pay Program are:

1. Gatlinburg
2. Alcoa
3. Greenville
4. Johnson City
5. McMinnville
6. Vonore
7. Loudon
8. Livingston
9. Hendersonville
10. Kingsport
11. Tullahoma

- 12. Putnam County
- 13. Milan
- 14. Maryville
- 15. Bolivar
- 16. Clarksville
- 17. Munford
- 18. City of Henderson

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. Ricky Walker Fire Officer II – 3rd request from Rick Walker regarding a Fire Officer II test where he passed the written test but did not submit his practical by the July 1st deadline. He stated he was not informed of the deadline verbally or in a written format and is requesting that the Commission reconsider their previous denial decision and certify him as a Fire Officer II. A lengthy discussion on the situation occurred. It was apparent that Mr. Walker had sent information that showed the printed date occurred in August.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Kerley

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Specht

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: Motion to approve Ricky Walker’s request to have him certified as a Fire Officer II.

Discussion: Counsel Underwood stated he needed to determine which procedure this decision should follow. It was decided to table the motion and return to it when Counsel Underwood has concluded his findings.

VOTE: _____ FOR _____ AGAINST _____ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: Tabled

X. NEW BUSINESS

h. SNAP Training Course – SNAP – Special Needs Awareness Program being presented by Dr. Rick Rader, Physician Director of the Rehabilitation Center, Chattanooga, TN, he is responsible for creating innovating medical programs that impact on individuals with complex developmental disabilities across their life span. He also talked about is very prestigious background and his support for the SNAP Program and his recommendations that it be provided to every fire department in Tennessee. For the past 15 years he has been an instructor for the Chattanooga Police Department and Hamilton County Sherriff’s department in providing training in the nationally recognized CIT – Crisis Intervention Team Training for law enforcement. This program has had statically significant out comes in the lives of marginalized and at risk populations such as people with intellectual disabilities, mental illness, homeless, veterans with PTSD, and dementia. It has provided law enforcement with new insights, understanding model strategies and practices and encounters with high risk populations. This training has been on a state wide roll out through the Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. This was done to address concerns of equity, and these individuals were at a higher degree of risk based solely on where they live and the training the local police had received or had not received. That same rational can and should be applied to firefighters. Their level of training for this population should be the same as what law enforcement now receives. The SNAP program has been created to level the playing field. Captain Skyler Phillips (co-founder of the program) from the Chattanooga Fire Department and Lisa Mattheiss also spoke on the benefits of this program for the fire service. The course includes a 2 and a 4 hour version which can be used as an in-service course.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Naifeh

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Moore

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve the SNAP program 4 hour course submission for Educational Incentive Pay Program.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___9___ FOR ___0___ AGAINST ___0___ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

1) Consideration to approve courses.

a. Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson (TACA) Course for 2017 Conference
Bill Gardner – Eastern Division Vice President for TACA – Regarding next week’s class that starts on Wednesday, May 3rd and ends on May 5th. They are asking approval for 22 hours, classroom as well as hands on training which will take place in Franklin, TN.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Biggs

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Windrow

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve the 22 hour training program submitted by the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson (TACA).

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___9___ FOR ___0___ AGAINST ___0___ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

Agenda returning to item: **a. Ricky Walker Fire Officer II**

Counsel Underwood advised that the Commission can take action but not as a waiver but as a motion.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Kerley

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Specht

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: Motion to accept Ricky Walker’s written and practical scores and have him certified as a Fire Officer II.

Discussion: Commission Specht had a question for Mr. Walker – his original letter to the Commission he stated that he mailed the information to Nashville in June, not in August as he previously stated. The file submitted was computerized dated in August. He admitted that he mailed it in August, but still contended that he did not know about the deadline.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Biggs:	No
Commissioner Kelley	Abstain
Commissioner Kerley	Yes
Commissioner Moore	Yes
Commissioner Naifeh	No

Commissioner Specht Yes
Commissioner Hedgepath Yes
Commissioner Sorge No
Commissioner Windrow No

VOTE: 4 FOR 4 AGAINST 1 ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: FAIL

b. TFACA Programs – Jeff Elliott, TFACA Fire Service Program Director – Instructor I, Apparatus Specs and Mobile Training Tower.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Biggs

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Kelley

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve Instructor I, Apparatus Specs and Mobile Training Tower training programs submitted by TFACA.

Discussion: None

VOTE: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

c. Smoky Mtn. Weekend 2017 – Training Officer Chris Knutsen, Pigeon Forge Fire Department requested approval for courses submitted.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Specht

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Hedgepath

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve the training courses for the Smoky Mountain Weekend, 2017.

Discussion: None

VOTE: 9 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

d. Ricky Rescue Programs – Chad Ketron and Jeromy VanderMeulen from Ricky Rescue are requesting approval for 5 submitted training programs: Hazmat Awareness, Blood Borne Pathogens, Aerial Apparatus Driver Operator, Fire Apparatus Operator & Firefighter I.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Biggs

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Windrow

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve the program proposals submitted by Ricky Rescue: Hazmat Awareness, Blood Borne Pathogens, Aerial Apparatus Driver Operator, Fire Apparatus Operator & Firefighter I.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___9__ FOR ___0__ AGAINST ___0__ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

e. Memphis FD Driver Skills Sheets – request to approve submitted skills sheet that will be used instead of the Fire Commission’s skills sheets.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Windrow

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Hedgepath

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve submitted skills sheets.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___8__ FOR ___0__ AGAINST ___1__ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

f. Bristol FD Recruit Training – request approval for Bristol Fire Department recruit training program.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Hedgepath

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Specht

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve Bristol Fire Department recruit training program.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___8__ FOR ___0__ AGAINST ___1__ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

g. Kingsport Rope I & II Course – Captain Jim Everhart, Kingsport Fire Department, is requesting approval for their Rope I & II course.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Specht

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Kerley

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve Instructor I, Apparatus Specs and Mobile Training Tower training programs submitted by TFACA.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___8__ FOR ___0__ AGAINST ___1__ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

2) Consideration to approve waivers

a. Springfield FD Waiver Request – to waive the deadline of the November 1, 2017 for the submission for the Educational Incentive Pay Program.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Kerley

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Moore

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To approve waiver for the Springfield Fire Department on their Educational Incentive Pay Program for 11/1/17.

Discussion: None

VOTE: ___9___ FOR ___0___ AGAINST ___0___ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

Information was brought to the Commission by Dewey Woody. He talked about some programs that the Department of Homeland Security will deliver programs to the Fire Chief’s Association to departments throughout the state. These programs have not been pushed towards the fire service and most of the classes have been POST Commission approved and geared towards law enforcement. He stated he will be submitted a packet to the Fire Commission regarding these programs in the near future.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

This is an opportunity for the audience to make comments or ask questions of the Commission on the actions taken at today’s meeting.

Mr. Walker stated he was very disappointed in the Commission Board’s decision. Director Fox stated that he would be able to challenge the written exam and upon receiving a passing grade, he would be able to receive a Fire Officer II certification.

XII. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 13th, Business Meeting / Rule Making Hearing - 8:45 AM - Eastern - Oak Ridge, TN located at Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce 1400 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

November, 29, 2017, Memphis Fire Training Academy – Memphis, TN
9:00 Work Session, 1:00 Business Meeting. All times are Central Time.

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER: Naifeh

2ND BY: COMMISSIONER: Moore

CONTENT OF THE MOTION: To adjourn.

VOTE: ___9___ FOR ___0___ AGAINST ___0___ ABSTAIN

RESOLUTION: PASS

Meeting adjourned.

**TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIRE FIGHTING PERSONNEL
STANDARDS AND EDUCATION
WORK SESSION / RULES HEARING MEETING**

April 26, 2017
9:00 AM - Central Time
PARK VISTA HOTEL
705 Cherokee Orchard Rd.
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman - Commissioner Sorge

II. ROLL CALL – (Coordinator Linda Brown)

Commission Members Present:

Commissioner Brian Biggs
Commissioner Tommy Kelley
Commissioner Darryl Kerley
Commissioner Jay Moore
Commissioner Michael Naifeh
Commissioner Stephanie Specht
Commissioner Toran Hedgepath
Commissioner Matthew Sorge
Commissioner David Windrow

Commission Members Not Present:

Commissioner Julie Mix McPeak

A quorum has been established.

Commerce and Insurance / Fire Prevention Staff Present:

Steve Majchrzak – Assistant Commissioner - Dept. of Commerce and Insurance
Randy Fox – Executive Director – Fire Commission
Steve Cross – Fire Coordinator / Educational Incentive Pay Mgr. – Fire Commission
Linda Brown – Fire Coordinator/Accreditation/Reciprocity Mgr. – Fire Commission
Joseph Underwood – Chief Counsel – Fire Marshal’s Office
Jeffrey Elliott – Fire Service Program Director – TFACA

Guests:

Martin White – McMinnville Fire Department
Mike P. Flynn, Sr. – East Ridge Fire Department
Christopher Todd Torbett – Madisonville Fire Department
Kory Green – Martin Fire Department
Michael Miranda – Gatlinburg Fire Department
Phillip Mitchell – McMinnville Fire Department

Daniel Snyder – Cookeville Fire Department

Guests Cont.:

Dan King - Wacker Polysilicom Fire Department

Mike Shillings - Wacker Polysilicom Fire Department

Todd Blair - Wacker Polysilicom Fire Department

Shane Bass - Wacker Polysilicom Fire Department

Jim Dyer – City of Athens Fire Department

Jerry R. Cartes – City of Red Bank Fire Department

Bill Garner – TACA Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson

P.J. Duncan – Pleasant View Fire Department

Chairman recognized and welcomed our new Commissioner – Jay Moore.

III. REVIEW OF RULES

Review of the Rules proposed changes- Joseph Underwood – Chief Counsel

This Redline Version of the Rules that was handed out is a rough draft of the Rule changes for the Firefighting Commission.

Rule Making Hearing to take place in September of this year in Oak Ridge, TN. At that time if there are any changes to be made, it must be made by motions, with seconds and so forth.

Regarding Rope Rescue II – questions about the requirements for this level that was discussed in a previous meeting. Commissioner Specht stated that Rope Rescue I must have Firefighter I as a pre-requisite and Rope Rescue II must have Firefighter II and Rope Rescue I as pre-requisites.

Regarding Chapter 4 – Examinations – Rule 6 #16 & 17 – Wildland Firefighter - requires Firefighter I & II to become a Wildland Firefighter. (AFTER MEETING NOTE: upon further review, it was found that Firefighter II is not a requirement for Wildland Firefighter II. Firefighter I is not required per the NFPA Standard, but was added as a requirement per the Commission Board). It was also suggested to list the information as “courses required by the Commission”, instead of listing the actual courses because the courses can change.

Additional changes to information in:

Chapter 1 – No additional changes.

Chapter 2 – (Not in packet due to no initial Rule changes)

Chapter 3 – Examinations will mean “written or practical” examination – to be determined by the Commission.

Firefighter I – section 01-.02(1) Per Director Fox – the Commission needs to be flexible with the changes that are coming regarding NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072 because NFPA 1072 will replace NFPA 472. This is in regards to Firefighter I & II, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Operations and Technician. Counsel Underwood stated they would add NFPA 1072 to the above levels.

Page 2 of Chapter 3 at the top of the page, the Rule number went from 0360-03-01-.02 to 0360-03-01-.49. Counsel Underwood stated this was a typo and would be changed.

Under item #6 on Page 2, Director Fox stated that the "12 months" no longer exists. An individual will be able to challenge it within 30 days. Per Asst. Commissioner Majchrzak – add ProBoard to the language. Also Counsel Underwood stated that the language for this section can be revisited and does not need to be decided right now. He wanted everyone to think about it and it will be looked at again later.

Per Director Fox – a question was brought to his attention – if an individual, who was certified in the past at the Fire Officer I level, and now wants to be IFSAC or ProBoard accredited, will that individual be able to fast track and take the practical and written or will they be required to meet the course requirements. The Board decided that these individuals will not have to take the course, but must challenge the written and practical examinations for that level.

Per Counsel Underwood - In regards to adopting the current NFPA standard at the time, instead of listing the NFPA standards currently adopted, we will apply language that will be a generic requirement and then you refer back to the Rules where you actually adopted the NFPA Standards, Chapter 6 – Adoption by Reference.

Chapter 4 – Under 0360-04-01-.01(7) – Practicals and written exams are good for a year from the date they take the examination.

Terminology – "performance vs practical". Practical seems to be the most commonly used.

Grading – Section 1 – in regards to the passing grade shall be 70% of the total point value – with the changes made in PDO, AADO, & FAO, each section has to be 70%, it is not the overall exam score.

Also Section 1-(b.3) – shall score at least 65% on each section of the exam.

Language terminology – "review vs challenge, or appeal, or contest" written test score. Language will be changed to one of these by Counsel Underwood.

In regards to whether or not an individual can review an exam they did not pass (received a score of 65-69), they are only allowed to review the last test that they have taken for that level. Language consideration: reviewing an exam - "review should be changed to either - challenge, or appeal, or contest" the exam.

Section 0360-04-01-.02 Applications - Regarding the minimum number of participants in order to host a written test event - this has been 10 persons. Now, it will be left up to the Commission office staff's discretion but will still have an unwritten rule of 10 persons.

Chapter 5 – No additional changes.

Chapter 6 – Per Director Fox – under 0360-06-01-.04 Progression – Policy 16-2 should be incorporated into the Rule:

Policy Number 16-2
Adopted February 18, 2016

Original Motion by Naifeh
Last Amended:

Subject: Progression in Certification Testing

Progression in certification testing is defined as: The 30-day waiting period is only in effect for those dependent levels of certification that require a prerequisite level of certification prior to testing at the desired level. Example: A test applicant must wait 30 days between Fire Instructor I and Fire Officer I because Fire Instructor I is a prerequisite for Fire Officer I. However, the applicant could test on the same day at different test events for both Airport Firefighter and Fire Officer I if the applicant meets the prerequisite requirements for each level. This is allowed because neither level is dependent on the other.

Need to add NFPA 1072 (Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications) 2017 Edition, into 0360-06-01-.01 Adoption by Reference.

Regarding 0360-06-01-.05(2-b) Reciprocity: Per Director Fox – “Documentation that the applicant has not been out of the fire service for a period of three (3) years or more”; the staff would like a better definition of 3 years or more, does it start from the time the individual first entered the fire service or from the time when they were first certified. The goal is to make sure applicants for reciprocity do not have a 3 year gap in service. It was decided by the Commission Board that the 3 year timeframe occur during the previous 3 years from the date of the reciprocity application date. Thus making sure reciprocity applicants have not been out of the fire service for greater than three (3) years from the date of the reciprocity application, to the date of the last active fire department service separation date.

Chapter 7 –

Program submission has been changed from November 1st to October 1st for program submission.

Regarding Rule – 0360-07-01-.05 (4-b-1) – “at least eight (8), but not more than sixteen (16) hours on Hazardous Materials, the suggestion was to reduce the amount of hours or put it on a 3 year rotation the same as firefighter safety. Not to require a minimum of 8 hours but can do up to 16 hours, and there is no minimum amount.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Kerley

SECOND BY: Commissioner Windrow

Motion to: To change the Hazardous Materials requirement from 8 hours but not more than 16 hours to: Hazardous Materials training requirement to occur once every 3 years and must have a minimum of four (4) hours to a maximum of sixteen (16) hours during that time period.

Call for the question - None

RESOLUTION:

Vote: 9 – Yea 0 – Nay 0 – Abstain

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY: Commissioner Kerley

SECOND BY: Commissioner Specht

Motion to: Change the requirement for Firefighter Health and Safety training from four (4) hour minimum every 3 years, to four (4) hour minimum every year.

Call for the question - None

RESOLUTION:

Vote: 9 – Yea 0 – Nay 0 – Abstain

MOTION CARRIED

0360-07-01-.8 (5) – Audits – Change – a department that has been audited 2 years in a row, with a clean audit history for those years, will be exempt from being selected for an audit for a 3rd year in a row.

Suggestion – all new departments added to the Educational Incentive Pay Program will automatically be audited after their first year, in order to avoid making mistakes later on. If approved, this process will go into effect after Rules changes have been approved.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Naifeh

SECOND BY: Commissioner Kerley

Motion to: When randomly selecting the two (2) fire departments per Commissioner for audits, (a total of 18), each new fire department that joins the Fire Commission will be audited their first year and will be selected as one of the mandatory 18 to be audited for that year.

Call for the question - None

RESOLUTION:

Vote: 9 – Yea 0 – Nay 0 – Abstain

MOTION CARRIED

IV. CLARIFICATION ON PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS

Per Director Fox: This is in regards to the electronic submission by TN Fire Training.com for a Fire Officer III curriculum. This particular program submission curriculum type was put into place for fire department submissions. Director Fox needed clarification on whether it was just for fire departments or can other entities utilize this program submission process. It was decided that TN Fire Training.com needs to submit program curriculum the same as any other third party vendor.

V. AUDIT DRAWING FOR 2016 IN-SERVICE

The departments selected for audits for 2016 are:

- Gatlinburg
- Alcoa
- Greenville
- Johnson City
- McMinnville
- Vonore
- Loudon
- Livingston

Hendersonville
Kingsport
Tullahoma
Putnam County
Milan
Maryville
Bolivar
Clarksville
Munford
Henderson City

VI. DISCUSSION OF MEETING DATE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 13th, Business Meeting / Rule Making Hearing - 8:45 AM Eastern
Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce 1400 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

MOTION BY: Commissioner Naifeh

SECOND BY: Commissioner Hedgepath

Motion to: Accept the offer from Memphis Fire Department to host the Fall Quarterly Commission Meeting at the Memphis Fire Training Academy.

Call for the question - None

RESOLUTION:

Vote: 9 – Yea 0 – Nay 0 – Abstain

MOTION CARRIED

Fall Quarterly meeting – November 29, 2017, with November 28th & 30th being the travel days.
Workshop in the morning at 9:00 AM and the Business Meeting in the afternoon at 1:00 PM.

MOTION BY: Commissioner Kerley

SECOND BY: Commissioner Hedgepath

Motion to: Hold the Fire Commission Fall Quarterly meeting on November 29, 2017, with November 28th & 30th as travel days. Workshop in the morning at 9:00 AM and the Business Meeting in the afternoon at 1:00 PM.

Call for the question - None

RESOLUTION:

Vote: 9 – Yea 0 – Nay 0 – Abstain

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to recess till after lunch.