

**South Carolina Fire Academy
Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting
Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2008**

Members Present: Jonathan Jones, Lavarn Lucas, Fred Brandt, Brian Horton, Dixon Odom, Art Sattler, Alan Sistare, Shannon Tanner and Mike Wirt

Members Absent: Bill Addis, Phil Elliott, Karl Ristow, Bill Streuber and Mitch Trammel

Alternates Present: Rick Dunn, Skip Hannon, John L Melton and Jim Still

Non-Voting Members Present: John Reich and Ed Roper

Visitors Present: Patrick Bradshaw, Phillip Russell, Cindy Brazell, and Russ Friar

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Ed Roper advised that a quorum was present.

Chairman Jones asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July meeting. Art Sattler made a motion and Lavarn Lucas seconded. Discussion: none. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Jones reviewed the purpose of the committee and the by-laws. Jones encouraged the alternates to attend all meetings and the primary representatives should make sure that their alternate is kept up to date on all committee matters.

The first order of business was to elect a new vice chair for the committee. The only nomination offered was for Art Sattler. Lavarn Lucas made a motion to close the nomination process. Brian Horton seconded. Jones asked for a motion to accept Art Sattler as vice chair by acclamation. Allan Sistare was first and Brian Horton seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Jones asked for reports from the different associations:

SC Firefighters Association – Jonathan Jones

Jones stated that the association has a new director, Joe Palmer, former chief of Newberry FD. Jones stated that work has already begun for the 2009 annual conference. Jones praised the fire academy for their support of the 2008 conference.

SC Fire Chiefs Association – Alan Sistare

The annual conference will be Oct. 15 – 18, 2008 at Myrtle Beach. Dan Cimini is the new president of the Chiefs association.

SC Fire Marshal Association – Patrick Bradshaw (on behalf of Phil Elliott)

Bradshaw stated that Robbie Stevenson has stepped down from the board. The fall conference will Nov. 5 – 7, 2008 in Greenville. The association training schedule is on their web site. The spring conference will be the second week of June in Myrtle Beach.

Public Education Association – No representative

Industrial Representative – Mike Wirt

Wirt stated that the association participated in a table top training in Sept. The remainder of their meeting dates are Oct. 16, 2008, Nov. 20, 2008 and Apr. 2, 2009.

Professional Firefighters – Fred Brandt

Brandt reported that their annual conference would be Oct. 10-12, 2008 in Charleston.

SC Arson Association – Brian Horton

Horton stated that he had met with the fire academy to rewrite the 2-week arson program and new web site should soon be online.

Higher Education – no representative

SC Society of Fire Service Instructors – Art Sattler

Their next meeting will be in Jan. 2009.

Standing committee reports

Curriculum – no representative

Facilities – No representative

Finance – Dixon Odom

Deferred to Ed Roper's report.

Superintendent's Report – Ed Roper

Roper talked about the new building briefly. Roper handed out a letter he had mailed to all fire chiefs and then reviewed the annual finance report.

Roper noted a few upcoming important dates at the fire academy:

Jan. 9-11, 2009 – Safety and Health conference

Feb. 6-8, 2009 – Annual Instructor Society conference

Mar. 14-15, 2009 – Southeastern Fire School

Resident Training – Phillip Russell

Russell introduced his new employee, Greg Gerber, to the committee. Russell handed out and reviewed the resident training report.

Russell noted that course 1136, flammable liquids and gases, is now a pre-requisite for the Firefighter II course.

Curriculum Report – Russ Friar

Friar handed out and reviewed the curriculum report. There was a brief discussion about the length of the Haz Mat Tech course and the need to update and add hours to the course. The IAFF has a 472 compliant course ready to go. Brandt will ask if it will be released and delivered. Jones stated that he would like the committee to compare the two programs and asked how much demand is there for the 280 hour program. A suggestion was made to send a questionnaire to the fire departments asking about the needs of haz mat training.

John Reich talked about the arson program and the need for a fire investor course.

Friar stated that the IFSAC audit scheduled for November may not happen because he had not heard from that committee.

Old Business

1 -- Update to the training standards council – The joint council met and everyone agreed that a standard of training was needed. The joint council will not meet again until after the strategic planning training summit in November. The issues concerned can be downloaded from the S.C. Firefighters Association web site. The State Chiefs association took control of the joint council and is trying to get it going.

New Business

1 – Jones issued some new committee assignments and tasking. Jones is suspending the activities of the finance and facilities committees for one year and will move those members to other committees. Jones wants to look at new ways to deliver programs effectively and research the possibilities and cost and bring a recommendation back the committee. Jones stated that the curriculum sub-committee is for guidance – not necessarily to write curriculum.

2 – Lavarn Lucas had some questions concerning the essentials updates, specifically the admin guideline no. 6 – heat index questions. Friar handed out and reviewed the heat index portion that should have been updated.

3 – Rick Dunn stated that putting SSN on registration forms is a problem for his department. Roper stated that the law allows us to collect the student's SSN, but our agency is moving fast to change this as per Act 190. However, we would still the SSN for all first time students to get into the database; afterwards we would be able to use the last four digits.

Adjourn

The next quarterly committee meeting is scheduled for Jan. 7, 2009 at 10 a.m.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Ed Roper
Recording Secretary