

**INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTER PERSONNEL STANDARDS
AND EDUCATION**

**APRIL 14, 2008 6 PM
JASPER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT
610 MAIN ST
JASPER IN 47546
812-482-6944**

A. BOARD CALLED TO ORDER

6:10 pm, Jerry Nulliner thanked Fire Chief Kenneth Hochgesang for allowing us to have our meeting here in Jasper Indiana.

B. ROLL CALL

Present

Mike Garvey
Thomas Hanify
Jack Kerney Sr.
Jerry Nulliner
Bradley Thatcher
Ab Crosby
Jeff Hayes

Absent

Charles Hall
Darrick Scott
Candice Ashby

Jerry Nulliner took this time to welcome a new board member. Bradley Thatcher who has been appointed Director of Training and thanked Mike Garvey for sitting in for the Marshal.

**C. MINUTES FROM FEB 25, 2008 AND STATISTICAL
REPORT FROM FEB AND MARCH 2008**

Jack Kerney made a motion to accept. Ab Crosby seconded. Motion passed.

D. RECIPROCITY REQUESTS

1. Steven Boyer (tabled from last meeting) is requesting reciprocity for Firefighter ½, and Hazmat Awareness and Ops based fire training from Michigan. Table of hours and subjects taught are enclosed.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

E. STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

Mike Garvey, spoke. We welcome the new Fire Marshal, James Greeson, from IFD. He will be starting on April 28, 2008 and has a lot of fire experience to help him in this job.

SB26, smoke detectors for rental property is moving forward. This bill makes it the landlord's responsibility to have smoke detectors in apartments and the tenant is responsible for keeping it operational ie batteries.

SB28 is a fire safe cigarette. This is so that if you put a cigarette down, after 2-3 seconds the cigarette will go out.

F. HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING DIVISION REPORT; DIRECTOR BRAD THATCHER.

All district budgets have been submitted and will be reviewed by the end of next week. We are also receiving round 2 of the fire infrastructure grants and they are due by noon Friday.

Jerry Nulliner took a minute to congratulate Mike Garvey who has been promoted to Chief of Staff for Homeland Security. Mike has gone from EMS Director, to Deputy Fire Marshal to Chief of Staff.

G. CERTIFICATION SECTION CHIEF, JOHN BUCKMAN.

1. Jerry Stigall revocation of certifications due to age. Attorney made a recommendation that this item be pulled from the agenda. The proper appeal notice was not given.

2. Reprimand and warning standards.

The letters that will be going out are being reformatted into an order. The warning letters are used when a test packet comes back incomplete. If one application is missing, the applications not

signed, information missing, the whole test packet goes on hold until the missing application is received.

A letter of reprimand is used when a test book is missing, if a test is returned late, if test books have been altered. If a proctor is not a fire service person then the notice would go to the instructor telling him about the problem. It is then the instructors responsibility to correct this.

We would like authorization to send a notice for censure; written reprimand; suspension. Revocation of certification due to ongoing problems evolving from the testing with the same instructor will go to the board for action. The individuals have the right to appeal any reprimand that is issued. The board has asked for a sample of the letters that would be sent.

3. Recertification for investigators.

We are still looking at this. Someone I met in the hallway made a suggestion that Investigators be recertified every 2 or 3 years. The reason for this is that the investigator is required to testify in court, and he must be current with knowledge and skill in order to be able to do this with any competency. There would be certain subjects that an investigator would have to take in order to renew their certification. This is still in the works and I will come back with more information.

4. Other items of interest

I took a complaint on a strategy and tactics course and found out that there are no practical skill sheets listed on the web page. We have practical skills, they have been issued for 2 years on disc but since they were not on the web, the instructor took this to mean that there were no skills required.

Jeff Hayes asked – is it possible for an instructor to take copies of the completed bubble sheets, and keep them on file until the test has been received and processed in house. Mara Snyder states that she did not see a problem with this as long as the students are aware that this is being done.

H. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW-JUDGE TEEGARDEN

1. Jeff Huber 07-02

Mr. Huber has requested that he be allowed to recertify as an instructor II/III. He retired from Indiana Fire Service and lives in Michigan.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve stating that under the current rules, this is allowed. The proposed rules would change this but right now he should be allowed to renew his certification. Jack Kerney seconded the motion. The motion passed.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. Rule changes 07-0450
 - a. Communication from Todd Jordan

Proposed rules changes dated 3-24-08:

The only sections listed are those that we are making amendments to:

Test application on line: you are required to submit the course application and testing application with roster at the same time. We do not always know when the test date is going to be or a correct roster at that time. The rule needs to reflect what is happening in real life. What is the value of submitting both at the same time. Can we make that field optional or tentative? You have to submit the application. We will get an e-mail back acknowledging the application. If you do not get this e-mail, you probably need to do this again. Staff will work on this and try to make this more user friendly.

Page 15, (l) should read as many times as requested by the proctor. Practical skills are good for 180 days.

Page 13, section 5, should read on a form approved by the training division. All time frames are reflecting calendar days.

Page 17, Sec 19 (c) needs clarification as to what hours count. The 30 hours can be a combination of teaching adult education, or attending classes in adult education. This will be on the May agenda for discussion. Steve Anderson, Perry Twp FD, asked about teaching students 18 years or older would this not qualify for adult education?

Mara Snyder advised that with any changes, she need a fiscal impact statement.

John Smith with the Huntingburg VFD, would like the board to consider the wording in the Instructor recertification requirements. Asking Instructors that are volunteer firefighters, to attend adult education classes, is asking almost the impossible.

Chairman states that we need to add language for the lead instructor. Does this mean that the lead instructor needs to be at every class all of the time. The answer is yes. Can we change the

language from supervising to managing and overseeing the delivery of the course.

Clarification on 655 IAC 1-1-5.2, requirements for teaching....An instructor I or instructor II/III may teach a class for mandatory, basic firefighter I or Firefighter II so long as such instructor is also certified as a 2nd class firefighter, 1st class firefighter, firefighter 1 or firefighter 2.

There was a question asked; Why do we care who teaches a class. If we do not mandate that you have to attend a course, why do we care who teaches a class. If the student can open a book and study the book, who cares who teaches a class? Tom Hanify answered; you have to have some kind of sanction, someone in the fire service has to answer for what is taught. All universities have tests that you can challenge and get credit for the course. Someone has to take responsibility of this.

John Buckman entered the following names in the record of who are opposed to the original language on the instructor qualifications to teach. Red Coons, Brian Holtzeter, and Ron Huffman states In reference to the purposed rules change that effects those of us that took the instructor cross-over and not the firefighter 1/2 cross-over.

As you are probably aware, during that transition period instructors were told that if they took the instructor cross-over they would automatically be considered crossed over for both. We were told that unless we were planning on leaving the state we would not need the firefighter cross-over. So we didn't.

As it currently stands, Henry County has 5 instructors that conduct almost all of the certified training in the county. If the purposed rule change happens, all of them will be unable to teach. You'll be loosing a combined 100 + years of combined fire service experience. What a terrible waste of instructor resources. Instructors struggle to find the time to teach for others, let alone find the time to add another class to repeat what we've accomplished years ago. A couple have even suggested they would just quit teaching all together. I'm sure that Henry County is no different that the rest of the state. We could loose hundreds of QUALIFIED instructors.

A single class does not make a bad instructor into a good one.

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR HELP IN THIS MATTER.
Ronald D. Huffman, HazMat Technician, EMT-B, Master FF,
SCUBA, SWRT Battalion Chief, New Castle Fire Department

Tom Hanify asked if the alternative language answer the questions. Mr. Buckman did not know and would find out. He suggested removing the sentence “including all prerequisites.” This sentence is misleading and is causing concern.

John Buckman asked about he mandatory training. 655 IAC 1-3-6. Entry into the program section 6 (b) firefighter must be mandatory before he can be a member of the department. This needs to read that you must be mandatory before you can respond to emergency call. The current rule is causing every fire department to lie. This needs changed.

The board will look at this after the current changes.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve all of the proposed changes. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

2. Motorsports – Manuela Johnson
No report at this time.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of vice chair. Gerald George held this position but since his resignation, we need to elect someone.

Gerald George submitted a statement to the board, apparently there is a rumor out that he was asked to resign. This is a false rumor. He resigned on his own. There is also a rumor that he was asked to resign as chief of his department and this is also false. Jerry Nulliner is going to submit a letter to the ethics committee about being a member of the board and getting paid as an Instructor. He would like the ethics board to make a formal notice.

Tom Hanify made a motion to elect Jack Kerney as vice chair. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

There is a 5 minute break at this time.

K. VARIANCES

1. Andrew Sexton is requesting variances for Hazmat Awareness, based on a 1993 class, and Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Water Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness based on the DHS program.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table due to the age of the hazmat certifications. He may resubmit continued education hours for hazmat awareness certification. Mike Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

2. Kenneth Hester is requesting variances for Hazmat Awareness, based on a 1993 class, and Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Water Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness based on the DHS program.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table due to the age of the hazmat certifications. He may resubmit continued education hours for hazmat awareness certification. Mike Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

3. Nick Clarke is requesting a variance for Wilderness Rescue Ops based on training through the SAR program and Swift Water rescue awareness and operations based on the South Bend program.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the Awareness level. He needs Rope Rescue Operations for Swift Water Rescue Operations and Wilderness operations. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

4. Jack Chapman is requesting variances for Hazmat Awareness and Operations based on a 1990 and 1991 class, and Hazmat Awareness, based on a 1993 class, and Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Water Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness based on the DHS program.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table due to the age of the hazmat certifications. He may resubmit continued education hours for hazmat awareness certification. Mike Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

The following are requesting variances for Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Water Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness based on the DHS program.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 5. Craig Johanningman | 6. Linda Dillbeck |
| 7. Michael Morris | 8. Jeremy Gettler |
| 9. Adam Friday | 10. David Evans |
| 11. Mike Cope | 12. Patrick Booth |

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 13. Edward Azcona | 14. Kevin Nowaczyk |
| 15. William Missal | 16. Matthew Kodicek |
| 17. Robert Grady | 18. Clint Gorball |
| 19. John Gettler | 20. Ryan Smith |
| 21. Joseph Zerbes | 22. Thomas Somers |
| 23. Jason Ryman | 24. Aaron Riese |
| 25. Co-Juan Bradley | 26. Mark Baumgardner Sr. |
| 27. Linda Dillbeck | 28. Frank Edmond |
| 29. Jeff Kochis | 30. Brandon Verkler |
| 31. Chris Ondas | 32. Adam Kuspa |
| 33. Todd Konradi | 34. John Hart |
| 35. Dirk DeLor | 36. James Delgado Jr. |
| 37. Edward Yerga | 38. William Gornik Jr. |
| 39. Charles Fazekas | 40. Cary Darnell |
| 41. Robert Malicki | 42. Steve Fisher |
| 43. Jack O'Farrell | 44. James Zube |
| 45. Derreck Schwehn | |

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

The following are requesting variances for Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle/Machinery Rescue Awareness, Wilderness Rescue Awareness, Water Rescue Awareness, and Trench Rescue Awareness, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness based on the curriculum enclosed.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 46. Benjamin Higgins | 47. Jeff Williams |
| 48. Ron Brentlinger | 49. Barry Baumbaugh |
| 50. Jonathan Potter | 51. Todd Hurley |
| 52. Landis Mueller | 53. Robert Price Jr. |
| 54. Jan Potter | 55. John Vance |
| 56. Charles Baker | 57. Richard Weglowski |
| 58. Brenden Goodman | 59. Chad Steveken |
| 60. Brian Brown | 61. Scott Suddarth |
| 62. Almadina Poua | 63. Stephen Gropp |
| 64. Justin Stopczynski | 65. Chris Schmitt |
| 66. Vince Vargo | 67. David Yoder |
| 68. Jaren Killian | 69. James Williams |
| 70. Amanda Uebel | 71. Rod Wetter |
| 72. Derek Schmidt | 73. Keith Whetham |
| 74. Erin Stopczynski | |

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

75. James Reed Sr. is requesting variances for Vehicle/Machinery Operations and Technician based on Scene of the Accident Inc. program.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Bradley Thatcher seconded. Motion passed.

76. Gregory Goodwin is requesting a variance for Instructor 2/3. He took the instructor crossover test in Sept 1997 and never received certification.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

77. Jeffrey Hamilton is requesting a variance for Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I based on a class conducted by Barb Spurlin.

Staff recommends approval.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve. Tom Hanify seconded Motion passed.

78. Capt. Thomas Sargent, is requesting variances for Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics, Instructor I, II/III, Wildland Firefighter I/II based on the Master certifications. He has been in the military and was unable to cross over during the eligible time frame.

Staff recommends approval.

Jeff Hayes made a motion to deny. Bradley Thatcher seconded. He has had time to cross over to the new standard.

79. Lewis Austin is requesting variances for Fire Inspector 3, Fire Officer 2 and 3 based on enclosed documentation and college degrees.

Staff recommends approval.

This is an appeal and will be on the May agenda.

80. Kurt Vaughn is requesting a variance for Mandatory. He feels that this training has been covered in the extensive training he completed as an Industrial Firefighter and has completed the old 4 hour update through Petersburg FD.

Staff recommends approval.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

81. Robert Lamprecht is requesting a variance for Fire Officer 4 based on his Masters Degree in Public Management and the enclosed documentation.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

82. James Clevenger Jr, is requesting a variance for Instructor II/III based on being a certified PI.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

83. Louise Scarpellini is requesting variances for Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics based on knowledge and he teaches this course at the NFA, and Fire Officer I and II based on experience.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion table pending proof of member of an Indiana Fire Dept. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

84. Micah Rulli is requesting a variance for Instructor I, II/III. He is a law enforcement instructor.

Staff recommends approval.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

Tom Hanify would like to thank the staff for the work that they do. They have processed 2200 certifications this month and we would like them to be aware that this is appreciated.

L. MEETING ADJOURNED
Adjourned at 9:15pm

NEXT MEETING

May 19th 6 PM
Anderson City Hall
City Council Chambers
120 E 8th St
Anderson IN 46011
765-648-6600