

INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION MEETING

Minutes

January 24, 2011
10AM
Westfield FD
17535 Dartown Rd
Westfield IN 46074
317-896-2704

- A MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 10 am.
- B. ROLL CALL

Present

Jeff Hayes (Chair)
Jack Kerney Sr. (Co-Chair)
Candace Ashby (Secretary)
James Greeson
James Bennett
Burke Jones
Tom Hanify (10:15)
Greg Wyant

Absent

Jerry Nulliner
Ab Crosby

Introduction of Greg Wyant, the new board member. Chief Wyant is the Assistant Chief at Noblesville FD. Greg has 6 years in Fire training, total of 17 years in the fire service and he lives locally. Greg occupies the Officer position on the Board. The Board still has one position open and it is for a citizen.

C. APPROVAL OF December 4th 2010 MINUTES.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve as submitted. James Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

D. CERTIFICATIONS REPORT, RICK ARCHER

There have been 2169 certifications issued since the last meeting. There were 1767 issued during this time frame last year.

Based on the feedback that I am getting, there are misconceptions as to what is happening with the on-line testing.

Electronic testing is basically changing the process of how we are handling the exams. The electronic system is a much more manageable and efficient method of testing.

Where can the test be administered? These tests will be able to be given anywhere we want them to be. The state has already absorbed the cost of making these tests electronic. The issue is going to be that these are going to require high speed internet.

Test security, the electronic testing is a much more secure test. We have had many cases where the tests have been compromised, the proctors are not following the guidelines, etc. we are working with Ivy Tech on location, expense and other issues. They will be submitting a proposal.

I hope the Board agrees with us that something needs to be done in order to maintain the security and integrity of testing. We are open to suggestions on how we can accomplish this. Send any questions or suggestions to racher@dhs.in.gov. When asked if this was going to prohibit the paper exam, there will always be an option to do this. There will be an impact study on this issue.

There was a question about allowing local schools to contract with the state to be a testing site.

We would not rule this out but we have found in the past that multiple contracts are hard to manage, and right now we are talking with Ivy Tech only.

The impact on Westfield F.D. for 74 firefighters to get the required certifications would be \$1110.00 per certification and our training budget would not allow for this. The only option for us would be to stop a lot of the

testing that we do. So, if something can be done as far as the fee, that would be helpful for everyone in these economic times.

John Buckman states that the extent of this issue is that in the last 6 months, we have mailed test to 1349 test sites throughout the state.

E VARIANCE REQUESTS

1. James McIntosh requested a variance for Fire Officer IV. He has met the prerequisites. He has holds a Bachelor of Science in Management (2010) from Indiana Wesleyan University, and an Associate degree in Fire Technology (1993) from Shasta College. He has completed numerous classes through FEMA on Leadership.

Staff recommends denial. We have written/practical skills in place.

James Bennett made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed. Motion passed.

Jeff Berning requested a variance for the following Anthis Career Center students in Mandatory/Basic Firefighter, FF I/II, Hazmat Awareness and Hazmat Ops. This variance is in order to take the written and practical testing for these classes.

Names of Students:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2. Cody Groves | 3. Alex Federspiel | 4. Jackson Warren |
| 5. Deantre Hinton | 6. Matt Reyes | 7. Kyle Stanz |
| 8. Brandon Parrish | 9. David Hayden | 10. Jacob Furney |
| 11. Josiah Clark | 12. Trevor Bly | 13. Tanner Wild |
| 14. Precious Wass | 15. Daniel Ruiz | 16. Jordan Paterson |
| 17. Zack May | 18. Robert Mattingly | 19. Ben Kuntz |
| 20. Josh Kryder | 21. Tyler Alday | |

Staff recommends approval. Certifications will not be issued until the student's 18th birthday.

James Greeson made a motion to approve, providing the students are 17 years of age at the time of testing. James Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

22. C. David Campbell from City of Lawrence FD. Requested a variance for Confined Space Rescue Technician. Capt Campbell completed classes from 1993-1995 and in 2004 through Progressive Rescue Solutions Inc. he has

included the practical skills check off sheet from 1994 that he completed. He has also included the syllabus from 1997.

Staff recommends denial. He has not met the prerequisites, and the age of the documentation submitted does not meet the standards of today.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed. Mr Campbell would also be required to complete the prerequisite.

23. William Stone from City of Lawrence FD. Requested a variance for Confined Space Rescue Technician. Capt Stone completed the classes through Progressive Rescue Solutions from 1996-2001. He has included the practical skill check off sheet from 1996.

Staff recommends denial. He has not met the prerequisites, and the age of the documentation submitted does not meet the standards of today.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed. Mr Stone also needs to complete the prerequisite.

24. Chris Aponte requested a variance for Instructor I, II/III. He holds an Instructor Level II in Kentucky, and has an IFSAC Firefighter I/II, Fire Officer I, II and III.

Staff recommends approval pending his passing the instructor reciprocity test.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

25. Daniel McElyea requested a variance for Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics. He has completed 50 hours of online Blue card Incident Command Training, and the online practical skills. He also holds an Ivy Tech Associates Degree in Public Safety 2007. He has included the transcripts. He has also completed the ICS 300 and ICS 400.

Staff recommends approval for the practical skills, but recommends that he takes the state written exam.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed. Practical skills will be valid for 180 days from the date of the Blue card was issued.

26. David Combs requested a variance for Fire Instructor I, II/III. He is currently a law enforcement instructor and has over 5 years in the fire service.

Staff recommends approval pending his passing the instructor reciprocity test.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

27. Chris McCutchan requested a variance for Safety Officer. He passed the exam June 8, 2008. It has been on hold waiting on the Fire Officer I prerequisite. He completed the Fire Officer I 12/10. He would now like to be able to release his Safety Officer.

Staff recommends denial. March 15, 2010 was the date submitted for all prerequisites to be completed for existing tests. Mr. McCutchan is well past that date.

Candace Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

28. Troy Jackson requested a variance for Instructor II/III. He holds an instructor certification from Ohio Fire Academy; he has completed instructor courses through the Air Force, and has been teaching at the Apollo Career Center in Ohio. He has already taken and passed the reciprocity test.

Staff recommends approval.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

F. REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL

1. Oral Banta is appealing the Board's denial of his request for Hazardous Material Technician at the December 4th meeting.

Tom Hanify made motion to grant his appeal and forward the request to Judge Bippus. Burke Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

G. STATE FIRE MARSHAL, JAMES GREESON

Leadership seminars will be held at:

January 29, Brownsburg
Feb 12, Jasper at the Epic Center
March 5, Warsaw

This are on Saturdays and they are a full day. You need to pre register on line, but these classes are open for everyone. Box lunches will be provided for everyone there.

Some of the topics discussed will be Health and Safety; Grant information; light weight construction and money other topics. There is something for everyone.

We have approximately 100 fire detectors for the hearing impaired left, and we are trying to get another Federal grant to cover these again due to the demand that we have had.

NFA weekend is coming up. February 25, 26, and 27th 2011.

There are several bills on the floor that need watching.

HB1033 Residency limitation on county of residence

HB1013 Immunity for fast responders

4 bills dealing with texting and mobile phones while operating an emergency vehicle.

HB1061 Licensing for Paramedics

HB1068 Public safety confidentiality bill

HB1393 Firefighter testing sites

HB1350 Ambulance service territory

HB1494 Public safety training

SB89 EMS criminal history, limited criminal background check to employer

SB247 VFD recovery of cost and attorney fees

SB307 Public safety funding, user fee replace property taxes

SB72 Fees for the toll road emergency services

HB1439 Limits fees charged by VFD not to exceed \$500.00.

H. HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING DIVISION DIRECTOR, JAMES BENNETT

We had a nice Ice Rescue class at Camp Atterbury. Live fire trainer is in Evansville and the hazmat trainer is in Indianapolis. IFSAC team arrives on Sunday. We are record for the reaccreditation. The national level exercise takes place the week of May 16 at Mascatatuk. On our LMS system has some really good courses. We are putting together a course for Active Shooter after the Arizona incident.

The state is holding the LEL exercise the week of May 16, 2011. This is a state wide exercise for earthquake. There are several courses on the Learning Management System that would benefit everyone that takes it. We have a suspicious package course that is really informative for everyone.

I. STATE FIRE TRAINING DIRECTOR REPORT, JOHN BUCKMAN

I have handed out a copy of a Fire Officer IV practical. This is an excellent example of skills. These skills take about 40 hours to complete and this is not an easy certification to achieve.

We are trying to rewrite the administrative rules for the board. We need volunteers to sit on the committee and help with this. You do not get any type of compensation. We will not pay for hotel, meals or mileage.

We still have people trying to conduct classes the same way they did 16 years ago. I recently audited an individual and this was the first time in 16 years he had acted as lead evaluator. He did not bother reading the rules, or the information that was sent to him. He stated they talked about the skills because that was the way they did them back when.

We will require anyone that acts as lead evaluator and proctor to attend a train to trainer program when we get this done. Training will be done by webinar.

There is an instructor that received his certification yesterday and today he is teaching. He is teaching the same way he was taught. He was power pointed to death. Our instructors are not teachers. They are showing power points not teaching.

We continue to work on project make over every day. Jeff Hayes stressed that we need to hear input from the firefighters. We are trying to move forward with the firefighter recommendation but you need to speak up.

We are stopping the out of the country non Indiana instructors teaching for IFSAC certifications.

Firefighter ½ practical skills are now fully implemented. As of January 1st, all skills will be done. If you do not have the props to complete the skills, then you will not be eligible to do skills at your dept. You will be required to go to a fire dept that has the equipment in order to complete the skills.

In order to download the new firefighter ½ skills would take about a ream of paper. Keep in mind, that you only need 1 of these. The checks off sheets are required for each student, but the book you only need 1.

1. Chief James Campbell, Pike Twp FD, Instructor I.

We recommend that the state stays with IFSTA book compared to the Jones and Bartlett book. The committee has updated the instructor I curriculum and we are very happy with this program. It does take more time for the skills but overall this is more in depth and shows that the students know what they are doing. I am concerned that this program does not match the test at this time. James Greeson made a comment about the time between class and taking the written exam. Chief Campbell states that they had about 1 hour for

review prior to the testing. Part of the concern about this curriculum is that it does not cover the 655 rules.

We had to cancel a meeting on the revision for the 655 rules but had to cancel due to conflicting schedules.. Once again, if you would be interested in assisting with this let bgoble@dhs.in.gov know.

J. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, JUDGE BIPPUS

No report at this time.

K. OLD BUSINESS

No report at this time.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. May 16th board meeting.

The Board meeting scheduled for May 16th needs to be cancelled due to the state wide exercise that week. Alternate dates were discussed, and May 10th will be the new meeting date at 6pm in Crawfordsville.

M. MEETING ADJOURNED 12:05pm

Next meeting
March 10, 2010 6pm
Bedford FD
1900 H St
Bedford IN 47421
812-275-4544