

**South Carolina Fire Academy  
Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting  
Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2010**

**Members Present:** Will Vaigneur, Shannon Tanner, Phil Elliott, John L Melton, Chris Nunnery, Karl Ristow, Joel Rogers, Jim Still, Wesley Williams

**Members Absent:** Bill Addis, Bryan Beason, Bruce Burding,

**Alternates Present:** Skip Hannon, Dixon Odom

**Non-Voting Members Present:** John Reich and Ed Roper

**Visitors Present:** Ashley Boltin, Cindy Brazell, Russ Friar, Phillip Russell

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

Chairman Vaigneur asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Karl Ristow made a motion and Jim Still seconded. Discussion: none. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Vaigneur asked for discussions on the implementation of standards.

Chairman Vaigneur began discussions by stating we as a committee have already adopted NFPA 1001 with changes to physicals and feel that we need a big statement from the fire chief's association and the professional fire fighters association that they are on board. It was stated that the Joint Council agrees that this committee should handle these (training standards) issues and processes. This committee will be the "board". There was some discussion that the academy should either do away with the 1152 course and blend that training into the 1153 course OR communicate that the 1152 course does not meet requirements to make entry into an IDLH. The committee had an open discussion on their views of minimum certification levels and how to provide goals and standards to the State's fire service so they could meet a new minimum standard.

Clarification of the difference between a Firefighter I and Firefighter II was listed as:

- a. Firefighter I – must be supervised with at least a Firefighter II to make entry into an IDLH atmosphere.
- b. Firefighter II – needs no supervision to make entry into an IDLH atmosphere.

The committee agreed that Firefighter II level is not a supervisor and has not been trained to supervise another firefighter. Regardless, this committee still has to set the training standards.

Discussion moved to changing the name of the Fire Academy 1152 course and to remove the burn from the 1152 course. The following motions were made:

**MOTION: *Change the current name of 1152 course from “Fundamentals of Basic Interior Structural Firefighting” to “Fundamentals of Firefighting”.***

1<sup>st</sup> – Wesley Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Joel Rogers

Discussion: none

Vote: all in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**MOTION: *Reword the description of the 1152 course to remove all references of OSHA Basic Interior Firefighting and to include a disclaimer from Karl Ristow as follows: This class is the first step to being qualified as a firefighter in South Carolina. This class DOES NOT qualify an individual to make entry into an IDLH at a fire scene.***

1<sup>st</sup> – Wesley Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Skip Hannon

Discussion: it was noted that on July 8, 2009 the SCFA Advisory Committee took a position that all firefighters should be trained to the Firefighter I and II standard before being allowed to make entry into an IDLH environment at a fire scene.

Vote: Yeas – 7      Nays – 2      Motion passed.

**NOTE: *There was not a motion made to remove the live evaluation burn from the 1152 course.***

NFPA 1002 – Chairman asked if we should look at the standards for driver operator. The committee felt that we should wait a while on this issue so that the fire service has time to absorb the new changes for firefighters.

#### Fire Officer Standards

**MOTION: *A motion was made to amend a motion made in the December 17, 2009 meeting take out part about grandfathering and equivalents.***

1<sup>st</sup> – Karl Ristow  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Jim Still

Discussion: none

Vote: Yeas – 3      Nays – 6      Motion was not passed.

### Old Business

Nunnery – has concerns about the facility and feels that more input is needed and that we need a sub-committee for facilities. Chairman Vaigneur appointed Chris Nunnery to chair this sub-committee. Chris will pick two more members to serve this sub-committee with.

### New Business

Fire Officer III --- Russ Friar briefly discussed the fee to have an outside instructor teach this program. The fee is \$14,000 for 15 students. Roper stated that the academy is still studying the demand for this course. There is not much offered for senior officer training in S.C. – nothing to prepare a fire chief.

### Announcements

Roper – announced that the fire academy will be conducting a 5<sup>th</sup> recruit class starting in May.

### Adjourn

The next quarterly committee meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2010 at 10 a.m.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Ed Roper  
Recording Secretary