

**South Carolina Fire Academy
Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting
Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2012**

Members Present: Jim Still, Bruce Burding, Phillip Delk, Phil Elliott, Skip Hannon, Scott Loftis, Mike Norket, Karl Ristow, Joel Rogers, Jonathan Ryan, Wesley Williams

Members Absent: Bill Addis, Bryan Beason,

Alternates Present: Brian Horton, Alan Sistare, Les Woods

Non-Voting Members Present: Joe Palmer, Adolf Zubia, Shane Ray

Visitors Present: Cindy Brazell, Russ Friar, Phillip Russell, Tim Wojick, Ashley Boltin, David Green – Colleton Co Fire/Rescue, Eric Thompson, Ken Kerber

Chairman Still called the meeting to order. Chairman Still was advised that a quorum was present.

Chairman Still asked Jason Pope to open the meeting with a prayer and then everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Still asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2011 meeting.

1st – Karl Ristow

2nd – Mike Norket

Discussion: None.

All were in favor of accepting the minutes. None opposed. The motion passed.

Chairman Still asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2011 meeting.

1st – Karl Ristow

2nd – Les Woods

Discussion: None.

All were in favor of accepting the minutes. None opposed. The motion passed.

Eric Thompson was recognized and introduced to the committee as the new Firefighter Mobilization Coordinator.

Chairman Still asked for the organization reports to be presented to the committee.

1. Fire Academy – Shane Ray

Ray stated that the division is starting the planning process for strategic planning as we move into the future. A meeting will be held for information and feedback from the fire service on Feb. 23 and 25, 2012.

Burn Building -- The doors and windows have been completed on the burn building project. Our goal is to be burning in the building by Mar. 15.

Cafeteria -- The café has had the new HVAC system installed.

Recruit class – we need a change to the EMS portion of the class. The failure rate has been high. In the March class we will only teach First Aid and CPR. The new program from the Red Cross is too difficult. Brian Horton stated that the Red Cross has allowed his fire department to teach the old program. *An adhoc committee of Brian Horton and Jonathan Ryan was created to review this issue and report back to the committee.*

Certification – the Fire Academy would like to seek Pro Board certification along with IFSAC certifications. There would be fee attached to accept the Pro Board certs. The academy would also like to have an option for a South Carolina Certification. A blended utilization. IFSAC has an alternative standards group – a way to give credit to older firefighters with old training. Ray stated we will pursue this option with our staff and stake holders. This “alternative standard” would be less than IFSAC and Pro Board and only good in South Carolina. This would be mostly for the exterior firefighter who will never go inside a burning structure.

After much group discussion, Zubia stated that the simple fact is we want to support and provide the needs of the customers we serve. This would be another opportunity to help equip our fire chiefs with new information. *A subcommittee of Mike Norket and Scott Loftis was created to help with the “alternative standard”.*

Online registration – Our goal is to offer online registration in July 2012. We are working thru the process. LLR has full time personnel working on our database.

Adolf Zubia – stated that Sondra Senn will be retiring in March.

Phillip Russell – report was emailed to the committee.

Russ Friar --- stated that all of the academy reports were emailed to the committee. Curriculum is working hard on the online training courses. The response has been great. The POV course should be online shortly. We are preparing to teach the pilot program of the new building construction course.

Standing Committees:

Facilities Committee – no representative

Curriculum Committee – Karl Ristow

No report; however there is a need for a representative for the advisory committee on all ITC and IDC.

Finance Committee – Joel Rogers

No report. Ray stated that he and division staff is review the budget in depth.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Announcements

Russell – The Southeastern Fire School brochure will be online soon. The dates are Mar. 10-11, 2012.

Eric Thompson – contact information:

803-896-9601 – office

803-231-8493 – cell

Email: david.thompson@llr.sc.gov

Les Woods – his association has three side x side burns coming up. Two of those are Fire Team USA at the Fire academy.

Skip Hannon – the Instructor conference will be Feb. 3 – 5, 2012 at the Fire Academy.

Jason Pope – the new website for the Firefighters Association is better organized.

Adjourn

The next quarterly committee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2012 at 10am.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Shane Ray
Recording Secretary