

Fire School Advisory Board Minutes

From the November 11, 2015 Quarterly Meeting



MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Norket, Bruce Burding, Skip Hannon, Brian Horton, David Laird, Brad Maness, Justin McLellan, Joel Rogers, Jon Ryan, Shannon Tanner, Diane Woods

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barry Davis, Tommy McDowell, John Robinson,

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Keith Scharf, Les Woods

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Kerber, Bert Polk

VISITORS PRESENT: Ashley Boltin, Jason Pope, Rick Dunn, Bonita Watters, Jenna Pritchett, Phillip Russell, Dwayne Duncan, Lenny Busby

Chairman Norket called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and was advised a quorum was present.

Rick Dunn opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Norket asked for a motion to approve the August 2015 minutes and the November agenda. The motion was made and seconded, and unanimously passed.

State Fire Marshal Bert Polk:

Chief Polk spoke to the Board concerning the flood response and the status of USAR and Firefighter Mobilization.

Superintendent Ken Kerber:

Chief Kerber discussed the items on the "Superintendent's Report" (attached).

Updated policies were distributed.

Chairman Norket requested policies be emailed so the board could review in depth and come back with suggestions/ questions.

There was discussion regarding the clothing and firearms policies. J. Ryan asked about the clothing policy – specifically if an Academy class is being taught in a region at a fire department that allows uniform shorts.

Horton and Burding asked for clarification on firearms policy. They also suggested asking the Criminal Justice Academy about their policy.

Kerber informed the group he will have a definite answer to the firearms policy within the next 30 days.

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Horton thanked the SCFA on behalf of the Greenville Chief's Association for handling the registrations, etc. for the Dr. Griffin training. There were more than 200 students in attendance.

Rick Dunn – Curriculum

Rick presented his report (attached).

Jenna Pritchett – Marketing

Jenna distributed a flyer with screenshots of current social media sites. She also provided an update on the current status of the Academy Facebook page.

The need to further expand social media efforts was discussed. A periscope, Academy specific Twitter page, and Instagram were mentioned.

Jenna spoke about the monthly newsletter and catalog that will be ready by the end of January 2016.

She also spoke about the recent Aerospace Career Day the SCFA ARFF staff/Kerber/Jenna attended.

Jenna also followed up on Kerber's previous update on campus signage and booth branding.

Lenny Busby – Site Training

Lenny reported that more than 100 attendees participated at the 2nd annual HazMat Weekend held Nov. 14 and 15. He also stated the weekend training received very positive reviews. Chairman Norket and Maness were also complimentary.

Lenny reminded the group about the upcoming Southeastern Fire School to be held the weekend of March 19-20, 2016.

Phillip Russell – Regional Training

Phillip reviewed his report (attached) and highlighted that numbers were slightly down due to the flood and the SCFA being closed for 1.5 weeks.

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OLD BUSINESS

J. Ryan distributed the Firefighter Career Path flow chart created by the selected committee.

J. Ryan reviewed the flow chart with everyone. Chairman Norket suggested there be two distinct charts: one for career firefighters and another for volunteer firefighters. Rick Dunn mentioned the 2147 NIMS - ICS is being replaced with 2146 ICS and Resource Management and this would have to be a living document. Bonita Waters suggested adding a legend. Busby added that the HazMat classes were missing, and J. Ryan will be adding them into the updated documents, as they were deleted by accident.

Chairman Norket asked about publishing the documents and Jason is to think of the best method to publish the pathway and get it to the fire service.

Diane Woods suggested that firefighters might like a check box on how to get from the firefighter level to fire officer, etc. Rick Dunn explained this varies on jurisdiction. The Chairman suggested the SCFA create a baseline suggestion of check boxes.

Voting for Advisory Board Vice Chairman was between Jon Ryan and David Laird. Voting members were equally split. As a result, Laird volunteered to withdraw his name.

NEW BUSINESS

Kerber asked for a voice/hand vote to continue pursuing social media.

Chairman Norket motioned and there was a second. There was a unanimous "YES" from members.

Chairman added that if needed, a letter of support from the board could be presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SC FALSE Call for Presenters for April Conference is now open
- SC Firefighters' Association, Fire Improvement Conference, Jan. 22-24, 2016 at the Embassy Suites, Columbia, SC. The 24th will be the memorial at 3 p.m. on Atlas Road.
- March 16, 2016 Legislative Day
- March 19-20, 2016 Southeastern Fire School – previously stated

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- June 5-12, 2016 Fire-Rescue Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC
- Kerber gave update on FAA ARFF grant \$1+ million prop/truck upgrade

NEXT MEETING – February 10, 2016. Meetings are scheduled at 10 a.m. at the South Carolina Fire Academy, Conference Room A.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m. with a motion made by Skip Hannon and seconded by Jon Ryan

Respectfully submitted by
Kenneth W. Kerber

DISCLAIMER: The attached minutes are DRAFT minutes. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, statements and decisions recorded in them, their status will remain that of a draft until such time as they are confirmed as a correct record at the subsequent meeting.