

**South Carolina Fire Academy
Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting
Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2007**

Members Present: Bruce Kline, Phil Elliott, Jonathan Jones, Lavarn Lucas, Karl Ristow, Alan Sistare, Art Sattler, Alan Sistare, Bill Streuber, Eddie Turner

Alternates Present: Bill Addis,

Non-Voting Members Present: John Reich and Ed Roper

Visitors Present: Phillip Russell, Cindy Brazell and Russ Friar

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

Chairman Kline asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October meeting. Karl Ristow made a motion, Art Sattler second. Discussion: none. All in favor of accepting the minutes. None opposed. The motion passed.

Chairman Kline asked for reports from the different associations:

SC Arson Association – no representative

SC Fire Chiefs Association – Alan Sistare
Their next quarterly meeting will be Jan. 30.

SC Fire Marshal Association – Phil Elliott
Nothing to report

Public Education Association – Bill Addis
Nothing to report.

Industrial Representative – no representative

Professional Firefighters – no representative

Higher Education – Karl Ristow
Working on steps to develop an associate degree with Greenville Tech. (Phillip Hill)
Appear to be using the NFA model. Courses to include engineering and fire protection.

SC Society of Fire Service Instructors – Art Sattler
Annual conference will be held February 2 – 4, 2007.

Standing committee reports

Curriculum – Jonathan Jones
Nothing to report. Defer to Russ Friar for updates.

Facilities – Eddie Turner

Nothing new to report. Ed will update with his report. Roper went over a maintenance/facilities report. The Fallen Firefighter Memorial should be redone in April. The building project for the new fire station (\$3.1 million project). The agency (LLR) will make sure we have the funds needed to pay for the new building. We hope to break ground in May.

We hired Roger Moore full time to work in the maintenance shop.

A question was asked if we have any plans to hire a FTE (full time employee) for truck repairs. Roper replied that it is easier to contract these repairs out.

Chairman Kline suggested that SCFA needs a written agreement with the Chief's Association regarding the FF Memorial as to their responsibility in the daily care of the memorial. The academy try to make sure the memorial always looks good for visitors and students.

Finance – no representative

Roper presented the finance report.

1—passed out and reviewed our current organization chart. Region 6 (midlands area) will be a full time position. We have requested five new FTE's from the agency. (2 for curriculum and 3 for resident training.)

2 – we just got our second draw of the .35 money.

3 – current grants are EMD, DHS and NFA.

Superintendent's Report – Ed Roper

Roper distributed a current Organizational Chart.

Roper posed the question, what are we doing to help Fire Officers. We are currently offering 88 officer courses in the catalog. Roper asked for input from the committee about what courses do they want for officer training. There was a suggestion that we should look into offering an Officer Candidate School similar to our recruit school.

Karl Ristow asked how to you plant the seed in fire fighters that they need to get training. It might help if we could get legislature to demand that we have qualified, credentialed fire chiefs and officers in our state. There also needs to be a mentor program to those who will be replacing the chiefs that retire from departments.

Discussion included that departments need a career path for their firefighters. The departments are good at tactics, but bad at strategy. Chairman Kline stated that the fire departments have the responsibility to make sure their firefighters are taking the needed programs.

Roper distributed and reviewed the Regional First Quarter Report.

Curriculum Report – Russ Friar

Friar presented and reviewed the Curriculum Report.

Friar announced the addition of blank forms to the I300 and I400 ICS manuals used in training that can be used as reference material.

The annual instructor conference is scheduled for Feb. 2-4, 2007. The main presenter will be a NFA instructor and it should be a really good program.

There was discussion of course hours for academy courses.

Ex: Haz Mat and Haz Mat Tech will need to increase hours when the new updates come. We are looking at probably a minimum of 80 hours for Haz Mat Tech. The National standards are requiring more in depth training and the total number of training hours must increase to meet the expanded knowledge level required. We may have to look at ways to change to the delivery method of courses. There will be complaints concerning the number of hours required from some departments. We must have a good plan together before changes are made (delivery method). It's all in the presentation.

Resident Training – Phillip Russell

Russell presented and reviewed Resident Training Report.

Russell reported that we have had one (1) open enrollment student in the next recruit program.

Russell reported that for every live burn, all students will have on a pass device. The instructor will have a thermal imager.

Upcoming courses include: Play Safe, Be Safe pub Ed seminar, Chief Fire Officer seminar is scheduled for Mar. 30 – April 1, The Southeastern Fire School is scheduled for Mar. 10-11, 2007.

Old Business

None

New Business

Jonathan Jones asked, “where do we stand on adopting NFPA 1403 for regional burns?” Friar replied that we are not adopting NFPA 1403, but we are developing our own plan. We will use parts in the guideline. There will also be a heat stress statement in the guideline.

Chief Lucas noted that he was going to the technical committee on fire service training

needs the next week in Texas. Ask for the committee to let him know if you want anything brought up at that meeting. NFPA board has approved that the technical committee to create a standard for the RIT training.

Lucas also stated that he would like for SCFA to evaluate how they teach via video conferencing. We need to step up and control this situation before it gets out of hand. We need to teach instructors how to handle teaching to a video conference audience. This is an instructor management issue.

The next quarterly committee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2007 at 1:30 pm.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Ed Roper
Recording Secretary

Note: Attachments were given to those who were at the meeting and will be e-mailed to those who were not able to attend.