



Fire School Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Quarterly Meeting: February 14, 2024 at 10 a.m.

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina Fire Academy, 141 Monticello Trail, Columbia, SC 29203 and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting was held in person in the SC Fire Academy conference room. Board members also utilized video and teleconferencing.

I. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was posted and advertised pursuant to South Carolina laws, rules, and regulations. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chair Terry Sherriff.

Roll call of members:

SC Fire School Advisory Board															
Terry Sheriff	X	Mark Davis	A	Jody Suttles	Z	Douglas Cline	Z	Brad Stio	A	Brian Lovin	Z	Joel Rogers	Z	Tommy McDowell	A
Michael Dozier	X	Harold Nichols	Z	Justin McLellan	Z	Thomas Tardo	Z	Joshua Jordan	X	Peter Dontje	A				

P: Via Phone X: Present A: Absent Z: Via Zoom

VISITORS PRESENT: Jonathan Jones, Jason Pope, Jamie Helms, Rick Dunn, Devon Crape, Terrell Brown, Amy Williamson, Eric Bolen, George Stapleton, Erick Adams, Richard Naugler, Greg Bass, Toni Hash, Andrela Riley, Bonita Watters, Joe Palmer, and Sherri Bush.

- A. After roll call, a quorum was established.
- B. Superintendent Pope led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.
- C. Joshua Jordan made a motion to approve the agenda. Doug Cline seconded. The motion carried unanimously without discussion.

II. Approval of Minutes

Joshua Jordan made a motion to approve the Nov. 13, 2023, minutes. Brian Lovin seconded. The motion carried unanimously without discussion.

III. Committee Chair Comments

Terry Sherriff's Remarks:

- Thanked State Fire for their help in making the Fire Service Improvement Conference a success. There were 256 students in 11 classes.

IV. State Fire Marshal's Remarks

Financial Update

Chief Jonathan Jones presented the following updates:

- Discussed the budget
- Closed and canceled the training tower project since it has stabilized. This will be revisited again in the future.
- FY25 budget includes requesting funding for five additional FTE's: two additional full-time instructor coordinators, one instructor development coordinator, one CTC coordinator, and one full-time staff in the cafeteria.
- Discussed State Fire University

CPIP Project Updates

- George Stapleton shared a brief overview of the ongoing and future CPIP projects including adding a security gate at the Academy entrance and door automation.

Grants Update

George Stapleton presented the following updates:

- Shared an update on the 2022 and 2023 AFG grants.

Superintendent's Remarks

Chief Jason Pope discussed:

- Updates to the database and Fire Portal pertaining to student registration.

Employee Updates

- Toni Hash was hired as an administrative assistant at the Fire Academy.
- Two additional administrative assistants were hired for the regional offices.
- Devon Crape transferred to the Region 6 office as the Regional Coordinator.
- Resident Instructor position in Training remains vacant.
- William Sloan was hired as an onsite Instructor Coordinator.

V. SCFA Section Reports

Facilities

Greg Bass provided a Facilities update and discussed numerous facilities projects including hiring a new electrician.

Curriculum & Production

Bonita Watters provided a summary and overview of the ongoing Curriculum and Production projects including the NFPA 1010 update.

Training

Terrell Brown provided an onsite training section update including submission for accreditation of the HazMat programs and the graduation numbers of the regional recruit programs.

EMS

Richard Naugler provided a summary and overview of the ongoing EMS courses and projects.

Accreditation

Andrela Riley provided an Accreditation update including the dates for IFSAC reaccreditation.

Administration

Sherri Bush, Administrative Supervisor, introduced new hire Toni Hash.

Marketing

Amy Williamson presented Marketing and Special Projects updates, discussed the new database projects, and the increased attendance in the virtual courses.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussed the increased utilization of Blackboard for training and ebooks instead of text books.

IX. Announcements

- FLSA Bootcamp is February 23, 2024, hosted by the SC Firefighters' Association
- SC Firefighters' Association: Fire Officer Company Academy is March 3-8, 2024, at SCFA.
- LODD Memorial service and Memorial Dedication is April 10, 2024, at SCFA.
- SOCON-Special Operations Conference is May 18-19, 2024 at SCFA.
- SC Firefighters' Association: Fire-Rescue Conference is in Myrtle Beach June 12-15, 2024.
- EMS Educators Training Event is July 18, 2024.

X. Adjournment

Joshua Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Michael Dozier seconded. Motion passed unanimously without discussion. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, 2024, in the SC Fire Academy Conference Room or via teleconference.

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.