

**STATE FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS – CIVIC CENTER
CHARLESTON, WV
FEBRUARY 8, 2013**

The official business meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bob Sullivan.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Bob Sullivan, Chairman	Gary Bonnett
Grant Gunnoe	John Holstein
Thomas Keefer	Robert S. Miller
Doug Mongold	Rick Scott
Ted A. Shriver	Carl Sizemore
Virgil White	

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Michael Butcher	Larry Goodwin
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Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis introduced Leslie Racine and Missy Hapney as the new representatives for the Fire Marshal's Office. He also announced Debbie Hudson's retirement as of June 30, 2013.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Bonnett made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the December 7, 2012 regular meeting. Commissioner White seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed. Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the December 21, 2012 special meeting. Commissioner Sizemore seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis spoke of the loss of Danny Goodwin and asked for a moment of silence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Training Committee – Commissioner White gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Commissioner Gunnoe made a motion to accept the Committee's report. Commissioner Sizemore seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Fire Department Standards Evaluation Committee – Commissioner Sizemore stated they reviewed twenty three (23) equivalency applications for Fire Officer 1. Eleven (11) applications were approved. The following Fire Officer I applications were approved:

Bryan Casto	Matewan VFD
Allen White	Handley VFD
Charles Baldwin	Handley VFD
Dennis Milam	Fayetteville VFD

Ricky Radcliff	Gilmer County VFD
Tommy Whittington	Smithers VFD
Thomas Sullivan	Handley VFD
Eric Hatcher	Sophia City FD
Brian Robey	Lumberport VFD
Robert Hunt Jr	Delbarton VFD
David Harmon	Keyser VFD

Twenty six (26) applications were reviewed for Fire Officer II with fifteen (15) being approved. The following applications for Fire Officer II were approved:

Bryan Casto	Matewan VFD
Alisha Samples	Charleston FD
Patricia Cox	Rhodell VFD
Randall Perkins	Upper West Fork VFD
David Harman	Keyser VFD
Charles Baldwin	Handley VFD
David Kidd Jr	Hamlin VFD
Roy McDonald	Pond Creek VFD
Jeremy Gosnell	Trap Hill VFD
Richard Dorsey	Gilmer County VFD
Tommy Whittington	Smithers VFD
Eric Hatcher	Sophia City VFD
Brian Robey	Lumberport VFD
Robert Hunt Jr	Delbarton VFD
David A. Blaylock	Charleston FD

Commissioner White made a motion to accept the Committee's report. Commissioner Gunnoe seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Recruitment, Retention and Research Committee –The recruitment, Retention, and Research Committee was called to order at 11:15 AM by Co-Chairman Mongold with Commissioners Mongold, Miller, Bonnett, Holstein, and Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis in attendance.

Commissioner Miller presented information from the Kentucky Fire Commission explaining how they receive their funding and how the funds are distributed to fund their Workers Compensation, training, and other programs they have.

General discussion followed by the committee. Kentucky Fire Commission offered to come to a future West Virginia Fire Commission meeting to explain their programs in more detail. The committee agreed and made a recommendation to invite Kentucky Fire Commission to a future meeting possibly in June.

Commissioner Keeffer made a motion to accept the Committee's report. Commissioner Bonnett seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Legislative Committee – No report, however, Carol Nolte –Deputy of the Public Education Division for the State Fire Marshal’s Office, spoke on the importance of sprinklers in one and two family dwellings.

Counsel Stacy Nowicki spoke about the upcoming legislative session.

Fire Department Services Committee – Thirty seven (37) fire departments were up for recertification. Twelve (12) received certification while six (6) were not recertified and will now begin the hearing process. All others were deferred to the April meeting.

Fire Departments Recertified

Capon Valley VFD

Delbarton VFD

Fayetteville VFD

Handley VFD

Johnstown VFD

Peterstown VFD

Poca VFD

Racine VFD

Rainelle VFD

Smithers VFD

Upperwest Fork VFD

Wallace VFD

Fire Departments deferred to April Meeting

Blennerhassett VFD

Canaan Valley VFD

Clay VFD

Coal River VFD

Davis Creek VFD

Flatwoods VFD

Hinton VFD

Keyser VFD

Lizemore VFD

Logan County #2 VFD

Loup Creek VFD

Mabscott VFD

Northfork VFD

Richwood VFD

Sharples VFD

Spelter VFD

Welch VFD

Wileyville VFD

Williamstown VFD

Fire Departments sent to hearing status

Bradshaw VFD

Cabin Creek VFD

Davy VFD

Fort Gay VFD

Commissioner Mongold made a motion to accept the Committee's report. Commissioner Gunnoe seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Codes and Regulatory – Commissioner Shriver stated they did not have quorum. Commissioner Shriver did state that he has met with Counsel, Tony Carrico, and Joe Leake about upcoming codes.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Fire Marshal Lewis spoke about the annual report that was handed out to the commissioners. Discussion followed on how high West Virginia's fire deaths are.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Flatwoods Community VFD - Tim Provaznik spoke and said they are working on their training and have until the April meeting to complete.

Oral Testing for Firefighter I and Firefighter II – Dr. Varner accepted accommodations and they are waiting for them to be ruled on. They are also working on getting recorded tapes.

NEW BUSINESS

Complaint on Ken Smith Home Inspector: Commission went into Executive Session. It was decided that we have no jurisdiction over this and counsel will write a letter

Commissioner Sizemore made a motion to accept the Committee's report. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The ayes and nays having been taken on a voice vote, the motion passed.

Matewan Fire Department: Fire Marshal Sterling Lewis explained the situation. The Fire Marshal's office has worked for two years to help make Matewan Fire Department compliant. Over the Holiday season, there was uproar between the Mayor and the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief then quit. They have elected a new chief and he has now passed his equivalency.

Existing Legislative Rule Modification:

Fire Code: Handouts of the proposed fire code were handed out. Chief Deputy Tony Carrico and counsel spoke about 1.5 being a complete rewrite and NFPA 101 all of it was accepted. Discussion followed.

There will be a special meeting on the fire code March 1, 2013 at the State Fire Marshal's Office at 10:00 AM. The public hearing for the fire code only will be held on March 22, 2013 at 10:00AM at the Board of Review Hearing Office (in the same building as the State Fire Marshal Office).

Building Code Official: Does not have anything at this time.

Home Inspector: Proposed rule was handed out. Counsel followed with discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Morgantown Fire Fine: We do not have jurisdiction over this. Counsel will send a letter.

Mabscott: This was taken up during the committee meetings.

New Commissioner John Holstein was already welcomed and introduced.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

John Smoot from Teays Valley Fire Department spoke about the Safer Grant that was awarded to his department. The grant will place two people on duty twenty four hours a day seven days a week for two years. Discussion followed about being a part paid part volunteer fire department.

Tom Miller spoke about the cost of workers compensation and what other states have done to bring the rates down.

Tom Miller spoke about the upcoming changes to NFPA 472 and 473 as well as 1001TIA and how it will be detrimental to fire departments.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Fire Commission Meeting will be held at Days Hotel in Flatwoods, WV on April 4-5, 2013.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Miller made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Holstein seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The Training Committee met on February 7, 2013 at 15:05hrs at the Holiday Inn Express Civic Center in Charleston WV. Commissioners present were White, Miller, and Holstien.

Items were discussed as follows; Jim Shed from RESA passed out information cards on the upcoming Public Safety Expo and talked about some of the classes and guest speakers.

Dr. Varner from WV Department of Public Education stated they are still working on their IFSAC and will be having a site visit this month.

Mark Doty from WVU Fire Service Extension stated they are finalizing their BS and MS degree program with Davis College. There is an also upcoming change with NFPA1001 in regards to having to have a physical for fire training. This is in the discussion phase. Committee, Staff and WVUFSE and RESA discussed the issue. There is also 2 burn PODS used for arson and sprinkler training to be taken around the state. And WVFSE has also added a 2nd Administrative Assistant.

Staff asked about the verbal testing. Dr. Varner stated a letter has been submitted and is being reviewed at this time. Staff also voiced concern about Arson classes being taught and the proprietary of the classes and some of the issues that surround it. Discussion followed.

Meeting was adjourned at 15:29 hrs.

Training Committee Chair Virgil C. White