

# Fire Education Advisory Commission, Division of Fire Safety

## June 7, 2023

### Meeting Minutes

*The Missouri Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission works to provide training and continuing education to the fire service throughout Missouri.*

Portions of this meeting may be closed pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (11 & 12)

#### **Roll call: Meeting called to order @ 1000 hours**

Fire Education Advisory Commission: Bruce Lipe, Greg Brown, Traci Wiley, Brian Zaitz, Alan Braun, James Ludden  
Staff: Tim Bean, Matt Luetkemeyer, Greg Landwehr, Amanda Williams, Brock Biggerstaff, Julie Voss  
Guests: Todd Gray (Fulton Fire), Harry Ward (MUFRTI)

#### **Approval of Minutes from 3/1/2023:**

Motion: Brian Zaitz Second: Alan Braun In favor: All Present

**Fire Marshal Bean recognized board member Todd Gray for his retirement from the Fire Ed Commission Board after 12 years of service.**

#### **Legislative Update – Tim Bean, Fire Marshal**

- Not a lot of movement in the legislature, but what was done we benefited from, including behavioral health bills and annual budget
- Over \$1 million in requests for contracted training in FY2023, which helped garner a \$500k increase in fire education funding from the legislature
- Bill for residency: in the statute it states that you had to be a resident of Missouri for three years before being eligible to apply to DFS, as well as not eligible for secondary employment outside of DFS. Bill has been pushing through the legislation to remove these items from the statute.
- Senator Hough has been a strong advocate for the fire service in helping push forward the behavioral health bill and others to help with more than \$12M dollars in funding.

#### **Division/Staffing Status – Tim Bean, Fire Marshal**

- Fire Investigations unit is now fully staffed, first time in 6 years, and is operating under an increased call log as more people are utilizing our investigators
- Boilers has two open positions.
- Fire Inspections has an open position. New employee's time will be primarily dedicated to the fireworks industry. Work is underway to overhaul the fireworks statute. We are behind the times in our statute which has not been updated as the industry has evolved. Meetings with the industry have been held to help move this forward.

#### **Fiscal updates – Jessica Prewett**

- No updates at this time.

#### **Training Unit Report – Greg Landwehr, Deputy Chief**

- Certification courses and certifications issued update
  - As of May 31, 2023, 913 classes have been held, tested 4074 students, issued 3765 certs
- Contracted Training update
  - FY23 financial report
    - Provided to board, no comments/questions
  - FY23 course request report
  - FY24 course requests (as noted above, we have an additional \$500k to spent on contracted training)
    - To date, \$428k in requests which are under the FY2023 contract pricing which will increase under the new RFP, and accounts for 99 courses requested
      - Some of these classes will move forward under the old contract as we can pay for these classes until August 30 under the FY2023 contract pricing
        - Will start pushing classes to MUFRTI
        - Three Rivers is in transition and will no longer have a director after next week to coordinate classes (position eliminated)
      - We do have money in the Fire Ed Fund (\$261k with spending authority of \$250k) that can help mitigate a lull in training while waiting for the new RFP and contract prices
        - \$162k is dedicated to LMS, leaving around \$82k for training

- NFA Courses
  - (Federal FY23 fiscal year 10/1/22 – 9/30/23)
    - Finishing up with three more classes for the FY, and are scheduled and approved to be held here this month and one each in July and August
    - NFA Grant is not published yet
      - \$20k for in-state NFA course delivery; must be published on the NFA website for students to register online so must be registered through DFS Training
  - (Federal FY24 fiscal year 10/1/23 – 9/30/24)

### **AFG Grants Update – Deputy Chief Landwehr**

- 2020 AFG (F550 Truck)
  - Took delivery about 6 weeks ago, moving small trailers to get break in before moving the burn trailer
  - Closing out grant in 3 weeks
  - Alan Braun: Who will be moving the trailer?
    - Greg Landwehr: Only staff will be moving the trailer.
- 2021 AFG (Exterior Burn Props and Trailer)
  - RFP finalized on 6/6/2023, has been with OA since March, will publish within the next week
- 2022 AFG (Turnout Gear and equipment replacement for the technical rescue trailers)
  - Applied for, won't hear back until August/September if we will receive

### **Old business:**

- Update on FY24 Training Contracts RFP
  - Submitted in March, finalized on 6/6/2023, should be published within the next week
  - Vendors will get an email when it is open for bid
- Chief Bean: In travels, has had several inquiries of “where has the basic fire fighter class gone?”
  - Was handed off to MUFRTI and is now called “Intro to the Fire Service”
  - Ask from the fire departments, “Is this going to be funded through the new RFP?”
    - Greg Landwehr: It can be a fundable class through the new RFP
  - Request from the fire marshal, set aside X number of dollars for basic firefighter
    - Greg Brown: Can we make them a priority instead of putting a dollar amount on it?
  - Harry Ward: Class is now 40 hours, meets 1403 standard to participate in life fire training (12 chapters), almost 75% of the way there to obtaining Fire Fighter I, rest of the chapters can be done online as there are no skills tied to them
    - Cost is around \$6k through MUFRTI, but if department has the props and has instructors who have gone through the train the trainer, can do it for \$400 to cover registration and certificates of completion
  - Matt Luetkemeyer: Can someone apply for Fire Fighter I certification if they have the MUFRTI certificate?
    - Greg Landwehr: Yes, it essentially modularizes Fire Fighter I, they would have to meet the pre-requisites prior to testing, and complete the remaining portion prior to testing (this will need to be reiterated). We also have funding to cover.
  - Greg Brown: To Greg Landwehr, put together a communication to the fire service to blast information about the new MUFRTI class as a contracted training class to address the fire marshal's concern, identifying it as a priority funding course
- NFPA updates to programs
  - HazMat – train the trainer sessions this month; will no longer be testing skill stations and will move to scenario testing, each incorporating about 50% of the JPRs; students will have to test 2 scenarios; incorporates process testing; technician has done this for the last few years, will be new to Ops
  - Investigator – incorporates roughly 80 hours of hybrid delivery (4-6 weeks of online learning to be eligible to complete the in-seat training); mirrors IAAI and NFA courses; all classes will be held at DFS HQ with the hope to use the Supreme Court as the host for the testimony portion of the class.
    - Greg Landwehr: Some departments have written in Investigator as part of the promotional process. For the chiefs on the board, do we need the full course or can we get by with offering the Fire Investigator for First Responder course for promotional processes?
    - Chief Bean: Do we ever see handing this class off to a third party to host/instruct?
      - Greg Landwehr: Logistic nightmare to hand off; if we took it on the road, don't have the funding to cover instructor expenses through PFFIA; currently looking into how to fund these classes using solely Fire Ed money
      - Greg Brown: in the wheel house of DFS and goes back to why DFS was established

- Tech Rescue – drastic changes; now Awareness, Operations, and Technician; will not approve Awareness stand-alone, will have to be a combined Awareness/Ops class due to skills in Ops being similar to the old Core
- Inspector – dropped in October 2022, will be starting on it in the next month
- Firefighter I/II – dropping this fall; added a support function to the standard, which will help cover volunteer departments and firefighters who can fill support roles but cannot fulfill I and II
- Officer/Instructor – NFPA is merging 1041 and 1021 into 1020 and it will drop this fall as the 2024 standard, short-cycling Officer
  - Brian Zaitz: Will there be a 1403 endorsement under the new 1020 standard?
    - Greg Landwehr: currently if you hold 1403 or 1041 Live Fire Instructor certifications, you will still be able to perform as a live fire instructor under the new standard
- ProBoard site visit this year
  - Application submitted in May, billed \$1250 for the application, haven't been back in touch to schedule but will happen within the next 6 months; if completed prior to November, will be re-accredited at the January 2024 conference

### **New Business:**

- Future RFPs for certification classes and certification testing services.
  - RFP going out this week or next is strictly for CE classes only
    - Each CE class will have to be reviewed to ensure requirements are met
    - Each vendor will have to be a qualified vendor (existing vendors are not an issue, new vendors will have to go through the approval process)
    - Each vendor will have two weeks to submit classes once the bid process opens
  - RFP open for bid soon for certification courses under contracted training
  - RFPs for Instructors and Evaluators being drafted
    - Bruce Lipe: Following up on last meetings concerns with evaluators being pulled from the vendors, including insurance; how are we qualifying evaluators?
      - Many of the evaluators for specialized classes like HazMat Tech and Tech Rescue are a set group of evaluators as they know the requirements
      - Insurance is on the individual
      - DFS is just looking to fill the hole where there is a need, mostly in the volunteer world
      - Currently instructors/evaluators are already qualified if they have gone through the training, they will just need to opt in and be listed as a vendor in Missouri Buys
      - To Greg Landwehr, an email clarifying the reasoning and the process would benefit all instructors

### **Other business**

- Comments/questions from guests
  - Harry Ward: Will we be able to bid on certification classes?
    - Greg Landwehr: Yes
  - Alan Braun: In past meetings was discussed that we want introductory classes to be a focus of contracted training and we said we wouldn't fund anything over 16 hours. Do we need to revisit and increase the time limit? E.g. Vehicle Rescue is moving from 16 hours in-seat, to 40 hours blended
    - Greg Landwehr: The way the RFP is written, any class under 32 hours requires one instructor, any classes 32 hours or more requires a minimum of two instructors with one being an Instructor II; additionally, skills must be a 1:5 instructor to student ratio when skills are actually being performed.
  - Matt Luetkemeyer: There is a difference in how DPS defines a position. There is discussion on expanding the training unit and researching the types of positions to regain at minimum the position lost during COVID

### **CY23 Meeting Dates and Times**

- September 6, 2023 at 10 am
- December 6, 2023 at 10 am

### **Motion to Adjourn @ 1129 hours**

Motion: Alan Braun  
 Second: Traci Wiley  
 In favor: All present