

**NEVADA STATE  
FIRE SERVICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMITTEE (FSSTC)  
June 25, 2010 – 10:30 a.m.  
Winnemucca Convention Center  
Winnemucca Mountain West Hall Room  
50 West Winnemucca Boulevard  
Winnemucca, Nevada**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Members**

**Present:** David Fogerson (Chairperson) – Deputy Chief Training and Safety, East Fork Fire & Paramedic District  
Peter Mulvihill, Assistant Fire Marshal, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District  
James M. Wright – Chief, Nevada State Fire Marshal  
Alan Olsen – Training Officer, Winnemucca Volunteer Fire Department  
Lenny Mayorga (*via telephone*) – Battalion Chief, North Las Vegas Fire Department  
Samantha Ladich, Deputy Attorney General

**Members**

**Absent:** Gary Stevenson – Training Officer, Clark County Fire Department

**Also present:**

Denesa Johnston – Administrative Assistant, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Dennis Pinkerton – Bureau Chief, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Denise Baclawski – Executive Director, UNR – Fire Science Academy  
Michael Heidemann – Executive Director, Nevada State Firefighters Association  
Lori DeGristina – Training Officer, State Fire Marshal’s Office  
Linda Bingaman – Assistant Chief, Carlin VFD  
Tom Bingaman – Captain, Carlin VFD  
Will Johnston – Chief, Carlin VFD  
Walt Johnstone – Chief, WMCA VFD  
Pat Irwin – (*via telephone*)Chair, Board of Fire Services Firefighter, Lovelock Fire Department

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call** – Chairperson Fogerson called the meeting to order at approximately 10:30 a.m. Roll call was heard and a quorum of five members was determined. Chairperson Fogerson noted public comment would be heard prior to action on agenda items 4, 6 and 7, due to the number of individuals present at today’s meeting.
- II. Introductions** - Introductions were heard of those individuals present at today’s meeting.
- III. Approval of March 31, 2010 Minutes** – Alan Olsen moved to approve the March 31, 2010 meeting minutes. Peter Mulvihill seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. Discussion regarding the concept of combining the Board of Fire Services (BFS) and the Fire Service Standards and Training Committee (FSSTC)** - Member Wright explained this item was agendized to discuss the concept of combining the Board of Fire Services (BFS) and the Fire Services and Standards Training Committee (FSSTC), because the BFS no longer receives funding due to recent budget cuts. If combined, there could be a Board of approximately eleven members. The new Board could also be a Hearing Board or Board of Appeals for fire marshal-type activities. In addition, the new Board could also develop Legislative recommendations for the betterment of fire service. This concept has been addressed with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and would also be presented to the public for input. It would require changes to NRS regarding expansion of the FSSTC Committee to absorb the BFS. Member Wright commented that this concept would also set the example for other Boards and Commissions to merge rather than be subject to action from an outside party.

Pat Irwin explained he was in favor of this concept because the accomplishment of creating fire standards and training should be prevented from any changes from an outside source. Chairperson Fogerson stated he concurred with Mr. Irwin’s comments because the FSSTC has accomplished obtaining IFSAC certification.

Member Mayorga suggested a full proposal be presented to the Committee for review including timelines and proposed accomplishments and a list of pros and cons to the merger. Chairperson Fogerson stated he agreed and that one reason why this issue was agendized was to gauge Committee response to this concept.

Member Mulvihill concurred with all comments expressed. He stated he was concerned about having a large Committee because of the quorum that would be needed. He suggested having an odd number of Committee members. Member Wright noted input was needed on the make-up of the Board. He stated he would like a Fire Prevention representative on the Board.

Member Olsen stated he was in favor of the concept, because it would be beneficial to fire service.

Mike Heidemann, Executive Director, Nevada State Firefighters Association, stated he has also discussed this issue and was in full support of the concept. He commented on FSSTC's importance to volunteer fire departments in rural areas. He offered his assistance in developing the concept.

Member Mulvihill asked if Nevada Open Meeting Law would apply to the sub-committee. Deputy Attorney General Ladich stated that was correct.

**Pete Mulvihill moved that the FSSTC Chairperson establish a task group of his selection made up of different Committee members including the BFS Chairperson to work with the State Fire Marshal's Office to develop a concept to present to the Committee regarding the make-up of the new Board/Committee including its duties and powers and how many times a year meetings would be held.**

Member Mayorga asked if this concept was discussed with the BFS Chairperson. Member Wright stated a BFS meeting will be held next week to discuss the issue. Member Mayorga suggested holding off on a motion until the position of the BFS Committee on this issue is known. Chairperson Fogerson stated he agreed, but that action should be taken to initiate the issue.

Member Mulvihill stated he would amend his motion to include verbiage that action would be taken dependent on concurrence by the BFS at their meeting next week and to clarify that recommendations regarding the concept would be provided to the State Fire Marshal.

**Pete Mulvihill amended his motion to establish a task force under the FSSTC Chairperson to provide the State Fire Marshal with recommendations regarding the concept of combining the Board of Fire Services and the Fire Service Standards and Training Committee contingent upon the Board of Fire Services concurring with this action at their next scheduled meeting. Dave Fogerson seconded the Motion.** Discussion followed.

Member Mayorga noted there may be an issue with the State Fire Marshal's Office wanting to be on the task force or developing their own task force to look into the issue.

**David Fogerson amended the motion to direct the State Fire Marshal to produce a task force to study this issue combining representatives from the Fire Serve Standards and Training Committee, the Board of Fire Services, and other interested parties contingent upon Board of Fire Services approval. Pete Mulvihill seconded the amended Motion. Motion carried unanimously**

- V. **Discussion and Presentation by Denise Baclawski, Executive Director, University of Nevada, Reno, Fire Science Academy** - With a PowerPoint© presentation, Denise Baclawski, Executive Director, UNR – Fire Science Academy, provided brief history of the Academy and reviewed its core programs. She stated Department of Energy grants totaling approximately \$8 million was received that focused on municipal firefighting. Petroleum remains the largest contributor to enrollment. She provided a sample of clients that were served by the Fire Science Academy. The vision was to be a world-wide leader in the global arena in terms of educating the emergency response and management community. They also want to be recognized for their safety, quality, and environmental compliance. There was approximately a \$3 million annual operating budget not including grant funding. There were approximately eighty employees that are used on a regular basis. The Academy was in its 38<sup>th</sup> year of operation. In 2008, the Academy began to experience financial difficulties. Two plans were being established to combat the financial issue. The National Guard Plan would provide facilities needed. The Stakeholder Plan would look at ways to establish long-term financial sustainability.

Member Wright stated he was concerned that FSSTC federal funding received would be siphoned off for the Fire Science Academy. Ms. Baclawski stated there were no plans to usurp funding, but to work with other departments and agencies to obtain more federal funding for the State for fire services.

Chairperson Fogerson noted that the FSA appeared to address a different audience than the FSSTC and that the FSSTC had to make sure the FSA was complimentary and not competing with other fire agencies.

- VI. Discussion regarding the current and future goals and visions of the State Fire Marshal Training, both short-term and long-term** – Member Wright stated this item was agendaized to allow for input regarding the current and future goals and visions of training. He commented on the work that will be needed, due to recent budget cuts, and that priorities need to be established. Dennis Pinkerton stated some goals for ISFAC accreditation include having funding for hazmat training; to implement more regional training versus department training; and to implement a regional training schedule. Member Wright commented on the need for receiving assistance from fire services to provide regional deliveries instead of individual regional training. He stated they were also looking at ways to advertise training information on their website.

Chairperson Fogerson suggested working with UNR and community colleges to provide training for college credits. He stated the Northwestern Training Officers Association also provides instruction in classes with assistance from the State.

Member Mayorga suggested making certificates available on the website. Training Officer DeGristina reported a Division of Emergency Management database was being developed that can be used both by the Division and the State Fire Marshal that would show the different courses taken by individuals.

Dennis Pinkerton asked if there was a Southern Nevada Training Officers Committee. Member Mayorga stated there was and the Committee meets at least quarterly.

- VII. Discussion regarding the adoption of current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Standard 472 Competence of Responders to Hazardous Material/Weapon of Mass Destruction Incidents, 2008 Edition at the Hazardous Material Technician level; Hazardous Material Safety Officers; Hazardous Material Incident Command Levels** – Dennis Pinkerton reported that drafts were developed regarding these issues that include course requirements and ICS requirements. Feedback has been received regarding the course and ICS requirements. Chairperson Fogerson reported that some feedback was on the Hazardous Material Incident Command Level to only require up to ICS 300 level because of some issues that Southern Nevada had.

Member Mulvihill requested to know the issues in Southern Nevada relating to this matter. Chairperson Fogerson replied there was concern not enough individuals would have the ICS 400 class in order to become a Hazardous Material Commander. He commented that 400 level was the requirement, but training could also be provided at the 300 level.

Dennis Pinkerton asked if that could also include the drop of the 800 level. Chairperson Fogerson replied yes.

Member Mayorga stated he did not see a benefit in reducing the 800 level.

**David Fogerson moved to accept staff's recommendations for Chapter 17.5.3 on Hazardous Material Technician Level; 17.5.4 with the exception that item 5 regarding ISC 400 under course requirements is removed; and approve 17.5.5 Hazardous Material Safety Officer.**

Member Wright clarified it would also involve adopting NFPA Standard 472 Chapters 7, 8, and 11 in its entirety.

**Peter Mulvihill seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- VIII. Discussion regarding Fire Service Standards and Training Committee member appointments and re-appointments** – Member Wright reported he received Ken Smith's resignation from the Board earlier this week. He stated the Governor's Office wanted to continue filling vacancies with the concept that was discussed earlier. Discussion was heard regarding re-appointment of some Committee members and the vacancy that needs to be filled from Mr. Smith's resignation.

- IX. General Announcements** – There were no general announcements heard.

- X. Call for Public Comment** – There were no public comment requests.

Member Mayorga asked about the date of the next meeting. It was reported it was tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 23, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in Incline Village.

- XI. Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

**Lenny Mayorga moved to adjourn the meeting. Alan Olsen seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**