

Minutes Approved 10/25/10  
**NEVADA STATE  
FIRE SERVICE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMITTEE (FSSTC)  
August 23, 2010 – 1:00 p.m.  
Donald W. Reynolds Community Non-Profit Building  
AKA Parasol Building  
948 Incline Way  
Incline Village, NV**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Members**

**Present:** David Fogerson (Chairperson) – Deputy Chief Trainer, East Fork Fire & Paramedic District  
Peter Mulvihill, Assistant Fire Marshal, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District  
Lenny Mayorga – Battalion Chief, North Las Vegas Fire Department  
Chad Hastings, Deputy Chief – Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

**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  
Dale Smith – Board of Fire Services  
Bertral Washington (*via telephone*), Assistant Fire Chief/Chair of Board of Fire Services–Las Vegas Fire & Rescue  
Samantha Ladich, Deputy Attorney General

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call** - Chairperson Fogerson called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. Roll call was heard and a quorum of five members was determined.
- II. **Introductions** - Introductions were made of those individuals present at the meeting.
- III. **Approval of FSSTC June 25, 2010 Minutes** - Peter Mulvihill moved to approve the June 25, 2010 meeting minutes as presented. Lenny Mayorga seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Discussion And Report From Chair Fogerson Regarding The Restructuring of FSSTC In Combination With The Nevada Board Of Fire Services** –Member Mulvihill stated that he had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. He reported that he has reviewed the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) regarding the relevant sections that pertain to the Board of Fire Service (BFS) and the Fire Service Standards & Training Committee (FSSTC). He distributed a summary of his review, and commented that he had used this material to create a combined Board Committee draft. The draft was sent to Dale Smith for his review and comment. He requested any comments or input that those present would like to give. Member Mulvihill noted that he would then take any input offered and combine it with his draft. He pointed out that he has proposed that the size of the committee be set at nine members due to considerations of establishing a quorum, etc.

Chairperson Fogerson thanked Member Mulvihill for his work on this project. The following discussion was held:

- Member Hastings suggested that under “Duties”, if the two Boards are combined, make the Board an Appeals Board as well to handle items relating to the Fire Service rather than this function being handled by the Fire Marshal’s office.
- Chairperson Fogerson requested that Member Mulvihill send this draft to him electronically so that he could forward it to Chief Washington.
- Member Mulvihill noted that there is an area highlighted in yellow regarding the meeting frequency of the FSSTC as there is an inconsistency in the existing verbiage. In one place it states that it may meet regularly, and in another section it states that it will meet four times per year. Chairperson Fogerson stated that he believes meetings should be set at four per year, once a quarter, particularly if they are going to be handling the appeals process. The verbiage will be revised to read.... “Shall meet once a quarter....”.
- Member Mulvihill noted that he followed the general composition of the membership of the BFS and the FSSTC Boards in combining them, but he did broaden some of the positions eligible to serve on the combined Board Committee due to issues with getting people who are willing to serve. He reviewed the changes.

At this point, Chief Washington joined the meeting via conference call.

- Chairperson Fogerson requested Chief Washington's input on the proposal. Chief Washington reported that BFS is placing the item on their meeting agenda next week, August 30, 2010, and members like the idea of reviewing it further to move it forward. A discussion was held regarding interested parties attending the meeting which will be held in Carson City or participating via conference call. He noted that an additional meeting would be held in Reno sometime the week of August 25<sup>th</sup>, but he didn't have the specific date with him at this time.

**Peter Mulvihill moved to authorize Chairperson Fogerson to continue further investigation into the viability of combining FSSTC with the Nevada Board of Fire Services through meetings with the State Fire Marshal, the Director of Public Safety and other Nevada Fire Service organizations. Lenny Mayorga seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- V. **Discussion Regarding Committee Member Appointment And Reappointment** – Dennis Pinkerton reported that there is currently one vacant position (Volunteer Chief position), but he was not sure if Chairperson Fogerson would like to hold off seeking a person to fill it due to the ongoing discussions regarding combining the BFS and FSSTC Boards. A discussion was held regarding the current membership of both Boards and the proposed membership of the combined Board Committee of nine members. Member Mulvihill suggested that someone be recruited that could be appointed to both of the existing committees. Mr. Pinkerton stated that he would follow up with Chief Wright regarding this item.

- VI. **Discussion To Allow The Committee Chair To Meet With Division Of Emergency Management, State Fire Marshal Division, Peace Officers' Standards And Training, and Emergency Medical System; And, Establishing Reciprocity For Instructor Certifications In Accordance With Previously Adopted Procedures** - Chairperson Fogerson explained that this item stems from previous discussion with the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) and some previous issues that have been encountered with Emergency Management Services (EMS). The goal is to make the system so that an instructor could teach in any of the disciplines, in which they were qualified to teach. This would facilitate the adoption of the same standards and Professional Qualifications Manual by DEM.

**David Fogerson moved that he be allowed to meet with DEM, the State Fire Marshal Division and EMS to establish reciprocity for instructor certification. Peter Mulvihill seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairperson Fogerson stated that he would report back to the FSSTC the outcome of any meetings that may be held regarding this item.

- VII. **Discussion Regarding Changes To The Professional Qualifications Manual; *Written Test Process* Section 7.4; *Reciprocity*, Section 14, Subsections 14.10 and 14.11; *Certification Levels*, Section 17, Subsection 17.6 *Technical Rescue; and Forms*, Section 19** - Dennis Pinkerton reported

- *Written Test Process*, Section 7.4 - There is no language regarding a "drop dead period" for the three attempts to pass the exam. He commented that applicants have waited up to three years for the third exam. The recommendation is that the three exams take place within a one-year period. **Pete Mulvihill moved to approve revising the language of the *Professional Qualifications Manual, Written Process Section, Section 7.4.18 to have it read ".....Applicants shall be given three attempts to meet the minimum passing requirements within one year of the first attempt.....". Chad Hastings seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.***

- *Reciprocity*, Section 14, Subsections 14.10 and 14.11 - The language needs to be clarified in Subsection 14.10 regarding the historical recognition period whenever a new certification level is introduced. Subsection 14.11 was developed prior to the development of the *Professional Qualifications Manual*, and Mr. Pinkerton recommended that it be removed. Member Mayorga commented that one of his concerns is that notification of the affected personnel who had the previous certification sometimes falls through the cracks. A discussion was held regarding the internal communication process regarding reciprocity issues and the responsibility of the department and the individual. A suggestion was made that the State Fire Marshal's office develop a process to assure that the affected personnel are notified of new certifications. Another suggestion was that this type of information could be posted on the website. Chief Washington commented that he wanted to make sure everyone was aware of the IFSAC certifications that are currently being issued by the State Fire Marshal's office. Member Mayorga noted that this is the type of information that needs to be disseminated to all affected personnel instead of just one e-mail being sent to the Training Chief that may or may not be passed on to the affected personnel. **Pete Mulvihill moved to clarify the intent as stated in the *Professional Qualifications Manual, Reciprocity, Section 14, Subsection 14.10 that the one-year window applies only to those new certifications adopted by the Committee and does not apply to any other existing certifications. David Fogerson seconded the Motion.*** Member Mayorga again stated that a process of notification needs to be put in place. Mr. Pinkerton noted that the information will be placed on the website and people will be notified via e-mail. It was pointed out that the Departmental Training Chiefs also need to take responsibility to get this information

out. **Motion carried unanimously. Pete Mulvihill moved to delete Subsection 14.11 in the Professional Qualifications Manual, Reciprocity, Section 14. David Fogerson seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- *Certification Levels*, Section 17, Subsection 17.6, *Technical Rescue Awareness* – It is requested that the requirement of a 1582 intense medical and physical exam listed in Subsection 17.6 be removed from 17.6, 1, 2 and 3. **David Fogerson moved to strike the language in Professional Qualifications Manual, Certification Levels, Section 17, Subsection 17.6, 1, 2 and 3 requiring a 1582 medical and physical exam. Lenny Mavorga seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- *Forms*, Section 19 – Mr. Pinkerton reported that the content of the content of the forms hasn't changed, but they can now be completed online. It was decided that if no revisions are made to the forms but they are changed only so that they can be completed online, they don't need to come to the Committee for review and approval.

**VIII. Discussion Regarding Professional Qualifications Manual, Procedure For Course Approval, Section 16** – Mr. Pinkerton provided an example of a recent incident that occurred. A firefighter presented a course that he would like to teach to a local fire department for certification approval, but he plans to also teach it to other members of the public as part of a business he is running. Mr. Pinkerton noted that it takes staff time to go through this process. Following discussion, it was decided that Samantha Ladich and Mr. Pinkerton would research this further and present it at the next meeting.

**IX. Discussion Regarding Activity And Program Changes Within The Training Bureau** – Mr. Pinkerton reviewed website, forms, certification and program changes that have recently been put in place. He presented the professional certification track for technical rescue. He reported that review of the Firefighter I and II and Haz Mat 2008 test banks is now taking place. It was noted that since the last meeting, fifty-five testing events have occurred.

**X. General Announcements** – Chairperson Fogerson stated that he has spoken with the State Fire Marshal. He reported that he was told that Kirby Kiefer from the National Fire Academy went to UNR Fire Science Academy and reviewed their program to see if the federal government could assist with any grant funding. It does not look like the U.S. Fire Administration will be able to assist in any way.

**XI. Call For Public Comment** – There were no Public Comment requests.

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

**Chad Hastings moved to adjourn the meeting. David Fogerson seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**