

MINUTES

Nevada State Board of Fire Services

August 26, 2021

10:00 am

State Fire Marshal Division

107 Jacobsen Way, Classroom C, Carson City, NV 89711

And teleconference:

Teleconference to 775-687-0999, Participants Code 47525#

Board Members Present:

Jeffrey Buchanan
Mark Briant
Kacey KC
Stephen DiGiovanni
Kelli Baratti
Nicholas Moriarty
William Snyder
Jack Snyder

Others Present:

Connie Etchison - Administrative Assistant, State Fire Marshal Division
Nathan Hastings - Deputy Attorney General
Christina Wilson – State Fire Marshal Division
Dennis Pinkerton - State Fire Marshal Division
Thomas Martinez - State Fire Marshal Training Officer
Nicole Hoekstra - State Fire Marshall Staff

1. **CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR** (Non-Action Item.)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Connie Etchison.

2. **VERIFICATION OF NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW** (Non-Action Item.) The Chair of the Nevada State Board of Fire Services will verify compliance has been met in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.)

Connie Etchison confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

3. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS;** verification of quorum. (Non-action Item.)

Connie Etchison called roll. A quorum was established.

- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** (Non-Action Item.) No action may be taken on matters raised in context with this Agenda item prior to inclusion of the matter itself as an action item on a future Agenda. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes. Comments will not be restricted based on viewpoint.

Dennis Pinkerton stated the Fire Marshal would like to apologize for not being here. He was on a vacation and he was unable to cancel. I'd like to recognize Patsy Milton. She was our Executive Assistant and she passed away in June.

Jeffrey Buchanan stated he appreciated him sharing that very sad news. Thoughts and prayers go out to her and her family for the loss. She served this board very well and sort of a State Fire Marshal for a number of years. My condolences personally and on behalf of the board, thanks for sharing that.

There was no other public comment.

- 5. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 MEETING MINUTES** (Discussion/For Possible Action.) The members of the Board of Fire Services will review and may approve/make necessary changes to the SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 minutes submitted.

Female speaker made a motion to approve the minutes and Male speaker seconded. Motion carried.

- 6. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) 1001 STANDARD FOR FIGHTER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION 2019 EDITION** (Discussion/for Possible Action.) Presented by State Fire Marshal Training Bureau Chief Dennis Pinkerton. Discuss with members the updating of the Professional Qualifications Manual to include the 2019 Edition of NFPA 1001. This change is necessary to comply with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) three-year compliance procedure. Possible action could be to adopt 2019 Edition of NFPA 1001 as presented.

Dennis Pinkerton reported that they needed to move forward with the compliance to the IFSAC three-year requirement. When we look at the 2019 edition of the NFPA 1001, there really wasn't a lot of changes that would affect our program. I did send out our chapter 17.1.2 this morning. That actually has requirements for NFPA firefighter I to firefighter II and the new things in the 1001 we've been doing for quite a few years as we wrote the book in 2009. So, it doesn't really change in our program. There were some general EMS requirements and some general definitions of EMS responder, first responder, emergency medical technician, advanced

emergency medical technician and the paramedic that really if EHJ [ph] already have that in place.

Kelli Barati made a motion to accept. Mark Briant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. **CHANGES TO THE NEVADA PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS MANUAL FOR THE FIRE OFFICER I AND II CERTIFICATION EXAM** (Discussion/ for Possible Action.) Presented by State Fire Marshal Training Officer Thomas Martinez. Discuss with members changes to the Nevada Professional Qualifications Manual for the Fire Officer I and II certification exam to include documentation of successfully completing an approved course and completing the Job Performance Requirement Skills Evaluation Packet. This change is necessary to comply with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) accredited certification testing for Fire Officer levels I and II. Possible action could be to adopt chapter 17.4.1 Fire Officer I, and chapter 17.4.2 Fire Officer II of Nevada Professional Qualifications Manual.

Thomas Martinez reported that on January 5th of 2021, we were approved accredited for IFSAC fire officer I and II certification levels. With that came some changes or some requirements that IFSAC has implemented for us. What they are, is first anybody who's going to be requesting certification for fire officer I or II has to complete an approved fire officer course and provide documentation prior to testing or to receiving the certification. What goes along with that is the skills, JPR sheet that they have to complete. It's similar to a task book but it's not a task book. It has to be completed before they are allowed to enter the testing process but they are the two major requirements that IFSAC has implemented for us to do. Other than that, our testing process hasn't changed much. In our Professional Qualifications Manual, we do show the changes there under 17.4.1 and 17.4.2.

Jack Snyder made a motion to approve the changes. Mark Briant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. **FIRE OFFICER I AND II CERTIFICATION UPGRADE PROGRAM** (Discussion/ for Possible Action.) Presented by State Fire Marshal Training Officer Thomas Martinez. Discuss with members a certification upgrade program offered to those who were successful in obtaining Nevada Fire Officer I and II certification within a specified date. Possible action could be to adopt certification upgrade program offered to those who were successful in obtaining Nevada Fire Officer I and II certification within a specified date.

Thomas Martinez reported this coincides with the last one that I had, IFSAC accreditation for fire officer I and II. What this provides is a person who has received a Nevada Fire Officer I or II within the timeframe of January 5th when we received the accreditation to August 31st of 2021, they'll have the

opportunity to put in for the upgrade from a Nevada to an IFSAC accredited Fire Officer I or II certification. They would have to submit a request letter from the Chief, requesting that they get the upgrade to the IFSAC, provide a copy of the level of certification they're requesting which would be a fire officer I or II. And then, they would have to submit for review a completed fire officer I or II Job Performance Requirement Skills Evaluation Packet. Again, that is one of the requirements from IFSAC is that evaluation packet. Once they submitted the three items, we review and then as long as they meet the criteria, they will be able to receive the fire officer I or II certification.

Jeffrey Buchanan asked, for people that don't do the upgrade, will they still remain qualified as Nevada State Fire Officer I and II. Thomas Martinez replied yes.

Jeffrey Buchanan asked if that would continue to be recognized for anything that might require that particular certification. For example, let's say a particular job requires Nevada Fire Officer or for a fire officer II certification with the intent [ph] of the Fire Marshal's Office be for that skill to qualify. Thomas Martinez replied yes. We would not take anything away from them. They would still qualify.

Jeffrey Buchanan stated he didn't know how big of a list it is for members on this organization and really throughout the state in that timeframe that you just mentioned, from January to August of this year, individuals in this transition window that could apply. Do we have a lot of people that have in that short window would qualify? Thomas Martinez stated he didn't have the exact number of people but there is a fair amount. I would imagine that's one of the certifications that we issue on a regular basis.

Jeffrey Buchanan stated Tom is reaching out to individual departments to see where that task [ph] because I foresee a lot of frustration from employees missing that window and not having that ability to do that transition. I'd like to hear from the board and hear from you, Tom and Dennis, how big of a lift would that be to have your office reach out to the training department to see who qualified and to kind of help shepherd us through those processes.

Dennis Pinkerton stated that is pretty easy with us with our data management system. That was in play a year and a half ago and we can just call up those individuals that have their I and II and we can send notes to them personally and their training offices.

Jeffrey Buchanan stated he thought that would be beneficial if you could send them that personal note and that particular training divisions.

Jack Snyder asked if this was the only window that can be used for individuals. Assuming we have an individual, the guys are fire officer I in the state [ph] say last year, do they have to redo the complete program to get to IFSAC if they're trying to apply for a program that's outside of the state or is there like some kind of grandfathering for that just do the skill sheet, the JPRs to complete to get that upgrade?

Dennis Pinkerton stated, historically, the board and the past fire service standards and training board have never allowed a grandfathering thing clause in the certification system. There is a chapter in our professional qualifications manual that actually states that they could upgrade if they would have to do the whole testing process again like if one of the IFSAC accreditation, they have to do the written test and then submit the skills packet too.

Thomas Martinez stated they would have to submit a request from their Chief or the designee. They would have to provide documentation of completion of a fire officer I course or II and then like Dennis stated reenter the testing process which would include the written test and then the JPR evaluation packet. Now the documentation of completion of a fire officer could be a letter or a memo from the Chief of their agency or their designee.

Dennis Pinkerton stated, if you're saying the person has a fire officer I now, this is a Nevada NFPA Fire Officer I, that will now prevent him or her to go and test for an IFSAC Fire Officer II. We don't make them go all the way back and redo the prerequisite certification. If they have one that's not IFSAC, they can go ahead and do it too that is IFSAC.

Kelli Baratti made a motion to approve. Nicholas Moriarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 9. ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) 1041 STANDARD FOR FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTOR PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION 2019 EDITION** (Discussion/for Possible Action.) Presented by State Fire Marshal Training Bureau Chief Dennis Pinkerton. Discuss with members the updating of the Professional Qualifications Manual to include the 2019 Edition of NFPA 1041. This change is necessary to comply with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) three-year compliance procedure. Possible action could be to adopt 2019 Edition of NFPA 1041 as presented.

Dennis Pinkerton reported there wasn't very many changes that this board and the State Fire Marshall Division hasn't already accomplished. They are changing the name of the fire services instructor to emergency service instructor. That's a little bit of difference and they also added a live fire instructor and a live fire instructor in charge. And this body has done that several years ago in 2008 I believe presented an AC [ph] change to require

the instruction in charge to be a fire service instructor too. Nevada is ahead of NFPA I guess, so there really isn't anything to change as far as our program.

Mark Briant stated he had a question on the change of fire instructor to emergency services instructor. Would that encompass EMS instructor also or will that still be a separate thing handled by the city of Nevada [ph]. Dennis Pinkerton stated it's just a name change. They certified their own people and that wouldn't encompass the EMS side.

Jeffrey Buchanan asked, for this particular item similar to the other, if there would be a huge list. He asked how his database management system would allow for some interactions with people in the state that are in the zone that this could impact them.

Dennis Pinkerton stated they will definitely send memos out that they're adopting the 2019. Our system is pretty robust. We could drop down e-mails and send it to all candidates for fire service instructor or emergency service instructor.

Jeffrey Buchanan stated he thought that is an important piece of these changes, to make sure that those touch [ph] has happened, so the employees that would be impacted get some level of notification. Even though, through your system, I'm sure there will be some people that slipped through the cracks but I think it's an important step.

Kacey KC made a motion to accept. Jack Snyder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- 10. PUBLIC COMMENT** (Non-action Item) No action may be taken on matters raised in context with the Agenda item prior to inclusion of the matter itself as an action item on a future Agenda. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

There was no public comment.

- 11. ADJOURNMENT** (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

Jack Snyder made a motion to adjourn. Mark Briant seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:32.