



Firefighters Employment, Standards, and Training Council Meeting
 April 21, 2022
 Conference Call

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:

NAME	REPRESENTING	TERM ENDING
Carlos Aviles St. Augustine Fire	FL Fire Chiefs' Association	June 30, 2022 (1 st term)
Mike Bellamy Tallahassee Fire	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 st term)
Brad Bischoff Bradenton Fire Department	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 st term)
Aaron Colburn Reedy Creek Emergency Svs.	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 st term)
Kasie Crowe Division of Forestry	Florida Fire Service	Jan. 31, 2023 (2 nd term)
Thomas DiBernardo Florida Department of Health	Bureau of EMS	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 st term)
Darrel Donatto Town of Palm Beach	Florida League of Cities	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 st term)
Ralph Franklin Okeechobee County Fire	FL Association of Counties	June 30, 2022 (1 st term)
Shawn Hanson Greater Naples Fire Rescue	Florida Fire Marshals Association	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 st term)
Dr. David Lee Sylvester Comprehensive	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 st term)
Jim Millican Lealman Fire District	Florida Association Sp. Districts	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 st term)
Terry Parris Panama City Beach	State Fire Marshal	Jan. 1, 2023 (1 st term)
Kevin Reed Hillsborough C.C	State Fire Marshal	Oct. 31, 2022 (1 st term)
Jason Schneider Winter Garden Fire Dept.	FL Professional FF Assoc.	Jan. 31, 2023 (1 st term)
Randy Touchton	State Fire Marshal	June 30, 2022 (1 st term)

ABSENT:

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The Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council meeting was called to order.

On a motion duly made, the minutes from the Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council held on January 20, 2022 were approved.

Motion carried.

REPORT FROM DIVISION: *given by Julius Halas, Director*

- Budget
 - Waiting for full sign off
 - Grants
 - University of Miami (Sylvester Cancer Research Center) was appropriated an additional 2 million dollars for fiscal year 2022-2023
 - Volunteer Firefighter Assistance program- 1 million dollars
 - Advanced Firefighter Decontamination – 500,000 dollars
 - 30 additional grants allocated for training centers and fire department structures
 - All subject to sign off by the Governor
 - Additional position allocated for Fire College – “Government Analyst”, to assist with grants. An OPS (part-time) position was also approved for the Tallahassee office for grant assistance.
- SFM trying to fill all vacant positions
 - Program Manager (2) at Fire College
 - Standards Supervisor

Congratulations to Eugenia Tucker for her promotion to Assistant Superintendent at the Florida State Fire College.

Inclusion of full-time, certified Fire Investigators to the Cancer Bill (HB838) has passed. Pending signature.

JoAnne Rice:

- \$250,000 slated for feasibility study for FCDICE system
- FSFC Capital Improvement Program – pending approval for 20 million dollars
 - May 3 meeting with CFO Patronis to provide overview of enhancements as well as some growth
- Fire Safety Research Institute
 - Experiments on single compartment fuel fires
 - Reviewed videos of experiments
 - Meeting again on May 2, for final analysis
 - Tentative publishing by this summer
 - Summer/Fall, going over full structure fires in simulators. Will gather data for analysis

REPORT FROM THE BUREAU: *given by Mark Harper Bureau Chief*

Congratulations to Gena Tucker on filling the Assistant Superintendent position

- Standards Section – Current Stats
 - FFII – 45, 527 (2,000 more than this time last year), 36, 783 are employed
 - Continuing with “clean-up” in FCDICE
 - FFI – 3,500 most accurate count we have had in a while
 - 52 certified training centers
 - Accreditation
 - IFSAC had site visit August of 2021
 - ProBoard visit will be 9/2022
 - Out of State Equivalency
 - With the influx of out of state firefighters moving to the area it has become a cumbersome process. After the review of IFSAC and ProBoard, the Bureau is looking at acknowledging those accreditations if they hold FFII certification, have been employed for more than 5 years with no break in employment for 4 years, we can deem that equivalent in training. Individuals will still be required to successfully complete and pass the written and practical exam. We currently have a 40-hour course used for DOD firefighters to transition them with their skills etc.
- US&R Training
 - \$500,000 LBR US&R – several training activities going on presently, Operations Level and Technical Level
 - SHSGP (State Homeland Security Grant Program) funds also funding US&R Ops and Tech classes which started back in March
- Grants
 - Firefighter Assistance Grant
 - Recurring 1 million dollars (Charlie Frank) 17 of 20 contracts have been executed. First time we were able to spend the funds in one round.

- 633.135 – if passed, we are looking at revising/expanding the available equipment for the grant.
 - Firefighter Decontamination Grant
 - Recurring 500,000 (Susan Schell)
 - 51 agencies participated this year, all contracts have been executed
- Campus Events
 - Volunteer Week – April 28 – May 12, 2022
 - Health & Safety Symposium – May 10, 2022
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Leadership Summit – May 12, 2022
 - Instructor Conference – May 19-20, 2022 (Joe Farago to emcee)
- Tracking Critical/Close Calls
 - Survey was sent out to fire chiefs
 - 50 agencies responded. 22 of the 50 said they are tracking critical/close calls
 - Some departments have no system to track this information
 - Room for improvement
- Recruitment and Retention Caucus – Meet May 26, 2022 at FSFC
 - Fire departments throughout the state are having trouble keeping personnel
 - This Caucus is hoping to identify what the issues are
 - Marketing
 - Call volume
 - Shift rotation
 - Keith Chapman (Ten-8) will facilitate
 - Hopeful to bring back information to share at summer meeting
- Mental Health Intervention Training – moving forward
 - Putting together tracks
 - Company Officer track
 - Chief Officer track
 - Working on delivery method
- Deferred Maintenance Funding
 - Water Filtration – completed
 - Generator – Purchase order approved, ready to order
 - Roof replacement/repairs upcoming
 - Parking lot paving upcoming

Randy Touchton: asked for update on Aerial truck replacement grant

Mark Harper: Unable to complete process in last round. We now have pre-approval from purchasing to re-apply with funds already in place.

Chairman Aviles congratulated Gena Tucker on her appointment to Assistant Superintendent at the Florida State Fire College.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: **Chairman Aviles** welcomed the Council's new members Brian Bischoff, Aaron Colburn and Chief Michael Woodward

AUDIENCE: None

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 18, 2022, 10 minutes after adjournment of FFIRS
(3:00 p.m.), Naples, Florida

ADJOURN.

Audio file available upon request