



Fire Technology Advisory Committee

MEETING NOTES

Present: Mike Ketaily, Jeff Pike, Keith Gurrola, Dan Spykerman, Michelle Smith, Robert Dunivin, David Kromka, Darwin Base, Jo Garcia, Rob Morris, Cece Chavez

Guests:

Meeting Date: 10/14/2019	Review of Action Notes:	Recorded By: Cece Chavez
AN = Action Needed	AT = Action Taken	D = Discussion
		I = Information Only

The meeting was called to order at **11:02** a.m.

	TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION NEEDED	ACCJC STANDARD
I.	Welcome / Call to Order	AT	The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.		
II.	Approval of Minutes	AT	J. Garcia motioned to approve the minutes. Chief J. Pike seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.		
III.	Election and Approval of New Committee Chair	AT	C. Chavez motioned to elect Chief J. Pike as the committee chair. He was elected unanimously by the committee.		
IV.	New Assistant Dean	I	M. Ketaily - Gail Warner has moved on to the Dean of Public Safety in Miramar. We had interviews for the Assistant Dean of Public Safety position. Out of 21 applicants, 5 were qualified. 3 out of the 5 were interviewed. Matthew Jewett was extended, and has accepted, a job offer as the new Assistant Dean. He had 10 years experience in the fire service before being injured on the job. He has been working as a full time faculty member at Sierra College for about 6 years. He is the		

			<p>president of the California Fire Technology Director's Association (CFTDA). He has knowledge of the state fire training system. He will be starting in November or December. He plans to stay around for a while and we are glad to have him.</p>		
V.	Building Construction	D	<p>M. Ketaily - The District sold the land to the VCFD about 2 years ago. In November of 2020, we are supposed to be off the property and the VCFD will be taking over the apparatus bay. Our new building will be built where the retention basin is. The college has assured us that the building will be built by the deadline. D. Spykerman – we are a unique spot offering the CPAT. There are 3 other test sites in Orange County, Sacramento and Livermore. We perform a valuable function for the state and our fire fighter candidates and we would like to continue to offer this service. The CPAT course is currently incorporated with our apparatus bay and will need to be moved to the Fire Academy's new site. Ideally, Dan would like to have the entire test indoors. Right now part of it is outdoors and is effected by bad weather. The CPAT consists of 8 props, 4 are permanent fixtures, 4 can be moved around. R. Dunivin asked if there was a contingency plan in place if things did not go as planned. There is currently no contingency plan established between the college district and VCFD regarding the relocation of the apparatus bay, OCRFA training grounds, or student parking. We do have some space at the college that could serve as an alternative training ground, but it will not be sufficient to meet the program's needs.</p>		
VI.	LG Academy, Wildland Academy	I	<p>M. Ketaily - The Lifeguard Academy is coming up this February. It is four weekends long. The participants will earn a USLA certification. The Wildland Academy will be offered this summer. We are looking for a primary instructor for the academy. The minimum qualifications have been revised. We hope to hold interviews soon. The academy is 8 weeks long.</p>		
VII.	Oxnard FD Intern Program	I	<p>Chief D. Base – There will be 2 incoming interns soon. The last interns have been phenomenal. The last group of interns went on a few ride-alongs. One of 3 took their test and 1 has moved on with the fire department. The two new student interns are Alvaro and Casas.</p>		

			<p>They are excited to start. Chief D. Base is open to taking on more interns. They have work that can be done. The hiring process for the OCFD is underway. Background checks have been completed. 20 are moving forward to Chief interviews. Chief K. Gurrola mentioned that he is interested in having students participate in an internship program for Fillmore FD. Oxnard college collects the applications from the students and the FD conducts interviews and makes selections. Internship applications are collected annually. The interns work about 10 hours per week work for one year.</p>		
VIII.	FF1 Academy	D	<p>M. Ketaily – The academy is in its 8th week. Many students have been getting hired and skip the academy. We started out with 30+ cadets. We are down to about 21. Some dropped for financial reasons. Many also dropped due to fitness. R. Dunivin shared that LAFD offers a pre-academy fitness program. Chief J. Pike shared that the Mamba Academy in Newbury Park offers a 12 week program geared towards firefighting. VCFFD has gotten feedback regarding the sports science and effects on the body. This collaboration will help the county to determine best practices in training and testing. J. Garcia has gone through a diagnostic with Mamba Academy. The major uniqueness with firefighters is completing exercise while retaining body heat from turnouts. The Mamba Academy is high intensity and requires a certain level of fitness to start. D. Kromka suggests benchmarks for the students. For example, run a certain amount of miles in a certain amount of time. M. Ketaily shares that out of 15 colleges that he surveyed, 10 had some type of testing or physical fitness class required as a prerequisite. Chief D. Base suggests adding a fitness class to an already established college degree such as Kinesiology. Jo Garcia suggests a pre-academy fitness program like VCFFD does on the weekends. M. Ketaily shares that we offer the CPAT here on the training grounds and suggests we make a valid CPAT card a prerequisite to get into the academy. Chief J. Pike suggests partnering with Mamba Academy to offer discounts to OC students. The monthly fee is approximately \$150 per month. He also mentioned that maybe the benchmarks are still unknown and more research needs to be done.</p>		

IX.	SLO Review FT R167 Fire Equipment and Apparatus	D	M. Ketaily – passed out the FT R167 syllabus including the SLOs for the committee's review. The goal of the class is to recognize what a tool is and how it is used. D. Kromka goes over all the tools and equipment in the Fire Equipment and Apparatus class that will be used during the OC Fire Academy. He incorporates as much hands-on studying as possible. D. Kromka has been teaching for about 20 years. More and more students are less familiar with tools in current semesters than in the past. R. Dunivin shared that he has had to teach tool use in his academy as well.		
X.	FF1 Testing	I	M. Ketaily – FF1 state testing will occur on October 28-31 st and also November 25-27 th . There are 9 spots open to outside agencies to sign-up for. The deadline to pay for the testing is Tuesday, October 22 nd . They must pay with a cashier's check or money order.		
XI.	Round Table Agency Reps	I	<p>Chief J. Pike – VCFD is in the process of hiring now. 40 candidates are in background for the Fire Fighter Trainee position. The academy will be starting mid to late January. They are reevaluating validating the curriculum that they will be administering during the upcoming academy. The length of the academy will be 18-20 weeks.</p> <p>Chief K. Gurrola – in the process of hiring paramedics. He is planning to start fire fighter interviews at the end of November and December. If a paramedic has gone to a fire academy, they start training immediately on State Fire Marshall skills. The academy will take place at the end of March or early April. The application for Fillmore FD is online. It is a city job. Candidates can also drop off their application to Chief Gurrola in person. He would like to add crew boss classes and supplement the ICS classes that VCFD offers. Chief J. Pike mentioned that he will be releasing ICS schedule at the end of the month to outside agencies.</p> <p>R. Dunivin – LAFD academy will be starting in December or January. There will be simultaneous academies running at different sites. The next academy may be pushed back. They have been dealing with a continuing challenge with hazmat. They received accreditation for</p>		

			<p>FRA/FRO. That will add a day of testing. This allows them to be eligible for FF1 and other certs that they were recently unable to offer. The difference in terminology between IFSTA 7 and the CSTI program could be an issue.</p> <p>Chief D. Base – Oxnard FD academy starts in March. There will be about 14 – 17 new hires. They thrive on grants. He is able to hire with the SAFER grant. He would like others to understand the benefits of over hiring. They received a grant to send 3 individuals to paramedic school. It has been beneficial to have medics on engines. The county contract is up for renewal.</p>		
XII.	EMT Program Update	I	<p>R. Morris – Currently run 4 EMT courses per semester, 2 day and 2 evening classes. OC is the only college out of VCCCD that offers a refresher course. We also offer EMR. We have adopted the title 22 and EMS policies. We teach the national level, which brings some challenges with local agency practices. Each county has their own scope of practice. All the instructors have been here for several years. Dana Sullivan will be teaching the EMT Refresher and EMR. EMT has been having issues with the low pay of our provisional workers. EMR will be offered next spring from 2-4:15 pm. The college is working on an agreement to offer dual enrollment to high school students.</p>		
XIII.	Next Meeting - Accreditation	I	<p>M. Ketaily - The accrediting team will be here February 11th and 12th. It is important to hold a Fire Tech Advisory Meeting while the accreditation team is here. The next meeting will be scheduled on February 11th, 2020.</p>		
XIV.	Adjournment		<p>The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.</p>		