

BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

MADE@Plainfield
1610 Reeves Road
Rooms 130A & B
Plainfield, IN 46168
November 7, 2022, 6:00 PM (Eastern Time)
Meeting Minutes

A. Call to order and determination of quorum – Eric Gentry, 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Eric Gentry (Vice-Chair); Pedro Caceres; Scott Garrett; Tom Hanify; M. Burke Jones; Stephen Jones (State Fire Marshal); Clayton Kinder (virtual); Rob Lund (Secretary); Tony Murray; Tim Smith (virtual)

Board Members Absent

Eric Dreiman (Chair); Amy Biggs; Tom Hanify

Staff Members Present

Teri Dearmin; Hillary Egan; Zach Mathews; Robin Nicoson (virtual); Michael Parks (virtual); Wade Walling (virtual); Elizabeth Westfall; Zach Westfall (virtual)

Guests Present

Rachel (virtual); Rodney Johnson (virtual)

B. Consideration and approval of the September 2022 Meeting Minutes –

*Motion to approve the September 2022 minutes by Tony Murray, 2nd by Pedro Caceres. All other voting members voted to approve. **Motion carries.***

C. State Fire Marshal Report – Stephen Jones

1. NFSA Sprinkler Training Trailer demonstrations over three (3) days at Indiana University, Notre Dame University, and Purdue University with approximately 400 attendees.
2. Evansville house explosion investigation complete. Explosion was due to an uncapped gas line in the basement.
3. Evansville warehouse fire that burned for several days with no injuries reported to firefighters or the public.
4. Laporte County had a large warehouse fire that surrounded the town's water tower.
5. Conducted a meet and greet with the LaGrange Amish Volunteer Fire Department.
6. Several recent suicides by fire.
7. Arson Investigators have done 562 investigations thus far this year.
8. EMS recruitment efforts continue.

D. Academy and Operations Report – Elizabeth Westfall

1. Regine Johnson is no longer with IDHS and the Fire Academy. Please contact Nichelle Elliott with any certification questions. Program Managers are assisting with processing of certifications.
2. Groundbreaking of new Fire Training Facility at Fire Chief Alan W. Burns Advanced Firefighter Training Facility in Plainfield is scheduled for December 8, 2022, at 11 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. All Firefighter Board members are invited to attend and will receive a formal invitation.
3. The Academy has awarded \$360,593.74 in local training and structure grants to 49 entities since 2021.
4. Issued firefighter certifications have increased since 2021. In 2021, the Academy issued 11,264 certifications; and thus far in 2022, the Academy has issued 12,768 new firefighter certifications.
5. Position Specific Task Books update.
6. Fire training burn permit update.

E. Old Business –

1. IAC 655 Rule Re-write Update – Legal – Hillary Egan

OMB requested and received a detailed synopsis of the Fire Board Rules as the next step in the Rule Making process.

F. New Business –

1. BFPSE Board Member Policy Information update – Legal – Hillary Egan
2. BFPSE Board Member Code of Ethics training due December 12, 2022. Email will be sent to the Board Members containing the training link and the certification of completion certificate must be sent via email to Kristie Shute, IDHS Ethics Officer, so that she can forward to the Inspector General's Office.
3. BFPSE 2023 Meeting Schedule update with discussion and vote on the number of meetings to be held, possible move of the meetings to Tuesdays, as well as at a different time during the day. *Scott Garrett made the motion to accept March 14, 2023, 10:00 a.m.; June 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m.; September 14, 2023, 1:00 p.m.; and December 13, 2023, 10:00 a.m., as the BFPSE 2023 Meeting Dates; 2nd by Rob Lund. All other voting members voted to approve. **Motion carries.***
4. Reciprocity and Variance Report – Teri Dearmin

Since September of 2022, the Academy has received 36 Reciprocity requests and 17 Variance requests. Several denials included, but no one has filed an appeal.

G. Open discussions, comments, and questions –

No open discussions, comments, or questions.

H. Adjournment –

*Motion to adjourn Board meeting at 6:32 pm by Burke Jones, 2nd by Tony Murray. All other voting members voted to adjourn. **Motion carries.***

Next meeting: **March 14, 2023, 10:00 am**
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