



**BOARD FOR FIREFIGHTING  
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

Agenda – August 7, 2017  
Wayne Twp. FD  
700 N High School Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46214

**NOTE:** All variance request must be received no less than 2 weeks prior to the Fire Board Meeting to be put on the Agenda.

A. Call to order – 6:01 PM by Chairman Eric Drieman.

**Board Members Present**

Eric Drieman (Chair); Genoio Brabson; Chris Johnson; Burke Jones; Rob Lund (Secretary); Jason Rogers; John Smith; Greg Wyant; Brandon Wood (DHS Director of Training & Preparedness), James Greeson (Fire Marshal)

**Board Members Absent**

Eric Gentry (Vice Chair); Tom Hanify

B. Consideration and approval of June minutes – 6:01 PM Motion to approve minutes by Rob Lund, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brandon Wood, the remaining board members voted Yes to approve June Minutes.

C. New Variance requests (staff recommends approval)

1. Thomas D. Small PSID 7747-5706 – Instructor I (he does have PI for EMS) – Reciprocity Test passed on: 7/21/17. Motion to approve by James Greeson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Genoio Brabson, all voting members voted Yes to approve.
2. David Haboush PSID 2594-1059 – Requesting a Variance for Fire Officer IV. He completed the Fire Officer IV Variance Packet (point's total 110) and skills were signed off on 7/16/17. Motion to approve by James Greeson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Genoio Brabson, all voting members voted Yes to approve.
3. German Township Fire Rescue – Variance for 2 students who are under 18 to take the Cognitive and Practical Exams prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthdate. Requesting the skills (if passed) be valid until their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Student's names are: Kemmerer, Logan PSID 7313-0719



and Forzley, Nolan PSID 8713-1848. Motion to approve by Burke Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Smith, all voting members voted Yes to approve.

- Columbia City High School – Variance for 18 students who are under 18 to take the Cognitive Testing and Practical Skills Testing for the following courses: Mandatory, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, HazMat Awareness, HazMat Ops and Technical Rescue Awareness. In addition, requesting their skills be valid until their 19th birthday. The students are:

Columbia City Students	
Students Name	Students Name
Conway, Dylan	Nelson, Collin
Dumbacheer, Anastasia	Ness, Kaitlyn
Hammond, Tyler	Sanders, Megan
McCloughan, Trevor	Vance, Craig
Merriman, Bryce	VanWey, Samantha
Miller, Tracie	Watkins, Koby
Mills Jr., Chad	Williams, Starr
Moore, Tanner	Wissler, Tre
Myers, Alex	Wolfe, Trey

Motion to approve by Chris Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rob Lund, all voting members voted Yes to approve.

- Bower, Evan PSID 8463-0157 – requesting a variance for his skills (which he completed at the Harrods Creek Fire Dept. in Louisville, KY) to transfer over and stand for one (1) year. But, he must take and pass the Indiana cognitive exams within 1 year of this Boards decision for the following courses: **Confined Space Rescuer Ops/Tech; Structural Collapse Rescuer Ops/Tech; Swift Water Rescuer Ops/Tech; Trench Rescuer Ops/Tech.** Motion to approve by Genoio Brabson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burke Jones, all voting members voted to approve however, he must pass the IN cognitive exams, he has one year to complete all exams.
- South Bend Community School - Variance for 13 students who are under 18 to take the Cognitive Testing and Practical Skills Testing for the following courses: Mandatory, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, HazMat Awareness, HazMat Ops and Technical Rescue



Awareness (Modules A, B, C and D). In addition, requesting their skills be valid until their 19th birthday. The students are:

<b>South Bend Community School Students</b>	
<b>Students Name</b>	<b>Students Name</b>
Cardenas, Benicio	McNutt, Xavier
Chann, Aaron	Prezbindowski, Lukas
Florence, Markies	Robledo, Andres
Gomez-Avila, Abigail	Ross, Evan
Hemminger, Tommy	Sandusky, Dylan
Kuespert, Ethan	Rodriguez, Jarol
Madera, Asucena	

Motion to approve by Chris Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Wyant, all voting members voted Yes to approve.

- D. New Variance requests (staff recommends denial) – Chairmen Eric Drieman grouped Items 1, 2 and 3 together after speaking to legal about grouping them. They are all from the same department. They have all completed their skills and staff is recommending they take the cognitive exam instead of granting the variance for their certification. All three are in the meeting.
1. Johnson, Kevin PSID 3263-8608 – requesting a variance on Driver Operator Aerial to be granted based upon his other certifications and his years of experience. He did submit the variance packet. However, he has completed the skills and it is staff’s recommendation that he go ahead and complete the test.
  2. Laraway, Justin PSID 2227-9996 – requesting a variance on Driver Operator Aerial to be granted based upon his other certifications and his years of experience. He did submit the variance packet. However, he has completed the skills and it is staff’s recommendation that he go ahead and complete the test.
  3. Price, Bobby R. PSID 1192-8036 – requesting a variance on Driver Operator Aerial to be granted based upon his other certifications and his years of experience. He did submit the variance packet. However, he has completed the skills and it is staff’s recommendation that he go ahead and complete the test.



Conversation regarding variance request for Kevin Johnson, Justin Laraway, and Bobby Price above:

- Chris Johnson: In reading over this I was a little puzzled. Again blame it on my ignorance, but the Chief of Carmel receives a variance for Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV without having to take the exam. Yet staff is recommending these three take the exam. They have decades of running Aerial's so I do not understand the difference between them and the Chief.
- Eric Drieman: Would you like to make a motion?
- Chris Johnson: I would like to hear what staff has to say. I will make a motion my concern is my background is not firefighter training, but I would like to make the motion that we accept a variance on these three gentlemen based upon their years of experience. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jason Rogers
- John Buckman: I would have to go back and look at the Fire Officer IV material that Chief Haboush submitted and there is a certain amount of cognitive testing that goes along with a college degree. So in this case we are talking about just experience and not any demonstration cognitive knowledge.
- Chris Johnson: Spoke again about one of the gentlemen actually getting certified on the equipment by the company. Asked for a ballpark idea of about how many aerial runs they have been on.
- Bobby Price: Over 50
- Chris Johnson: And nobody died? Anybody that fights fires with them, are they afraid of them operating the aerial?
- Bobby Price: No, nobody died. What has happened is the City of Greenwood has decided that anybody coming in has to be Operator Aerial and Pumper certified. We over the years have gotten the Pumper but have not gotten the Aerial. The new guys coming in have to take it. But we have fallen through the cracks. Now this has come around and even though we are cleared to drive and fly aerials, but now we are not.
- Eric Drieman: Are you opposed to taking the exam?
- Bobby Price: No I am not opposed to it.
- Greg Wyant: I don't doubt your experience and ability to run this equipment. For me the real issue for you getting it this way is your protection in the future. My concern is for your own protection. I know one of you has 37 years of experience, but 37 years ago they were not suing fire fighter engineers. Today things have changed and speaking for my own department, I would want my department to go to court with as much documentation as I can. A variance from the board gets you the certification, but you still have to go stand up and give your case as you just did. I think you make a stronger case when you stand



up if you have taken the cognitive exam versus us giving you the variance. I will not stand in your way with the variance the board will vote here in a minute. About the other guy (Chief Haboush), it is apples and oranges. You submitted what the packet asks for and so did he. However, with his Fire Officer IV packet it requires a whole lot more documentation and it is a much more robust packet, it's a huge certification. I think he met that, he turned in a 120 page packet of information to receive his variance.

- Chris Johnson: Something you mentioned, I am in insurance and you are right, but if these guys had gotten the certification 37 years ago they would still be certified. The much larger question is why we wouldn't make them recertify every year?
  - Greg Wyant: I feel strongly about this and I am not bragging on my department, but I feel so strongly about this we internally do have our guys recertify each year on these apparatus.
  - Bobby Price: We do take an EVOC Course every year on this.
  - Greg Wyant: Good, good. So that is my two cents
  - John Smith: Did I understand that you take an EVOC course every year. I am swayed by that. I believe this keeps you current on that apparatus and I have less of a concern over this.
  - Eric Drieman: We have a motion on the floor. We have a first and a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Can we get a vote by show of hands? All members voted to approve, except Greg Wyant who voted NO, for the Variance for Kevin Johnson, Justin Laraway, and Bobby Price to be approved and granted them their Aerial Certification via Variance.
4. Rajski, Brad PSID 5685-4209 – requesting Airport Firefighter variance. He attended the ARFF class at Bluegrass Kentucky Airport Training Facility (required by his employer South Bend International Airport). His Indiana Skills have been signed off by that institution. However, we recommend he take the IN cognitive exam.
- John Buckman: We are familiar with the Bluegrass KY School. It is a very good school, but as in the past we will accept their skills but we would like them to take the cognitive exam. This is a 40 hour class, but we have nothing saying he took a cognitive exam.
  - John Smith: Was the cognitive exam discussed with him?
  - John Buckman: Donna emailed him and told him what our recommendation is.
  - John Smith: And he did not contact you validating that he did take an exam?
  - John Buckman – No.
  - Burke Jones – *Made a motion to approve pending he pass the cognitive exam. John Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.*
  - Greg Wyant: His skills were completed as of August 2016? His skills are signed off on our form June 11, 2017 help me understand that. Did he just get around the 180 day time frame?



- John Buckman: What happens is when someone contacts us for a variance we request that they have our skills sheet signed off by the school evaluator. Now that you bring that up, we should go back to them and have him request the evaluator sign the form and date it the date he passed the skills. Can we table until the next meeting?
  - Eric Drieman: Motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> to table?
  - Burke Jones: Motion to table, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Smith.
  - Eric Drieman: Vote to approve motion to table, all members voted yes to table. Motion approved to table.
- E. New Variance requests (staff has no recommendation)
- F. State Fire Marshal Report – James Greeson – I wanted to mention the IERC Conference getting ready to happen next month September 22<sup>nd</sup> – September 25<sup>th</sup>. It is going to be a good conference and we are going to have an Emergency Response Commission Meeting at the conference. It will be in Indianapolis at Keystone at the Crossing at the Sheraton Hotel. I want to talk about some new promotions and new hires in the Investigation area. Bob Dean retire a couple months ago. Clayton Kinder has been selected as the new Section Chief of the Fire Investigation Department. Michael Vogely is the new North Assistant Chief out of Whitley County and Matt Wells is still the Southern Assistant Chief out of Pike County. We have hire two new Fire Investigators John Hartman serving south central part of state and Austin Haynes which is in the north Lake County area. Earlier today we had an Indiana Fire Alliance meeting and I gave a report on the status of the Academy System in the state. I can't go into in detail, but we put together a report for the governor's office. The Academy System moves along quietly and baby steps it is moving. We have filled all but one position in our staffing area. I will let the Director of Training talk about this, but the Telecommunications training is on schedule to be delivered out in early 2018. So we are moving forward. We set aside 1.3 million dollars to help revitalize rehab infrastructure of different sites around the state that we use. For fiscal year 2017 we have 1.4 million dollars for training out of the Regional Public Safety Fund. Training is ongoing, it's going well, we don't talk about it that much, but we will talk more about the Academy System.
- G. Director of Training/Preparedness – Brandon Wood – I will keep my report brief as well. We have the training buttoned up for the most part on the Telecommunications training. We have reached out to the new director of the 911 Board (Ed Rider) we will be meeting with him in the next couple weeks to talk about our program. We will be rolling this out in the first quarter 2018. That's going to be a joint effort between the Division of Fire and



Building Safety and the Division of Training and Preparedness. I recently went to the FEMA Region V Conference. There were some statistics fire training around the nation. Campus delivery and remote delivery around the world for National Fire Academy Programs is 2 million which is up about 500,000 from previous years. About 1.9 million are online and we spend about 514 million dollars of grant money and FEMA dollars to pay for that training. The reason those number are so high are remote deliveries, online deliveries of the National Fire Academy. So it is not just the Emergency Management Institute. When we talk about EMA directors it is actually the National Fire Academy that helps promote those figures. So kudos to the Fire Service for that.

- H. Academy Director – John M. Buckman III – The Marshal and Brandon both spoke about data. So in putting together data for the report for the governor’s office we find we have a good way of gathering data (certification data, pass rate data) except we don’t have a good way of gathering data for training events. We need to figure a way to get more training data. We need a better picture of what training is being done out there. This is not a requirement, but we need to paint the picture of what is needed, what is not needed and we have to be able to prove what we need. It also needs to be consistent. Then John Buckman went over some pass rate data which was supplied to the board. The other thing he supplied the board with was statistics for 2017 the number of classes that were registered, the number of students that were enrolled and the number of students that completed the course. The problem is we have a lot of people sign up to take and course and then don’t show up. So the completion rate of a course is not good. The EMS statistics are not any better. Several months ago we told you we would be getting out of the combined testing system. We are working on the Module system and that will be complete and ready by 2018. We have listened to the small departments and the volunteers who only want their people to have Mandatory and the other required SIDS/AUSTISM, Tech Rescue Awareness, etc. in Module A. The SIDS/Autism and now Tech Rescue is ready to roll out online in the Learning Management System (LMS). They can do these courses through LMS on the ACADIS System. It will go to their Acadis record right away. We had 20,000 people use this system last year. People will spend less time in a classroom and have more time to be elsewhere. This is the only part of the IFSAC Reaccreditation process that we are still working on.
1. Jason Coffey – Driver Operator Update – I am here to talk about the Driver Operator Module System which we have been Beta testing. I have a couple emails I am passing out tonight from Chris Harris and Dick Calvin from Northern Monroe Fire Territory on their thoughts on the Driver Operator Beta System. Mark Keck from Anderson also sent one,



but it was so long and more about district issues and how they lay their classes out and pay instructors. For the most part they liked the way it was laid out. They got to focus more on each discipline within the Driver Operator. Greenwood actually did a General, Pumper and Aerial class. I don't have the statistic I gave at the last meeting. There were only a few minor changes they suggested, which pertained to the pumper test and specific questions. If you look at page three that is the Jones and Bartlett Skills from the book. I am recommending that we use the JPRs skills that come out of the Jones and Bartlett book instead of creating our own or using the ones we currently have. It just makes sense the editor put those skills in there for a reason. They went through and made sure they were matching not only the NFPA Standard but the learning the students did in that chapter. The last page shows what their skill sheets look like. They are also available electronically. By going to the Jones and Bartlett forms they can fill them out electronically and not only by paper. We will still have the stand alone class as we have in the past but we will combine the General test questions with each discipline (i.e. Aerial, Pumper and Mobile Water Supply).

- Marshal Greeson asked how many skills were in our version before, if Jones and Bartlett went down to 4 how many was it before (water supply). Chapter 4 water 4 skills? How many were on the old. John Buckman looked it up and we had 5 skills before. Brandon Wood spoke up and said he thinks this is going in the right direction.
- Eric Drieman – So Mr. Coffey what is it you are asking for?
- Jason Coffey – The General Course would give you a Certificate of Completion and during that course they would do their general skills and maintenance skills and testing. Then when they go back to do their Aerial, Pumper and/or Mobile Water Supply course, but their skills on driving and maintenance would have been completed in the General course and would not need done again. This would allow them to hold their skills from General for the other three (3) disciplines for up to 36 months. You have to have General before you do the other three disciplines if you use this modular system. Otherwise you can use the old delivery system.
- Discussion from the board and John Buckman and Legal as to if they need to make a motion to approve this. These will be the same certifications, but using the different delivery method the certifications will be the same.
- *Motion to approve by Greg Wyant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by James Greeson, Board voted to approve the use of the Jones & Bartlett Curriculum and move forward with the Modular testing system for Driver Operator of the following Modules: General, Aerial, Mobile Water Supply and Pumper. With the caveat if candidates want to test the old way where General is combined with each of the courses that may be done.*



2. Charles Heflin – Instructor I Survey and Site Visit Electronic Form - Spoke about the Instructor I Survey that was built to how we are now able to pull data from the responses and give us good feedback. Drew Darby pulls this data out of the Acadis LMS System and is able to give us reports. Additionally, Mr. Heflin spoke about two new WebForms on the Acadis Portal. If you click on the WebForm link on the main page of your Acadis portal several forms come up. We have created an electronic Site Visit Checklist which is able to be used on a smartphone or an iPad. The form is very simple it has drop down selections for answering the questions which myself, Jason Coffey and William Huffer came up with. Then there are questions we will ask several students with drop down responses. The only typing the site visit personnel has to do is to fill in the answers for the: Location, Course (Name), Date, Inspector’s Name and Course Number. When the form is completed the site visitor would click submit. This will give us feedback on different sites along with data which we can pull from Acadis. This will give us some feedback so when we get out in the field we know what is going on. Then we also created a General Course Survey. This is mainly geared towards EMS/EMA/FIRE. This too has drop down answers to select from and at the bottom has a text box where the student can give additional information. This will enable us to gather data on different courses and have that information readily available. So we are making progress with pulling data and seeing where we might have problems. If we are having a problem with an Instructor that should be identified through this process. No questions from the Fire Board.
  - John Buckman – Again I wanted to let you know that we have listened to you and the people out there and we are going to transition to electronic forms. We think we will get better feedback this way. Brandon’s staff member, Drew Darby, is the person that is helping us get these completed. I believe this is one way for us to start getting some of the data we are looking for.
- I. Administrative Proceedings/ Non-Final Orders – Legal
1. Adoption of Emergency Rule Update
    - Eric Drieman – Legal do you have anything for us?
    - Michelle Allen – At the last meeting on June 15, 2017 the board had a public hearing regarding updating the current rule to the NFPA Standard. During that meeting the board did wish to make some changes to the language. At that time we did not think they were substantive changes, however since they we have discovered since we are making the changes through the Emergency Rule adoption we can only make changes to the Standards at this time and not the language. Today the board can choose to vote to adopt the Emergency Rule and we have to stick to the time frame of at least sixty (60) days. So it



would be a motion to adopt the change as of August 14, 2017 and we (DHS Legal) have a Final Order the Chairman can sign if the board chooses to adopt the rule. From there the Standards would be updated. I would work with other legal staff to get done what we need to do for the Standards. If the board would like to make other changes such as discussed in the last meeting we would need to follow the normal update to the rules process which can take a while. I view it in two parts such as Mr. Buckman did last year in putting together a committee. The committee would look at each rule and determine, do we need this; do we need to make changes to it; do we need to get rid of it entirely; draft a rule proposal with the committee and present that to the board to review it and decide if the board would vote to see if you want to adopt those changes. Then we start the process of proposing this to state agencies to get the approval for it. So for now we are still under a rule moratorium so we have to ask special permission to make changes, get that permission and follow the steps from there. So even when we get to a particular part is probably going to be another year from there to get the rule adopted. So you are looking at least at a year and some months depending on how fast a committee is convened and they look at everything, make their proposals and move forward. I know that is a little vague there, but I have written up a quick rundown of the steps that the board would have to take to do that. I will send that out to you after this meeting so you have it on hand.

- Eric Drieman – Okay, thank you. Can you comment briefly on the portion of the rules you have referenced. Is it the “shall have been” or “shall be” that is a substantive change that we cannot do at this time?
- Michelle Allen - Yes, correct. So the board did want the language to change to “the candidate shall be” instead of “shall have been” because of the language there is not any other guidance to the board as to how you have to construe that. So as long as everyone is in consensus as to how you are going to interpret that you can interpret that in the manner in the way you see fit.
- Greg Wyant – So I think of the major certifications this is only in regards to Instructor I and Fire Officer I that “have been” comes into effect. The only reason we brought it up to begin with is because it has created some obstacles in the past. If the board is able to interpret that then for now I am good going forward. We kind of have done that in the past have said, “Shall be.”
- Michelle Allen – I would say as long as you stay consistent with that you will be fine.
- Eric Drieman – So tonight you just need a vote from us to adopt this to approve this effective August the 14<sup>th</sup>. Does someone want to make a motion to adopt the Emergency Rule?
- Genoio Brabson – Made a motion to approve the Emergency Rule update
- Christopher Johnson – 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion



- Eric Drieman – Any further discussion? Everyone in favor signify approval by saying “aye” all board members said aye. Anyone opposed? None – Okay Motion passed.

J. Request for Administrative Appeals – Chairman

K. Old Business –

L. New Business –

1. Kreigh, Josh (DHS Fire Investigator) – Selbee, Adam PSID 4349-2696 (Revocation of Certifications) – I am asking for a revocation of Adam Selbee’s certifications be revoked. He has Hazmat 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Awareness and Operations, Mandatory Firefighter and Technical Rescue Awareness. His EMS Certifications have already been suspended pending revocation. Mr. Selbee was arrested on four (4) counts of Arson which he pled guilty those four. We stopped him (prevented him) from doing a fifth (5<sup>th</sup>). He was also charged, but they dropped those charges for causing numerous car wrecks (5 or 6). He was causing the wrecks and sitting down the street then responding to the wrecks. When he was arrested he was placed back upon the fire department within a month of being arrested as his grandfather was the fire chief. So we (DHS Arson) is coming before the board asking that you permanently revoke his certifications. It has been ordered by the court that he not work in the Fire or EMS field. However, his attorney can always go before the court and ask for that to be overturned. So I am asking the board to prevent him from doing that.
- Burke Jones – Can I ask where this individual is from?
  - Josh Kreigh – He is from Lawrence County. It was all in the news the big one was the Springfield gym. July 13<sup>th</sup> is when he was sentenced and he is doing ten (10) to fifteen (15) years.
  - Greg Wyant – You said he pled guilty?
  - Josh Kreigh – Yes, he plead guilty to four (4) felonies. He had a plea agreement so they dropped all the other charges and he was convicted and sentenced to eight (8) years each they suspended twelve (12) years so he has a twenty (20) year sentence. So in DOC he will probably do half of that.
  - John Smith – I don’t want him being a firefighter ever again.
  - Eric Drieman – Thank you for your diligent work and your report tonight.
  - Greg Wyant – Jonathan (Whitham) legal have you had a chance to look at this? We have been down this road before.
  - Jonathan Whitham – Yes, thanks to the presentation by Josh. You are getting a little bit better evidence and discussion up front. The only thing this board is required to do is to receive evidence about a conviction and talk about whether that conviction or the acts in



that conviction has a direct bearing on whether the person shall be entrusted to perform the activities permitted under any certification held by the fire service person. It also goes on to say such convictions shall include without limitations Arson and Child Molestation. That is the relevant portion of the rule. As long as the board has some discussion that gets you to the point where you believe it has that direct bearing then you can move forward with sanctions.

- James Greeson – Josh was the investigator on this. He has done a lot of work and testified in court and been involved with this whole prosecution from the start. This has been over the better part of a couple years (a year interjected by Josh) and he has done a very good job collecting evidence and he got an admission. But the admission was due to the work that Josh had done and ended in a conviction here.
- Eric Drieman – Thank you, duly noted. Any more comments or discussion. Do we have a motion?
- Rob Lund motion to revoke Selbee, Adam PSID 4349-2696 Hazmat 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Awareness, Hazmat 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Operations, Technical Rescue Awareness, Mandatory Firefighter.
- Chris Johnson – 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion to revoke Selbee, Adam PSID 4349-2696 certifications.
- All board members voted to revoke Selbee, Adam PSID 4349-2696 certifications.

M. Open discussion, comments, questions?

**Mark Cromlich Carmel Fire Department** - here to talk about a grant that Carmel was awarded and the process of completing certification courses within the allotted grant timeframe.

- This grant is to bring the Carmel Fire Officers up to the NFPA 1021 compliance. They cannot profit from this in anyway so they have to send out bids for instructors, etc. Mr. Cromlich said there will be some issues with the prerequisites. He wants feedback from the board on how he is to manage the courses out of order.
- Eric Drieman – We have granted variance to departments in the past to have some flexibility in the way they take classes. My recommendation to you would be to draft a variance request. We would be more than happy to help you with that process with either the folks from the state, myself, or other board members. I applaud your progressive timeline and I went through a similar thing with my department. My question is to get the skills done that you have to accomplish, just of the top of my head Fire Officer II has 14 or 15 skills, Instructor II/III has 24 I believe, to do those in five (5) days which is the length of your class, have you thought about that.



- Mark Cromlich – Actually, Chief Campbell taught my Instructor II/III class and even though the class was 5 days long it was spread out over about a month and a half, with us meeting 1 day each week. The expectation that was brought up at the beginning of that class is that it might take you six (6) months to get the JPRs done. We know that going in, we don't expect anyone to get certification within two (2), three (3) or five (5) days. I just did not know if I need to ask for a variance department wide or for each individual as it comes up. I would be happy to work with you.
- Eric Drieman – I don't want to volunteer anyone, but there is other people on this board that were Chairman when those request were made in the past.
- Greg Wyant – Spoke about Instructor I and Fire Officer I and where the rule says “Shall have been” or “Shall be” and discussed the issues. The layout you have starting out looks great and you should not trip yourself up at all. Your issue probably lies in wondering if they are going to have enough time to get their JPRs done.
- Mark Cromlich – That is one of the issues, also we had to send out request for bids for Instructors for these courses and they have not come in yet.
- Greg Wyant – You have to have this done in a year? You are contemplating leaving four (4) months on the table. Is that for clean up or you are only scheduled for eight (8) months.
- Mark Cromlich – When we started this process Captain Frye was the person that started this. Our friends at Pike helped us apply for the grant. We really didn't expect to get it, but we thought it would be great if we did. When we were awarded it, we did not realize we are on the clock as soon as they award it. So we have been on the clock at least since the later part of June. We may have the opportunity, but we cannot count on that to happen. The way the grant works we can't really return any unused money.
- Greg Wyant – Well I would be happy to meet with you on that. I think the issue is going to be when is the next board meeting?
- Eric Drieman – October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Jonathan Whitham – My question is how many students or how many people?
- Mark Cromlich – Basically every officer, except Chief Haboush who you just granted Fire Officer IV to.
- Jonathan Whitham – The next meeting is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>. My recommendation from a legal standpoint is to identify every student/officer who is going to be taking these classes, what classes they will be taking, and what classes will they will be taking out of order. Bring that back to the board as a variance request for each student. I bet we could get a quorum of the board together by September so you can get started then instead of waiting until October.



- Greg Wyant – If your schedule plays out the way you have it at this time, or at least the first few classes, you are probably good to go before you need a variance. Then you can come to the October meeting to get the variance for the other classes.
- There was additional conversation over specifics on the terms “shall be” versus “shall have been.”

**Jonathan Whitham** – I have a four things to discuss.

- The Klein decision came back and it was not in favor of the board’s decision. So based on our prior conversations and your feedback, rather than wait and miss a deadline to file an appeal I did instructed the Attorney General to file an appeal. So that was filed this week and it will be in the Indiana Court of Appeals. I will keep you updated as that moves through the Court of Appeals.
- We continue to get variance requests and materials for the board meetings that Donna Saine and John Buckman continue to get. Some of our other boards have gone to an online presence for that stuff. So we will work with Donna and John and before the next meeting you will get one email before the meeting telling you the materials are ready. You will be able to go to the board’s website and look at the materials. All will be uploaded there as a PDF file. It will be an email telling you the Agenda and Meeting Materials have been posted, here’s the link. I know we had a problem with file size this meeting so this will eliminate that problem.
- We are going to be rolling out a few things over the next few weeks or months. To provide an in-person refresher over things like Ethics. I know you do a refresher each time the Inspector General’s office pushes it out. But, we will have our Ethics Officer come and just do a quick 5 or 10 minute presentation over some of the bigger things you may face as a board member as Special State Appointees. Some things like Contract Conflicts, decisions that may have conflicts that affect your real job in your outside life. If you have any questions before that you are always welcome to email her, Michelle, or any of our legal staff for guidance. DHS has an Ethics Officer, Chelsea Smith, who is also our Administrative Law Judge. You can email [ethics@dhs.in.gov](mailto:ethics@dhs.in.gov). Some of the training will just be administrative items. It has been a while since some of you were appointed for things like: what to do if the media contacts you, what to do if you get a request for records from the board, administrative orders and procedures,
- My next point is Michelle Allen is going to take over as your counsel from this point forward. I will still be here, but may not sit at the head table. I appreciate all that you do.



**Steve Anderson** asked to follow up about specific statistics which John Buckman had given as well as clarification on the Driver Operator General and skills being good for up to thirty-six (36) months. Clarification was given and there was no further discussion.

**Jim Miller** – Wanted the board to give him some direction that he can give his students as he pitches this program (Driver Operator) to them. His concern was what would keep them from going to the board for a variance versus actually going through the course and getting the certification which is a difficult process to go through.

- Eric Drieman – It all falls back to being able to justify what you have done. The more education and documentation you can put behind someone’s name the better off for the student or agency’s stand point. I would go back to the legal ramifications that Mr. Wyant talked about. If something did happen having the best documentation and education behind you is a stronger defense.
- Greg Wyant – I would add to, when I said annual re-cert or logging of hours. If I got my cert twenty (20) years ago. It is not going to hold as much credibility as the newer classes using the new books. Just having the annual EVOC or CVO training. I think driving the truck in a training mode where they drive and then pull off and pump water or have to extend the Aerial. It is really up to what your standard is.
- Jim Miller – Our standard is State Certification. We hold our training in Brownsburg as others in the fire service with the highest regard and we tell the community we meet the State Standards we want it to mean something. Because I take my job very seriously, it is very important to me.
- Chris Johnson - I did not realize we had taken that away from you.
- Jim Miller – Well their certification will read the same as the students that I gave the certification to, who went through class. When I tell the community that they have the state certification I want them to know if they bump into these gentlemen and they say yeah, we just went to the board. Not only was it approved by variance but a rejection for the variance was overturned. It went a long way from one side to the other.
- Mike Reynolds – We are just asking for some guidance, but you guys are in a tough spot as well.
- Greg Wyant – What the Chairman said and what I said are something to hang your hat on. If that does not resonate with your members that is tough one. If you are not looking at your own culpability that is not a good thing. And ability, flat out ability. I think experience matters, I think it is important. But experience is only as good as what you receive when you are getting that experience. Experience is so intangible, your experience versus yours in twenty (20) years can be night and day different. So experience is

