



**BOARD FOR FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2018 9:00 AM
Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association Conference (IVFA)
Crowne Plaza Hotel
2501 South High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241

NOTE: All variance request must be received no less than 20 days prior to the Fire Board Meeting to be put on the Agenda.

- A. Call to order 9:01 AM – Meeting called to order by Eric Gentry, Vice Chair as Eric Drieman who is the Chairman was running a few minutes late. Due to this, the meeting started with Charles Heflin’s report until Eric Drieman arrived. Eric Drieman arrived at **9:10 AM** at which time the board started the top of the Agenda for the submitted documents.

Board Members Present

Eric Drieman (Chair); Eric Gentry (Vice Chair); Rob Lund (Secretary) via phone and webinar; M. Burke Jones; Genoio Brabson; Tom Hanify; Greg Wyant; John Smith; John Brown (Director of Training & Preparedness and Director of Planning)

Board Members Not Present

James Greeson (Fire Marshal); 1 Vacant Seat (Chris Johnson)

NOTE: Due to Rob Lund attending via phone and webinar all votes were taken by rollcall vote member stating their name and how they were voting.

Other Staff Members Present

Donna Saine, Regine Johnson, Angie Biggs, Clint Pfaff, Jonathan Whitham, Jason Coffey, William Huffer, and Wade Walling.

- B. Consideration and approval of May 12, 2018 Fire Board Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve minutes by **John Smith, 2nd by Eric Gentry**, the remaining board members stated “Aye” in agreement to approve May meeting minutes. **Motion carries.**
- C. New Variance requests (staff recommends approval)
1. Bachman, Christopher B. 5492-8531 – Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II Variance Request. He has completed both packets and submitted all required documentation.



Motion to approve by Genoio Brabson, 2nd by Eric Gentry, all voting members voted “Aye” to approve. *Motion carries.*

2. Horning, Jason 5011-8248 – Fire Officer III Variance Request. He has completed the packet and submitted all required documentation. Attending via phone and webinar. *Motion to approve by Genoio Brabson, 2nd by John Brown*, all voting members voted “Aye” to approve. *Motion carries.*
3. Van Es, Anthony 7630-5158 – Fire Officer II Variance Request. He has completed the packet and submitted all required documentation.
Motion to approve by Eric Gentry, 2nd by John Smith, all voting members voted “Aye” to approve. *Motion carries.*

D. New Variance requests (staff has no recommendation)

1. The following people attended a Swift Water Operations and Technician Course in Indiana taught by Matney Rescue Training based out of Greensburg, KY. These students are requesting the Board allow the Practical Skills completed during this course be accepted for 6 months from the Skills Date. They will take both the Swift Water Operations and Technician Exams before being certified.

Evansville Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Adam	Brock	3119-6445
Jarrold	Brown	5859-6471
Eric	Gentry	9112-2272
Christopher	Reiter	9446-0262
Derek	Rollins	7627-6239
Christopher	Wagener	4343-1114
Scott	Weber	3420-3793

Vincennes Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Larry	Shots	2878-8841
Zachary	Westfall	2254-5284

Vincennes Township Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Logan	Adams	9523-9943

Terre Haute Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Joshua	Cottrell	4179-6231
Austin	Jacks	1213-1868
Mathew	Osborne	8352-1328
Bram	Sanders	8673-6719

Clinton Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Nicholas	Hall	2232-0080
Christopher	Laws	7526-1916

Scott Township Fire Department

First Name	Last Name	PSID
Jeremy	Doddridge	1907-2845



The variance request is for the skills to be accepted. *Motion to approve by Tom Hanify, 2nd by John Smith. Eric Gentry abstained from this vote. All the remaining voting members voted “Aye” to approve. Motion carries.*

G. State Fire Marshal Report – James Greeson – None at this time

H. Director of Training/Preparedness & Planning – John Brown

1. We have put together a subcommittee to work on twenty two development priorities in the Acadis system.
2. We have convened a State quality review committee
3. Working to get FEMA Emergency Management Academy in Indiana.

I. Academy Administrator – Charles Heflin

1. Updates on Executive Leadership Program: Block 101 at the MACC center was successful
2. The Fire Training Districts are now divided up between the three Fire Training Managers. Jason Coffey covers Districts, 5, 8, 10; William Huffer covers Districts 1, 2, 4, 7; Wade Walling covers Districts 3, 6, 9.
3. We have also made some updates and changes to the IDHS website. Old materials are being replaced with current information or removed.

Mod D Testing Issue: A new proctor in District 2 allowed a student to test without a Proctor in the room. This was not done maliciously. The Instructor has been spoken to about this and Fire Training has sent a letter to the Proctor reminding him of the testing rules.

John Buckman (contractor) report on Fire Officer

I am proposing moving skills from knowledge based to competency based. While discussing this issue with some Instructors it is our understanding that some students are not doing skills to competency. Right now students are passing the



written tests but they are not doing the skills to competency. We are looking to Beta test this with Fire Officer I, II, III and IV between now and January 1, 2019.

Tom Hanify: I would like to comment. This reminds me of my military training, the military has been very successful using this training method. I am not sure why we have not moved towards this sooner. I would like to support this.

Eric Gentry: I think it is a great idea to try.

Charles Heflin: One of the great things with this method is that no one person is doing all the skills it is a group effort. Students will be evaluated by the Instructors and the students.

Motion to approve by Tom Hanify, 2nd by Jason Rogers, All voting members voted “Aye” to approve. *Motion carries*

Wade Walling report on the National Fire Academy

This year we attended the National Fire Academy June 1st – 3rd. This year we partnered with Maine and Florida. Next year March 29th – 31st we be partnering with them again. The NFA allowed our students from the three states to choose different courses. This opened up the possibilities for the students from Indiana to choose from nine (9) different courses. Traditionally our students could only pick from three (3) classes now we have nine (9) to choose from. These classes are first come first serve if anyone is interested in these classes or wants more information please contact me.

Jason Coffey Report on Shipping Containers

We are working with Crane Navel Center. We have acquired two-hundred (200) 20 foot (20’) shipping containers. We are working moving them from Crane to Bloomfield. Once we get them to Bloomfield we will come up with a plan to minimize costs to get them out to the Districts and the various Fire Departments around the state, who request one. Basically, these are free shipping containers to the Fire Departments, but there may be a cost in getting it moved from Bloomfield to your area. After this order of 200 containers is done, we have a deal with Crane to receive another one hundred and fifty (150) forty foot (40’) containers to distribute out to departments.

Jason Rogers: What is the priority on how these will be distributed?

Jason Coffey: Each District will receive 5 out of the 200. There will be a point system put in place when we publish this information for everyone else.

Charles Heflin: Anyone who requests a container has to have an FDID number, or someone with an FDID number will have to request the container for an entity. **For example:** District 2 wants 3 extra containers but since they do not have an FDID



number they would need one of the Fire Departments in their District to be the safe keeper for the container.

Jason Coffey: These containers will be shipped out as soon as a process is in place we will have a press release through PIO. There may be a charge to move the containers from Bloomfield to the site they are going to be located at.

J. Administrative Proceedings/ Non-Final Orders – Legal - None at this time

K. Request for Administrative Appeals – Chairman – None at this time

L. Old Business –

1. Carmel Fire Department Updated List for Variance to bring Carmel up to NFPA 1021 standards.

Mark Cromlich: All the classes were completed in May under this grant.

2. Conversation regarding Driver Operator Simulator use – what does the NFPA consider to be a simulator.

Charles Heflin: I have read though the NFPA standard on Driver Operator it is completely silent on the use of a simulator. I think this is something the Board would have to set precedent on.

Eric Gentry: When was that standard last updated?

Jason Coffey: 2017

Eric Gentry: It has been recent enough that if they were considering a computer based training model it would be in there.

Richard Pohlman: I am looking for a definition for “simulated route”.

Eric Drieman: Is there a specific reason you are looking to use the simulated route?

Richard Pohlman: Our students are not affiliated with a fire department and Ivy Tech is not considered a fire department. Our students have to get a learners permit for a Class B CDL. Our Instructors will have to have a Class B CDL also. The simulator will make it so our students will not have to obtain a Class B CDL.

Tom Hanify: I believe we would need a legal opinion on this.

3. Conversation about Prerequisites to be a Driver Operator, with **NON** Fire Personnel being allowed to be a Driver for an organization without being a Firefighter.

Todd Daming: I am purposing that the Fire Board follow the new NFPA standard and drop the prerequisite of being a certified Firefighter to be a Driver of a Fire



Apparatus. The reason for this is on the volunteer side we are short on help. We want to use Fire personnel that cannot pass the physical portion to actively be a Firefighter. I do not agree with just being a truck driver so you qualify to drive an apparatus. However if someone would like to volunteer in some areas we would like to utilize them. I think that are too many training requirements right now.

Mark Cromlich: I do not think that is a very safe practice. Training is in place so personnel can be extra eyes on what is going on at a scene. Also anyone that gets off that apparatus is viewed as a Firefighter.

Eric Drieman: My concern is that anyone that pulls up in a fire truck is perceived as a Firefighter. This could be a liability issue.

Jason Coffey: Maybe with the changes to the Module A program and Introduction into Fire Behavior to it we can think about changing the prerequisite to Mandatory Firefighter.

Greg Wyant: I think we can come up with a middle ground.

Jason Rogers: We should reach out to others states to see what they are doing. I am willing to entertain others solutions. I think we should table this.

Eric Gentry: I can work on this with IDHS staff or Chief Cromlich.

Todd Daming: Is this something I can be in on?

Jason Rogers: Should we create a subcommittee for this?

Eric Gentry: Let us revisit this in September after we get together to let you know what we come up with.

Tabled until September 13, 2018 meeting when the committee will give the Board a report on the information they have gathered. Eric Gentry motion to table, 2nd Genoio Brabson, all voting members stated "Aye" to Table.

M. New Business – **None at this time**

N. Open discussion, comments, questions?

Motion to adjourn by Eric Gentry, 2nd Jason Rogers, and all voting members stated "Aye" to approve. Meeting is adjourned.

Next meeting: July 30, 2018 6:00PM
Lafayette Fire Training Center
2070 S 500 E
Lafayette, IN 47905

Approved: _____
Eric Drieman, Chairman

Date: _____