

**INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

MINUTES

November 21, 2011 10AM

**J. EVERETT LIGHT CAREER CENTER
1901 E AST 86TH ST
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46240
317-496-9625**

A MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 10:05 am

Jeff Hayes welcomed everyone to the J. Everett Light Career Center. This board meeting is live via webinar. This will continue at further board meetings so that everyone can attend via webinar.

B. ROLL CALL

Jeff Hayes, Chair
Jack Kerney Sr, co-chair
Candice Ashby, secretary
Thomas Hanify
Mike Garvey
James Greeson
Burke Jones
Greg Wyant

C. APPROVAL OF Sept 26, 2011 MINUTES

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve Sept. minutes as submitted. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

D. CERTIFICATIONS REPORT, RICK ARCHER

Mr. Archer submitted the certification report, showing 1038 certification were issued between Sept 24 and Nov 20th of 2011. The quarterly report is unavailable at this time due to system errors. On line certification renewals are moving along really well. The portable sign up is causing some delay but we are working on this. Beginning April 2012 everyone will be renewing on line, this will include Fire Instructor recertification. More information will be sent out as we get closer. John Buckman asked the Board if they would mind if the quarterly report was just on the top 5 certifications. This way, the system would not bog down when requesting this much data. Jack Kerney asked if it could include the top 8. We will still work on the system to give us the information for all 30 certifications.

E VARIANCE REQUESTS

Jeff Burning requested variances for the following students to be allowed to test for Mandatory, FF ½; Hazardous Material Awareness/Operations.

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| 1. Andrea Miller | 2. Ali Mojgani | 3. Emily Vanderford |
| 4. Grahm Smith | 5. Piper Whetstone | 6. Radamez Rodriguez |
| 7. Kyle Cunningham | 8. Heather Miller | 9. Tucker Reynolds |
| 10. Austin Barrett | 11. Jeremiah Norwood | 12. Timothy Hagedorn |
| 13. Ethan McCullough | 14. Dayton Klepper | 15. Beverly James |
| 16. Hayden Komarck | 17. Lofton Drew | 18. Bryce McMeen |
| 19. Juan Sanchez | 20. Casey Lupkin | 21. Kevin Banks |
| 22. Gabriel Jacobson | 23. Michael Schmidt | 24. Jalen McIntosh |
| 25. Ilesha Miller | | |

Staff recommends approvals pending the students are 17 years of age at the time of testing.

Burke Jones made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

Jeff Hayes requested variance for the following students to be allowed to test for Mandatory, Firefighter I and 2, Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations at 17 years of age.

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| 26. Dakoda Bryson | 27. Anthony Brock | 28. Tyler Callahan |
| 29. Joshua Clement | 30. Briahna Campbell | 31. Dustin Gay |
| 32. Anthony Finchum | 33. William Howard | 34. Mitchell Mills |
| 35. Devin Irish | 36. Wyatt Philips | 37. Tim LaFever |
| 38. Mitchel Schubert | 39. Austin Leamer | 40. Michael Turner |
| 41. Caleb Overdorf | 42. Abdul Abamislomov | 43. Dillon Pile |

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|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 44. Arrick Allen | 45. Robert Sprague | 46. Kimani Booker |
| 47. William Steel | 48. Emily Tharp | 49. Darius Thomas |
| 50. Raymond Touponce | 51. Daniel Troyer | |
| 52. Max Wendling | 53. Gerald Williams | 54. Colin Woods\ |
| 55. Quinton Wynn | | |

Staff recommends approval.

Candice Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed. Jeff Hayes abstained from the vote.

56. John Williams requested a variance for Instructor II/III. His certification lapsed Sept 1, 2011 and he would like it reinstated. He holds a First Class Instructor and completed the crossover test for Instructor II/III 1999.

Staff recommends denial.

Candice Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

57. Michael Gerndt Jr. was issued an instructor II/III certification in error in May of 1999. We have no record of him submitting his practical skills at that time. He was issued his instructor II/III regardless and has been acting in that capacity since that time. He has recertified on time every 3 years, he has taught numerous classes through the last 12 years. He is asking for a variance in order to keep his instructor II/III in good standing.

Staff recommends approval. This was in internal error and Mike has been acting as Instructor II/III for the past 12 years without incident.

Candice Ashby made a motion to allow Mike Gerndt Jr. to keep his instructor II/III certification. Burke Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed.

58. Craig Zollars requested requesting variances for Instructor II/III and Public Life and Fire Safety Educator I/II. He holds advanced university degrees, has tenure at the university, has been in the fire service for 10 years, holds a current Instructor I, and has been the Fire Prevention/Education Officer at Bloomington Twp FD since 2002.

Staff recommends approval for Instructor II/III pending he passes the Instructor reciprocity test and we will accept the skills he completed for Public Fire Life Safety Educator pending he passes the state written exam.

Candice Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Tom Hanify seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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59. Ron Huffman requested a variance for Instructor II/III. His certification expired July 2011. He holds a First Class Instructor certification. He states that he “simply spaced sending it in”

Staff recommends denial.

Ron Huffman spoke to the board via telephone. He does not understand why you let people waste their time applying for a variance when you are going to deny it anyway. It was explained that everyone has a right to file for a variance.

Candice Ashby made a motion to approve staff recommendation. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

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60. John Piper requested a variance for Instructor II/III. He is an Instructor in the Military. He is also requesting variances for Swift Water Rescue Ops/Tech and Rope Rescue Ops/Tech based on his training with Dive Rescue International. John Piper was in the audience to answer any questions on this request.

Staff recommends approval for Instructor II/III pending his passing the Instructor Reciprocity test. Recommend that we accept the skills for Swift water Rescue Ops/Tech and Rope Rescue ops/Tech but he must pass the written exam.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve recommendation, Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

John questioned why he had to take state testing when he had to take the test at the South Bend water rescue facility. Board explained that what he took was not the state test that was required for certification purposes.

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61. James Campbell requested a variance for Fire officer IV. He has completed numerous courses through the years, including an Associate's Degree in Applied Fire Science. He is currently the Division Chief Education & Safety Services at Pike Twp. FD. Chief Campbell is in the audience if the Board has any questions for him.

Staff recommends approval based on documentation submitted.

Candice Ashby made a motion to approve pending his submitting college transcripts. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

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62. Bryan Bailey requested a variance for IC 36-8. He is a career firefighter and is asking for a 6 month extension on being certified Firefighter 2 within the one year of hiring. The reasons for not finishing within the year are numerous and they are:
- a) death of his father in March 2011
 - b) other dept. training obligations including EMT, Hazmat, ARFF
 - c) long extremely hot summer
 - d) shift changes of personnel causing scheduling conflicts
 - e) placed on 24/48 hour shift creating more scheduling conflicts
 - f) grandchild ill July 2011

Staff recommends approval.

Candice Ashby made a motion to approve. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed. This law is two years old and this is the first individual that has requested this.

Paul Miller, Southmont High School, requested variances for the following students to be allowed to take the written/practical testing at 17 years of age for Firefighter I and Hazardous Material Awareness.

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| 63. Jacob Burris | 64. Lisa Curtis | 65. Brodie England |
| 66. Katelyn McHargue | 67. Morgan Musick | 68. Randy Ringis |
| 69. Darrin Schick | 70. Tylor Smith | 71. Shelby Beddow |
| 72. Emily Coffmen | 73. Kyle Hunt | 74. Jamie LeMaster |

Staff recommends approval pending the students are 17 at the time of testing.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

Ben Sieverding, Southeastern Career Center, requested variances for The following students to be able to take the written/practical testing for Hazardous Material Awareness, Hazardous Material Operations, Mandatory and Firefighter I/II testing.

75.	Eric Jones	76.	Steven Doyle	77.	Alex Galbreath
78.	Brandon Tucker	79.	Joe Franklin	80.	Alex Brison
81.	Jacob Pinkerton	82.	Jacob Boles	83.	Ashley Fortner
84.	Kegan Barnett				

Staff recommends approval pending students are 17 at time of testing.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

F. REQUEST FOR RECIPROCITY.

1. Justin Florida requested reciprocity for Firefighter I/II. He completed training in Pennsylvania.

Staff recommends approval based on documents submitted and the written exam results through Georgia Training Academy.

James Greeson made a motion to approve. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

2. Dale Hook requested reciprocity for Hazardous Material Operations. Dale has enclosed the syllabus from Bucks County Community College in Pennsylvania.

Staff recommends approval based on documentation provided.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Candice Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

3. Mike Siefke requested reciprocity for Firefighter II and Public Safety Instructor from Ohio. He has enclosed copies of his certifications and continued education hours.

Staff recommends approval for Firefighter I/II and recommends Instructor I pending his passing the Instructor reciprocity test.

Candice Ashby made a motion to approve. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

G. REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL

No requests at this time.

H. STATE FIRE MARSHAL, JAMES GREESON

We are swamped at this time with the Super Bowl issues. We have over 200 temporary buildings going up and they all have to be inspected by game day. We have teamed up with IFD to get this done.

Indiana Fire Alliance sent out questionnaires to all 810 fire dept, and to date we have about 300 back. We really need these back. This is geared toward all training issues for fire dept.

I. HOMELAND SECURITY CHIEF OF STAFF MIKE GARVEY.

Legislation will be in session at our next meeting. We are working on a proposal for this year's legislation that would allow this board to have emergency rule making. This will help when it comes to updating NFPA standards and rules instead of having to wait 18 months to process this stuff. Hopefully this will speed up this process. EMS Commission has adopted a rule for trauma patients.

REMINIDER: THE STATE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 24 AND 25TH FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

J. STATE FIRE TRAINING DIRECTOR REPORT, JOHN BUCKMAN

1. \$50 fee for late processing recertification applications
This will follow the EMS rule. Candice Ashby made a motion for staff to continue on with this. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.
2. Investigator program, this is not ready to put in place yet. The group is still working on refining it.
3. Hazardous Material program, Candice Ashby made a motion for staff to beta test this for 3 times. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

4. Safety Officer Program
This has been sent to IFSAC. This is the first time in our history that Safety Officer will be IFSAC eligible. We should be hearing something soon. We are keeping the written exam as well as we created skills that have never been in place prior to now.
5. Technical rescue Awareness on line status. To be able to sign on- go to web site at piketraining.com. You will sign up for course. Your login will be 'pikeguest@pikefire.com', and your password is 'guest'.
6. 655 IAC Administrative rule rewrite, corrections and additions (time permitting) appendix A
John was at the IVFA meeting and he explained different issues that we were looking at and they produced a document with questions. We are asking for 2 members of the associations and 2 members of the board, get together and work on the rules. The state does not need to dictate to the fire service what to do. The fire service needs to tell us what they do. We need the rules to reflect what happens on the street. Jerry Nulliner made a suggestion that we need the small work groups and open door meetings to get information out.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, JUDGE BIPPUS

No report at this time.

L. OLD BUSINESS

1. There are open positions for Board members. Right now we have 2 civilian positions open and a full time firefighter position open. Anyone interested in becoming a Board member can go to <http://www.in.gov/gov/3524.htm> and complete the application. The Board would also like to see a copy of your resume.

2. Public Fire Safety Educator I/II certification status

John Buckman asks the Board to continue this certification. He believes that this is the only professional certification of this type that we have. John has reviewed the curriculum and believes that this meets the standard. They have updated their information. They have not done exactly what they promised 1 year ago but they have submitted some of this information to me and I believe they have met the intent. Julia Stone from Avon FD is here to speak on this issue.

Tom Hanify made a motion to allow this certification to continue. Candice Ashby seconded. The Board asks this group to continue updating this

curriculum to the 2010 and submit a draft that selects the book that will be used, the updated skills and exercises and submit to the Board by April 2012. The group agrees.

M. NEW BUSINESS

1. Dates and locations of Board meetings in 2012
TBA at a later date

2. Board position vote for 2012
 - a) Chair
 - b) Vice-chair
 - c) Secretary

Tom Hanify made a motion to allow the current, Jeff Hayes, Chair, Jack Kerney Sr., co-chair, and Candice Ashby, secretary, to maintain the positions they now hold. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

At this time Marshal Greeson recognized Jerry Nulliner, former Board member of many years, with a medal for moratoria service and a plaque that honors is years of service.

3. Election of IFSAC designee

Candice Ashby made a motion to nominate Greg Wyant to act as temporary IFSAC liaison. Mike Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

N. MEETING ADJOURNED

NEXT MEETING:

January 30, 2012; 6PM

**Bargersville Town Hall
24 N Main St
Bargersville IN 46106**

Appendix A

In the November IVFA board meeting the board members (IVFA) discussed the possibility of a continuing education requirement established for all Indiana firefighters by the Board of Firefighters Standards & Education (Board).

IVFA agrees that training is an important part of any successful department. IVFA also knows that most firefighters attend and participate in various training sessions throughout the year; although accurate documentation of such training is probably a weakness in general across the state.

Before such a program can be established by the Board, several questions need to be addressed:

1. How can the Board mandate recertification if certification is a "Voluntary Program?" (IAC 655 1-1-4)
2. What is the penalty for not recertifying? (IAC 655 1-3-4)
3. How does the Board add expiration dates to current certifications? (IAC 655 1-1-11)
4. If a firefighter loses a FF 1/2 certification, does he/she also lose any certification that requires FF 1/2 as a pre-requisite? (IAC 1-2.1-1)
5. How will the Board handle the issue of 2nd Class and 1st class certifications that are recognized for life? (IAC 655 1-1-11)
6. Is there anything in Indiana Code that would cause an undesired consequence? (IC-36)
7. Will everyone have the same deadline to meet or will it be spread out so office staff is able to process in a timely / efficient manner.

We are not sure how the Board can mandate re-certification when the Board does not mandate the certifications (except mandatory), but if you are going to do that, then this is our recommendations.

If a system for firefighter recertification is established by the Board, it should:

--require a minimum of 12 hours per year.

--be able to be completed in-house at every fire department in the state.

--be a process similar to the current First Responder recertification (ie submitted every 2 years, information submitted electronically).

--be a FIREFIGHTER recertification for the Mandatory, Firefighter 1/2 or 2nd Class/1st Class certification (no requirement for advanced or specialty certifications).

--allow any fire instructor in good standing or the department Fire Chief to sign off on any accepted training.

--allow any training covering topics taught in the Mandatory, Firefighter 1/2 or required OSHA courses to be accepted for recertification.

IAC 655 Rules Review

655 IAC 1-3-6 Entry into the program

Sec. 6. (a) Any Indiana full-time fire fighter newly hired or rehired, shall successfully complete mandatory training prior to performing the duties of a full-time firefighter for a political subdivision.

no(b) Any volunteer fire fighter shall successfully complete mandatory training **before being elected or appointed to membership in a volunteer fire company.**

(c) Applications shall be provided to the fire service, upon request, by the board. Applications shall be completed in full.

655 IAC 1-3-7 Certification by the board

Sec. 7. The board shall certify applications from fire service personnel as having successfully completed mandatory training specified in IC 36-8-10.5, **which are attested to by the signature of the fire chief of the fire department** {cannot happen if the person is not yet a member of a fire department based on above} and by an instructor certified by the board. (*Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education; 655 IAC 1-3-7; filed Mar 7, 1988, 12:55 p.m.: 11 IR 2628; readopted filed Aug 27, 2001, 10:55 a.m.: 25 IR 203; errata, 26 IR 383; filed Jul 14, 2004, 10:00 a.m.: 27 IR 4019; readopted filed Sep 21, 2007, 9:23 a.m.: 20071010-IR-655070387RFA; readopted filed Oct 10, 2007, 9:19 a.m.: 20071031-IR-655070387RFA*)

Common practice in most volunteer fire departments is that the prospective firefighters will join the department before taking the Mandatory Training. Then either the department will train them in-house, or register them in a district / county-wide class. They will be outfitted in the proper PPE, and allow them to be covered by the department's insurance during the training. It also allows them to start non-firefighting duties such as working fundraisers, housekeeping duties around the firehouse, and getting to know fellow members. Consideration also must be given to departments that are taking on members for non-firefighting duties (EMS only personnel, administrative personnel only, mechanics for example). How will these individuals be impacted?

The IVFA suggests the rule read

655 IAC 1-3-6 Entry into the program

Sec. 6. (a) Any Indiana full-time or volunteer fire fighter newly hired, rehired, elected or appointed, shall successfully complete mandatory training prior to performing any firefighting duties for a political subdivision or a volunteer fire company.

(b) can be eliminated

(c) can remain as is

655 IAC 1-3-7 Certification by the board

With the new language above, the current statement should not be a problem