INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION

MINUTES

December 6th 2010 10 AM
Firefighter Union Hall
748 Massachusetts Ave
Indpls IN 46204
317-262-5161

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 10:05AM

B. ROLL CALL

Present
James Greeson
Jack Kerney Sr.
James Bennett
Candace Ashby
Jeff Hayes
Burk Jones
Thomas Hanify

Absent
Jerry Nulliner
Ab Crosby

Jack Kerney introduced the new Board member, Burke Jones. Mr. Jones has 27 years of experience in the fire service. He serves in Madison IN; currently he is a Battalion Chief. They have about 350 runs a year. EMS runs are through the hospital so basically we are fire suppression. Mr. Jones stated his goal as a member of this board is to try to prevent firefighter deaths. There was a firefighter fatality about 5 years ago and it had a huge impact on everyone involved. He has served 5 ½ years on the Fire prevention board, tomorrow will be my 66th meeting with the state, and I look forward to participating on this board.

C. APPROVAL OF October 4th 2010 MINUTES.
James Greeson made a motion to approve as submitted. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

D. CERTIFICATIONS REPORT, RICK ARCHER

Rick Archer spoke about the numbers of certifications that have been issued in a six week period. The number this period was 1607 compared to 1757 in the same time frame prior. IFSAC certification requests have picked up the closer we get to the IFSAC site visit. IFSAC certifications will not be issued after January 31st 2011. We are unable to issue these until April 2011 when IFSAC has their board meeting and we are allowed to continue with the certifications. We are applying for IFSAC recertification for 5 levels; Hazmat Awareness, Hazmat Ops, Firefighter I, Firefighter 2 and Instructor I.

E. VARIANCE REQUESTS

1. Joel Updike requested a variance for Swift Water Rescue Operations and Technician. He completed the course through the Indiana River Rescue School in September. He has met all prerequisites.

Staff recommends denial. We have written/practical testing in place.

Candace Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Jeff Hayes seconded the motion. Tom Hanify asked why he did not take the testing when he completed the South Bend River Rescue School. Darrel Eiler explained that he had no idea why the individual did not complete the testing at the end of the school.

John Buckman spoke about the variances. Staff keeps giving mixed messages to the board, so we are going to take a serious look at all the information submitted with the requests. If there is a written/practical skill in place our recommendation will be that the person take the written examination. The exception will be if the individual has multiple credentials in place. The certification program is based on testing, written/practical. To give someone a certification because they took a 48 hour course should not give them the certification. If they come back with signed skill sheets from the class, they would then take our written exam and get certification. If certification is a professional credential then we need to stand by the rules in place and insure the credibility and validity of the system is maintained. One portion of that process is that written testing and practical skill examinations are conducted to achieve certification.

Marshal Greeson asked that staff start encouraging the individuals to show up at the board meetings. They would then be able to answer any questions, which would help the board make an informed decision.
The following 17 year old students from J. Everett Light requested a variance in order to take the written/practical testing for Mandatory/Basic, Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations; Firefighter I/II and Technical Rescue Awareness.

2. Phillip Cutter 3 Bryan Guardiola 4 DuBois Johnson
32. Kyle workman 33. Andrea Yanes

Staff recommends approval with the understanding that certifications will not be issued until their 18th birthday.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

34. Oral Banta requested reciprocity for Hazardous Material Technician. He has been involved in the fire service since 1993, and continues today with education in this area.

Staff recommends denial. We have written/practical testing in place.

Tom Hanify made a motion to accept staff recommendation. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

The following individuals for Pike Twp FD requested variances for Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations based on in house training from 1986 to current date. They have continued training with the annual 8 hour refresher course.

35. Ane, David 36. Battito, John 37. Beisel, Robert
44. Copsey, Roger 45. Crabtree, Mark 46. Craig, Daniel
47. DeArmond, Scottie 48. Delaplane, Robert 49. Drexler, Kenneth
50. Duncan, Leonard 51. Estes, David 52. Fiely, Kevin
53. Fischer, Everett 54. Gebby, Ronald 55. George, Ricky
56. Goolsby, Brent 57. Grass, Terry 58. Hardebeck, David
59. Harpe, Jeffery 60. Haston, Terry 61. Hatter, Donald
Staff recommends denial. We have written/practical testing in place. It is the belief of staff that if this is approved, we might as well issue blanket certifications to all firefighters. They have all had in house training and annual OSHA refresher courses through the years.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the request. Jeff Hayes seconded the motion. After examining the extensive documentation and verification of documents that was submitted to the board, i.e.; training hours for each individual dating back from 1983 to current. The motion passed. The documentation produced shows that these firefighters do more training. The documentation indicates a serious commitment to ongoing education including performance evaluations to validate competency. The documentation provided raises the bar for future variance request to be able to show active, continuous and rigorous training.

Candace Ashby asked the representatives from Pike Twp, why did they not take the tests.

Russ Shoaf responded that they did take tests; they were prior to the NFPA 472 changed into different levels. This was part of why they wanted to go through the variance procedure instead of the testing, because they feel they have taken the test. Just not the state test. IOSHA did an inspection and the records that were produced, passed the inspection by IOSHA.

Jeff Hayes asked Mr. Shoaf why should we approve Pike Twp over any other Dept? Mr. Shoaf responded that it would be based on the strength of the documentation.

Chief Campbell explained that the reason they pursued this avenue, was this is holding up the balance of their certifications.
Mr. Shoaf stated that since 1986 the new recruits came out of the recruit class with hazmat technician. Mr. Shoaf explained that in the past, the Board has approved variance requests for Fire Officer 3 and 4 based on the training and experience.

106. Craig Voight requested a variance for Technical Rescue Awareness, V/M Rescue Ops and V/M Technician. Craig took the tests out of order. He completed the Tech Rescue and V/M in April of 2010 but his Hazmat Awareness and Operations did not get completed until October of 2010. He would like to get certification for the prior testing. He did pass them and completed all required practical skill exams.

Staff recommends denial. This was past the March 15th deadline and we have written test in place.

Jeff Hayes made a motion to approve the request. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

Robert Sears from the Hoosier Hills Career Center requested variances for the following 17 year olds to be able to take the written/practical skills testing for Mandatory, Basic, Firefighter I/II, Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations, and Technical Rescue Awareness.

110. Sean Manning 111. Shawn McClure 112. Zachary McIntosh

Staff recommends approval with the understanding that certifications will not be issued until their 18th birthday.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve. Candace Ashby seconded.

116. Byron Baltus requested a variance for Technical Rescue Awareness. He completed the class in November 2007 but did not meet the prerequisite. He has now completed his Hazardous Material Awareness level and would like certification for the Technical Rescue Awareness level.

Staff recommends denial. He completed the course approximately 3 years ago and he just recently completed the prerequisite. We have had a written exam in place for 2 years for certification purposes.
Candace Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. James Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

117. Deb Fulk requested reciprocity for Instructor I based on her ILEA Instructor certification and her EMI certification.

Staff recommends approval pending the results of Instructor Reciprocity test. She holds a 24 hour (1994) and Hazmat Awareness and Operations, (2010)

Jeff Hayes made a motion to approve the request. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

118. Joshua Utley requested a variance for Hazardous Material Awareness. He has submitted education documentation.

Staff recommends denial. The continued educations hours submitted document 10.5 hours for 2005 and 2006. OSHA requires 8 hours annually. We do have written testing in place.

Candace Ashby made a motion to accept the staff recommendation. James Greeson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Marty McCrindle respectfully requested variances on age for the certifications hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations for the following person. They were left out of the last request from the October meeting by my error and I am now asking for the variance to provide them at the time of their 18th birthday and at their request be given the certifications if they have successfully passed the course testing.

119. Megan Tuttle 120. Rob Murray 121. Ryan Cyrus
122. Ben Harville 123. Tanner Wickam 124. Devon Bertrem

Staff recommends approval with the understanding that certifications will not be issued until their 18th birthday.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

Randall Wood, Training Officer at Camp Atterbury FD is requesting a variance for the following individuals for Driver Operator Mobile Water Supply. He has enclosed the curriculum that was used and copies of the completed practical
skill exam that the individuals were required to complete. (Possibly a few in attendance)

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<td>SSG Nicholas Southerland</td>
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<td>SGT Lucas Sanders</td>
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<td>SPC Nicholas Samuel</td>
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<td>PFC Nick Maddox</td>
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<td>PV2 Aaron Barrett</td>
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Staff has no recommendation. We have no written/practical testing in place for this.

Tom Hanify made motion to approve. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed. Randall Wood explained the individuals need the state certification in order to qualify for DOD and IFSAC certification.

138. James Braun requested a variance for Motorsport. He holds a current EMT-B, certified in Auto extrication, confined space through OSHA, holds numerous FEMA certifications in Incident Command.

Staff has no recommendation. We have no written/practical testing in place.

Candace Ashby made a motion to deny. There is no supporting documentation. Tom Hanify seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BREAK: The Board took a 20 minute break at this time. Reconvened at 11:25 am.

139. Ronald Owens requested reciprocity for Basic FF; Driver Operator Pumper; Firefighter I/II; Hazardous material Awareness, operations and technician; Mandatory; Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations; and Safety Officer. He has submitted a copy of his Kentucky certification for Firefighter I and a certification of achievement for Rope Rescue basic. He has included the transcripts from Kentucky showing continued education in all fields requested.

Staff recommends approval for Basic and Firefighter I. He has no certifications for the balance of his request. He has submitted training records only, no record of practical skills completed.

Candace Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. Jeff Hayes seconded.
140. Robert O’Haver requested a variance for Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV, based on his Associates Degree in Fire Science from Ivy Tech. He also holds a Bachelor of Applied Science from Siena Heights University, of Michigan. Chief O’Haver has included in this packet, the transcripts for both degrees. (in attendance)

Staff recommends approval based on education and training.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Candace Ashby seconded. The Ohio Executive program exceeds the state requirements for Fire Officer 3 and Fire Officer 4. Motion passed.

141. Adam Ray is requesting a variance for Safety Officer. He took the test May 6, 2009 and was denied certification because he had not completed his Fire Officer I. On November 10, 2010 he completed and passed the Fire Officer I. He would now like his Safety Officer released.

Staff recommends denial. March 15, 2010 was the date submitted for all prerequisites to be complete for existing tests. Mr. Ray is well past that date for Fire Officer I.

Candace Ashby made a motion to accept staff recommendation. James Bennet seconded. Motion passed.

142. Michael Arany is requesting variances for Investigator I, Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Kentucky,

Staff recommends approval. After speaking with the Arson Investigation staff, the certifications submitted are from reputable associations that are recognized for the training in investigation nation wide. He has included the transcripts for the Fire Officer III and IV. He holds a Bachelor of Science from Eastern Kentucky University and an Associates Degree from Ivy Tech in Paramedic Science.

Candace Ashby states that the transcripts indicate one leadership class and one supervision class. I have a problem giving him Fire Officer IV based on these transcripts. I approve the Investigator I request, and Fire Officer 3. Michael Arany was in attendance, and he stated that the issues that Ms. Ashby has concerns were covered in the courses attended. The information is covered in the syllabus that was submitted and the JPR’s have been covered, it just covered several courses. Ms Ashby stated that in the past, if you submitted a Bachelor degree we gave Fire Officer 3 and 4 and unfortunately you have submitted this
at a time that I would like to see a little more integrity in these certifications and I would like to see more classes on leadership for Fire Officer 4. Tom Hanify made a motion to approve Investigator I and Fire Officer III, and ask for further documentation on course curriculum for Fire Officer IV. Joel Thacker stated that he would like to see a curriculum created for Fire Executive program. He would hate for someone to take a 40 hour class and get certified for Fire Officer IV. James Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Tom Hanify made the motion to table the request for Fire Officer IV for more information. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

Christopher Jones requested variances for Instructor I, II/III; Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II. Mr. Jones has been a Firefighter since 1996, he is with the Osolo FD, he holds a Bachelor of General Studies from Ball State University, transcripts are enclosed, he held an Indiana Substitute Teacher license, and several additional course completions as enclosed.

Staff recommends approval for Instructor I; II/III pending his passing the Instructor Reciprocity test. Staff recommends approval for Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II based on Bachelor Of General Studies from Ball State and submitted transcripts.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the Instructor I, II/III pending the results from reciprocity test and Fire Officer I. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

Candace Ashby states that he does not show that he has completed the requirements for Fire Officer II. His transcripts show a general study course. He needs to test out-or provide more documentation showing he has met the requirements for Fire Officer I. Ms. Ashby made a motion to table the request pending more documentation. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

In the future, all variances must include documentation on what the classes covered. Explain in the students own words how the courses met the NFPA standard.

Howard Stahl requested the reinstatement of his Instructor II/III. The certification expired 1/4/10. He thought it expired in 2011.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the request. Jeff Hayes seconded the motion. The motion passed. His Instructor II/III will become active as of 1/4/10.

John Wall requested Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics based on Associates Degree in Applied Science from South Suburban College – Illinois Community
College District System. He holds a Fire Officer III and a Master in Strategy and Tactics.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the request. Tom Hanify seconded the motion. Motion passed.

F. REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL

1. Jason Kilsby is requesting a review of a denial of his variance request. This is #4 in the October minutes. Jason states that he has had the hazmat awareness training on several different occasions, and he feels he is qualified for the Technical Rescue certification.

Burke Jones made a motion to approve the request. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

G. STATE FIRE MARSHAL, JAMES GREESON

We are having the Fire Marshal seminars around the state with the Fire Instructor Association. The dates are Feb. 12; March 5th and April 16, 2011. Locations have not been decided yet. Last year we asked people to complete evaluations of the class and this year we are basing the presentations on results of those evaluations. We also have a fire detector program going on. Director Bennett started this a couple of years ago and this year we have grant for $300,000.00 and we are looking to purchase 1200 detectors for the deaf and hard of hearing. So far we have had about 700 people from around the state apply. We are still accepting applications for these. The applications are under the Fire Marshal web site.

As fire dept. merge the number of fire dept. has gone down. Right now, we have 837 departments in the state. This included 59 career; 147 combination and 647 volunteer. As of January 1, the number will decrease by 6 due to consolidation.

We have been talking with home and apt builders. We are trying to get them to use trust roots lumber. We have had several meetings and we have developed a model ordinance to require homes being built to have a seal on the electrical box showing that this was an engineered construction. This will allow local fire dept to plan their fire attack. This will be a voluntary program. This is still under construction.

H HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING DIVISION DIRECTOR, JAMES BENNETT

We continue to upgrade our training. Our webinars, the Boyer capture cart, propane prop trailers for training; on-line testing; we are still working on this. There is a lot of testing before we put this becomes effective. The webinar training is being used more and more for training purposes and this seems to work well for individuals. Steve Walters was an evaluator for an Instructor I class and these skills were actually
completed. He found out that instructors were teaching strictly from power point. They were not covering all of the material, just trying to teach the test. We from the state are giving the instructors no guidelines. We are in the process of creating a curriculum for the instructors to use.

We have had 555 instructors take the on-line in-service.

Safety Officer, we are doing 3 T-T-T this month. We have created practical skills for this certification.

My final report will be on IFSAC. Karri Dillon got a phone call from IFSAC, we found that Indiana is not allowed to issue seals in a state that has the IFSAC certification. As of last Thursday, we no longer issue IFSAC in other states if they have IFSAC. As of December 2nd we no longer send out any tests for IFSAC certification. As of January 31st, we will no longer issue IFSAC seals. If we pass the inspection, we will still not issue IFSAC seals until April when they take the information to the IFSAC board.

I. STATE FIRE TRAINING DIRECTOR REPORT, JOHN BUCKMAN

Dave Probo spoke about the T-T-T on the new Firefighter ½ skill exam. We have completed 7 skill days around the state. This has been very well received. On January 1st this will be the new skills. Jack Kerney was present at one of the trainings, and he states that he thought these were very good and put together well.

J. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, JUDGE BIPPUS

1. Administrative Cause 10-03, John Wall

Tom Hanify made a motion to affirm Judge Bippus order. James Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

K. OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. “Discussion and possible adoption of LSA Doc. #10-248 (updating NFPA standards)”.

After a brief discussion from the public and staff, Marshal James Greeson made motion approve LSA Doc. #10-248, a rule that updates the certification program and certification standards, amends existing certifications, adds certifications, deletes certifications, corrects typographical errors, and makes conforming section changes, as published in the Indiana Register on July 28, 2010 as DIN 20100728-IR-655100248PRA, as amended by withdrawing the repeal of 655 IAC
1-2.1-2 as that section relates to the Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I, Public Fire and Life Safety Educator II, and Public Fire and Life Safety Educator III certifications, as amended by withdrawing the repeal of 655 IAC 1-2.1-16, 655 IAC 1-2.1-17 and 655 IAC 1-2.1-18, as amended by the changes requested by Division Chief Chad Abel in his written request presented to the Board, and as amended by the proposed changes contained in the memo, dated September 27, 2010, from Mara Snyder. Motion was seconded by James Bennett. Motion passed.

2. Rodney Johnson is asking for the new Inspector I/II test bank be used. This test bank has been validated using the IFSTA 7th Edition. The current test bank is validated to the IFSTA 6th edition and you can no longer find this book. There is a significant difference in these books. The practical skills would still be based on the 6th Edition.

Tom Hanify made a motion to direct staff to start using the new test bank. Jeff Hayes seconded. Motion passed.

3. 2011 meeting dates and locations.
   January 24   10 am      Westfield Training Center
   March 21    6 pm        Bedford FD
   May 16      6 pm        Crawfordsville FD
   June 17     9 am        South Bend Convention Center
   August 1    6 pm        Winchester FD
   September 26 6 pm         Muncie FD
   Nov 21      10 am       J. Everett Light, Indpls

4. Election of officers.
   Chair- Jeff Hayes
   Vice-Chair Jack Kerney Sr.
   Secretary-Candace Ashby

5. Marty McCrindle, Certifications and college credits.

Ivy Tech and Vincennes University have agreed to be part of a Fire rescue Pathways. This program includes Mandatory, Basic, Firefighter I/II, Hazmat Awareness and Operations. This is phase 1 of the career path that has been outlined. Chief Hayes was included in the original committee. The concern I have, is that the committee is adamant about having the Basic Firefighter in this program. I understand that this certification is going to be eliminated and if so, when will it be illuminated.

Basic will be eliminated in March. It is part of LSA Doc. 10-248.
M. MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:45pm

Next year's meeting dates will be posted on the web page.