

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
Fire Service Advisory Committee on Education and Training

MEETING MINUTES
September 7, 2017

Approved March 16, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Timothy Bantes, WI State Fire Chiefs
Michael Romas, WI State Fire Chiefs Association
Tracy Burrus, Madison Fire Department
Jim Austadt, WI Soc of Emerg Services Instructors
Mike DeGarmo, Professional Fire Fighters of WI
Chris Klahn, WI Fire Fighters Assn.

Jeff Pollard, WI Fire Inspectors Assn.
Jack Running, WI State Fire Chiefs Assn.
Kevin Hafemann, Milwaukee Fire Department
Angela White, WTCS Office
Timothy Haas, WI Emergency Management
Thomas Vandenack, WTCS District Coordinators

Staff

Shari Jacobson, WTCS
Denise Perkins, WTCS

GUESTS

Rick Anderson, MSTC
Robert Balsamo, BTC
Dana Baumgartner, NATC
Brian Bending
Courtney Carlson, WCTC

Craig DeGrand
Blake Deiber
Chris Fischer, FVTC
Karl Sandry, WTCS
Red Van Ert, CVTC

Open meeting statement was read by Angela White.

INTRODUCTIONS

New committee member and guest introductions were made.

REVIEW AND APPROVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

The September 1, 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVE BYLAW UPDATES

Bylaws were reviewed (prior to the meeting) and approved.

AFG AWARD UPDATE

The 2016 AFG has been approved. Angela has awarded 9 of the technical colleges their grant funds.

Angela anticipates the 2017 grant opening soon and will be soliciting the colleges for information about their needs.

NFA

Angela explained that the annual 20K grant to deliver 2-Day Off-Campus courses is administered by the WTCS Office. These courses can be offered anytime throughout the year by the technical college districts. A request for a course should be submitted to her. The new grant has not become available to apply for yet.

HAZMAT OPERATIONS

Angela reported that Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) is reimbursing approximately \$20,000 per quarter for the Hazardous Materials Operations course.

WEM has not yet made the new (80K) grant available. Angela asked Tim Haas if he had any updates, and he did not.

BUDGET UPDATES

Jim Zylstra, Vice President, WTCS, provided a handout detailing the WTCS Office Operations budget.

Angela pointed everyone to the additional handouts with information about the local assistance funds reimbursed to districts, fire departments/enrollments in fire courses, certification numbers, etc., included in each packet and asked if anyone had any questions.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Fire Officer II was reviewed by IFSAC and approved for accreditation January 2017. All levels of certification except ESI II and ESI III are now accredited.

Reaccreditation for all levels is due August 2018. Application materials and all pertinent information to be submitted to IFSAC 90 days prior. An IFSAC Self-Study Committee as well as several validation committees will need to be appointed to begin this work.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

NFA Wisconsin Weekend is October 20-22, 2017, at Volk Field. Angela strongly encouraged all of the new coordinators to take advantage of this wonderful training opportunity. (Informational WI Weekend Handout included in packet as well as located on WI State Fire Chiefs' Assn. Website.)

Angela and Nate Melby will be hosting a fire service panel discussion on Friday night, October 20 at 6 p.m.

EDUCATION DIRECTOR TRAVEL AND PRESENTATIONS

Angela gave a brief update about her travel since March.

In anticipation of the upcoming WI IFSAC reaccreditation review, Angela recently attended an IFSAC site visit in Washington DC. She will travel to Minnesota in November to observe and assist with their review, and she will attend actual IFSAC Site Review Training April 2018 in Oklahoma.

Angela attended the annual WI State Fire Chief's Conference in June.

Angela attended the National Fire Academy, Professional Development Leadership Summit in July.

Angela has met with several groups to introduce herself, i.e., WI Society of Emergency Services Instructors, EMS Coalition, etc. She has visited 9 of the colleges to observe practical examinations and tour the training facilities.

Angela will be attending the North American Fire Training Directors in Connecticut later this month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN SHORTAGES UPDATE

Angela provided a handout of a survey as a follow up to the Legislative Committee work.

Outcomes of the survey include:

A recommendation to make training more accessible; and

Online delivery – complete online delivery and blended courses. (Broadband Internet an issue in some areas.)

Tim Bantes suggested the colleges set class size minimums based upon geographics. Karl Sandry, SWTC, commented that colleges try to be flexible but can't always "lock" into a minimum number of students to run a class.

PROPOSED PROJECTS AND RESEARCH

Angela briefly discussed test statistics per bank (Performance Training Systems, Jones and Bartlett, and IFSTA).

Angela will continue researching and plans to discuss Textbooks and Test Banks at the next meeting.

Mike DeGarmo added that the Professional Fire Fighters of WI would like to see an Emphasis on Wellness/Mental Health resources made available through the colleges.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned.