

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
Fire Service Advisory Committee on Education and Training
September 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Approved 3/7/24

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chad Powell, PFFW	Brian Bending, WI Fire Inspector's Assn.
Karl Sandry, WTCS District Coordinators	Angela White, WTCS
Jim Austad, WI Society of Fire Service Instructors	Jeremy Hansen, WI State Fire Chief's Assn.
Craig Olson, WI State Fire Chief's Assn.	Chris Garrison, WI State Fire Chief's Assn.
Todd Blaser, WI State Fire Fighters Assn.	Tim Haase, WEM

STAFF PRESENT

Shari Jacobson, WTCS	Denise Perkins, WTCS	Chrystal Seeley-Schreck, WTCS
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GUESTS PRESENT

Blake Deiber, WTC	Andrew Baus, MPTC	Dawn Way, MATC-Madison
Tom Vandenack, State Rep	Rob Balsamo, BTC	Jon Byrd, State Rep
George Burke, State Rep	Courtney Hull, WCTC	Ram Lemke, NATC
Tom Plevak, MATC-Milw	Barb Jascor, MPTC	Mark Schwartz, CVTC
Greg West, WCTC	Mark Karp, State Rep	Jack Running, State Rep
Gary Peck, State Rep	Steve Krause, State Rep	
Josh Chief		

Open meeting statement was read by Angela White.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Members and guest introductions were made.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MARCH 2, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

Jim Austad made a motion to approve the March 2, 2023 minutes, and Karl Sandry, seconded.

BYLAWS

Angie asked that the Committee please review the Bylaws and offer any proposals.

CO-CHAIR ELECTION

Jim nominated Karl. Tim Haase seconded the motion. Karl Sandry will be the reigning co-chair.

ONLINE TESTING

Angie announced that the WTCS has moved into Acadis and we are piloting the online testing. All records from the Fire Service Database have been moved into Acadis. Dawn Way. MATC-Madison has been part of the pilot as well as FVTC, Nicolet, and MSTC. Thus far, the biggest hurdle has been students remembering their passwords. Also, students using a personal email address seems to be working best. Students can log back in an hour or so after the exam to retrieve their exam score.

Karl asked if students could upload any additional certificates into the new system. At this time we have not purchased that module.

We also have the ability to send reminder emails to students which will be helpful for FESI renewals.

COURSE AND CURRICULA

NFPA 470 has been updated. The curriculum must be updated by December 2024. NFPA 1033 has been completed. We tested 23 students this morning at MSTC. NFPA 1030 has been released, and we are waiting on the book to be released. IFSTA will be ready in a week or so, and we will review to see if we want to move forward with IFSTA. NFPA 1010 will drop a little later this year. NFPA 1001 will have a new chapter to include "support personnel." Going forward we will see if this is something we want to offer and have accredited. Angie passed the info on to the Committee.

NFPA 1041 is completed with the exception of LFI and LFI:IC

GRANTS

NFA 2023-2024 – 9 hand off classes are being offered throughout the state. FVTC and Milwaukee Fire have a class coming up.

FEMA –

2023-2024 – WEM HMO/HMT Grant is still pending. The grant was submitted at the end of August. Angie encouraged the coordinators to schedule HMT classes.

2020 AFG – pretty much closed with just a little reporting left.

2021 AFG – in process.

2022 AFG – in process.

IFSFI Grant – applied for a grant from NAFTD for a water mapping prop. FVTC and MATC-Madison will be building the prop.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Angie asked the group if there is a need to come up with a Policy for testing HMO students prior to the Standard change?

Karl thought HMO (separate) certification could wait until the change is made.

Angie explained that 60 hours of ELFF is part of FFI. After completion of the final 36 hours, students have 2 years to certify. Fire Fighter I is a 96-hour class. If a student does not successfully complete, they must repeat 96 hours over. There is no time limit in place between the ELFF (60 hours) and the final 36 hours. Should there be a time limit between ELFF and the final 36 hours. The committee suggested a 2-year time limit between ELFF and the final 36 hours as well as a 2- year time limit after the final 36.

Jeremy suggested renaming the programs, so folks understand it is an entire 96-hour course. Could we possibly clarify by naming Part I, II and III of FFI?

Angie will put a policy out right away to get us all on the same page and provide input.

COURSE STATISTICS

2022 – 3,167 students were certified, and 4863 students were reimbursed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

PFFW – No updates.

Coords – No updates.

Chiefs –

- Senate Bill 273 – renewed effort to have law enforcement and fire fighters exempt from WRS.
- Health and Aging grants
- LRB 2109 and 6664 – renewed discussions on fire district legislation.
- Assembly Bill 115 and 113 – PTSD
- Winter In-Service Conference

Inspectors –

- Conference in October.
- NFPA 1 Code Committee still being built.

Instructors – Conference in February will be held at Blackhawk Technical College.

EDUCATION DIRECTOR UPDATES

Angie announced that she has accepted a new position at Madison College.

In June we were reaccredited for all levels. Our accreditation is good for 5 years.

Angie has been on a couple of NFPA Technical Committees.

WTCS Office will be moving across the street to the Hill Farms Building.

LFI and LFI:IC accreditation is pending.

Angie offered that there needs to be an increase in 2 percent dues coming to the WTCS. Angie is afraid that if the money is not increased, training availability will decrease.

Angie thanked everyone for their support.

EMERGING TRENDS, REQUESTED RESEARCH OR PROJECTS

Angie asked if there was anything folks wanted researched? College coordinators would like to have some discussion about high school students in fire training.

ROUNDTABLE

Angie reiterated that this spot on the agenda is where suggestions/comments should be brought to the committee. She said all organizations are represented, and she hopes everyone feels comfortable doing so.

ADJOURN

Angela adjourned the meeting at 11:57.