

**The Utah Fire Service Certification Council
Minutes of September 19, 2006**

The Utah Fire Service Certification Council met on September 19, 2006, at the Utah Fire & Rescue Academy, Provo, UT.

Jim Bacon convened the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

In attendance: Tracy Dunford, Ray Stokes, Greg Chamberlain, Corky Brewer, and Scott Spencer.

No quorum was present.

Visitor: Jeff Maxfield, Director, Utah Fire & Rescue Academy
Ron Morris, State Fire Marshal

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of July 26, 2006 were reviewed.

Approval of today's agenda.

Today's agenda was handed out to the council members and reviewed.

Activity Report.

Copies of report distributed and reviewed by Lori Marshall.

Report on Standards and Training Council

Jim Bacon reported on Standards and Training Council's discussion regarding non-affiliated training. Items discussed:

- Some time turned over to Jeff Maxfield and Ron Morris. An agreement was reached by the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Utah Fire and Rescue Academy that the Academy will initiate the standard by which all agencies will be approved as satellites to train non-affiliated students. This will ensure consistency that the same standards set forth by the Standards and Training Committee are met and adhered to by all non-affiliates.
- Some discussion on LOEs. LOEs will be addressed further at the Policies and Procedure Retreat.
- Utah Fire and Rescue Academy's request for non-affiliated certification for the RCA was approved by the Certification Council. Strict adherence to the procedures for non-affiliate request and approval were followed.

Report on State Chief's Meeting.

None. George Sumner not in attendance.

Officer II project approval.

Ray Stokes gave a brief overview of what was submitted by Roger Gourley for his Officer II project. Ray recommended that the project be approved. After some discussion and referencing of the Officer II standard, it was determined that Roger Gourley must schedule his project presentation for approval by one evaluator.

- A criteria check off sheet will be created for the Officer II project evaluation.
- The criteria check off will also require that the student submit a copy of the presentation to the Academy.
- After the presentation is completed, Roger can then complete the testing and submit for certification.

Officer II standard approval.

Committee members for Officer II standard revision; Andy Byrnes, George Sumner and Gary Kilgore could not be in attendance. Jolene Nuttall provided the Council members with a copy of the revised Officer II standard and attempted to review it page by page. Due to some questions and issues posed by various council members that required specific clarification by the Officer II committee, it was agreed that the review of the standard should be tabled until the next meeting when Andy, George and Gary could be present. The Officer II standard and forms will be emailed to the council members prior to the next meeting for them to review.

IFSAC Update

Jolene distributed the letter from IFSAC indicating that Certification successfully completed the re-accreditation process on all the levels that were submitted. Jolene will be attending the IFSAC meeting schedule for Sept. 22 –Sept. 24, 2006 wherein Utah will be acknowledged. The next re-accreditation will be in five years. Pro Board is now due.

Recognition Program

Cache County requested a renewal and change regarding their certification status. Officer I has been added to their recognition plaque. Cedar City has requested their recognition plaque which should be scheduled and presented in a few weeks.

Re-visit “who can request testing/certification”? Individual, Primary or Secondary department?

Jeff Maxfield informed the council of the rising amount of questions and problems regarding who owns rights to certifications and information regarding testing results. Discrepancies in certification’s policies and procedures lend to much confusion as to whether an individual can request their own testing, testing results, and certifications. The number of affiliated individuals who qualify for certifications but do not have the support of their departments and yet are willing to pay for testing and certification on their own are increasing. Jeff suggested that the rights and ownership of the individual’s scores and certifications should be made clear when the policy and procedures are revised.

- Jolene presented, for the council’s review and approval, a new revision of the ‘request for testing and certification form’ that an individual would submit.

After further discussion on this issue and whether the chief should be over ridden when individuals request their own certifications, it was suggested by Ray Stokes that the issue be tabled until the Policy and Procedures Retreat.

R710-10 Update

Jeff Maxfield reported on the Fire Prevention Board's meeting. The board agreed to amend the R710 for Hazardous Materials. A HazMat committee was organized with representatives from EMS, fire, police, environmental science, private industry, etc... The board also directed the Fire Marshal's Office to seek legislation requiring emergency responders to certify under the same standard of training and testing in Utah. Under a standardized course there will be no question as to the type and level of training these HazMat certified individuals have had.

Certifying non-affiliated participants within our jurisdiction on upper levels.

Jeff Maxfield addressed the problems that out of state individuals coming to train seeking IFSAC certification through Salt Lake ARFF have faced as non-affiliates. It was understood, through Jolene's communications with IFSAC, that under our jurisdiction individual's can come into Utah to train, take the exam and be certified with the IFSAC seal. Requirements such as affiliation and pre-requisites must still be met. After much discussion Greg Chamberlain suggested that an interim resolution be made for this situation until there is time for an in depth policy and procedure review; that IFSAC compliant certification be allowed for ARFF Firefighter through the Salt Lake Training Facility if the person requesting can prove they are actually affiliated with some fire department outside of Utah. It was also suggested that the application be made through the Chief of the department.

P & P Retreat Discussion

Policy & Procedures retreat will be on Nov. 8, 9, & 10, 2006 at the Holiday Inn in St. George, UT. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wed., Nov. 8, 2006. The meeting will last no later than 5:00 p.m. on Fri. Nov. 10, 2006. Emails will be sent to all council members as reminders with all information regarding the retreat. Jolene will send an electronic copy of the policy and procedures to all Cert Council members prior to the retreat for their review and preparation.

Schedule Upcoming Meetings

November 8, 2006 - agenda – Officer II standard for approval.

2007 tentative schedule for every 3rd Tues. of the month:

January 18, 2007 – Holiday Inn, 9:00 a.m.
March 20, 2007 – UFRA, 10:00 a.m.
May 15, 2007 – UFRA, 10:00 a.m.
July 17, 2007 – UFRA, 10:00 a.m.
September 18, 2007 – UFRA, 10:00 a.m.
November 20, 2007 – UFRA, 10:00 a.m.

New/Old Business.

Winter FS – Jan. 19, 20, 2007 -

 Opening ceremony, key note, vendors, hands on classes, Chiefs roundtable,
 Location for classes at Dixie Center,
NPQS re-accreditation site visit due in 2007
Certification minutes will be made available online.

Next Council Meeting:

November 8, 2006, 1:00 p.m. at the Hilton in St. George, UT