



# STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

## DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 17, 2022

CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal

715 P Street, Mountain Conference Room, Sacramento, CA 95814

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Richwine, State Fire Marshal, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, Chair

\*Jerry Davies, California Fire Safe Council and Insurance Industry, Vice Chair

\*Ed Foster, California State Firefighters Association

\*Moke Simon, County Government

\*Brian K. Rice, California Professional Firefighters

\*Pete Muñoa, CAL FIRE Firefighters, Local 2881

\*David Rocha, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs

\*David Gillotte, International Association of Fire Fighters

\*Michael S. Williams, California State Firefighters Association

\*Michael Smith, California Fire Chiefs Association

\*Robert Magee, City Government

\*Brian Marshall, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

\*Yvonne De La Peña, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dan Terry, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee

Mark Ghilarducci, Director, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Frank Lima, California Labor Federation

### STATE FIRE MARSHAL STAFF:

\*Wendy Collins, Assistant State Fire Marshal

\*Chris Fowler, Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training

\*Kevin Chan, Staff Services Manager, Pipeline Safety Division

\*Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III, State Fire Training

\*Mark Bisbee, Fire Training Specialist, State Fire Training

### GUESTS:

\*Taral Brideau, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Richwine called the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) meeting to order at 1533 hours.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was held, and quorum declared at 1535 hours. Brian Marshall attended on behalf of Member Mark Ghilarducci for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal

OES) and Yvonne De La Peña attended on behalf of Dan Terry for the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CalJAC).

### 3. INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions of staff and guests were conducted.

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Mike Richwine asked for approval of the Minutes of the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, meeting.

**It was moved by Member Mike Williams to approve the meeting minutes; motion seconded by Member Dave Rocha. Chair Mike Richwine called for a vote and the motion was carried by majority vote at 1537 hours. Brian Marshall abstained because he was absent at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

### 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

### 6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Mike Richwine asked if anyone wanted to pull any items off the consent items for discussion. Member Dave Rocha had a question regarding item number six, "Proposed Change to Technical Rescue Training Site Requirements." He commented that it mentioned that the legacy courses would be archived by the California Fire Chiefs Association (Cal Chiefs) and wanted to know if that was a Cal Chiefs responsibility or a state responsibility. Chris Fowler responded that Cal Chiefs offered to archive the legacy courses on their website because their website can carry the data load. Chair Mike Richwine also noted that it was also done to comply with accessibility. With the question answered, Chair Mike Richwine asked for a motion to approve consent items one through seven.

**It was moved by Member Michael Williams to approve the consent items; motion seconded by Member Michael Smith. Chair Mike Richwine called for a vote and the motion was carried unanimously at 1540 hours.**

### 7. PROGRAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chris Fowler made a recommendation to grant an initial accreditation to the Orange County Fire Authority as an accredited local academy (ALA). An on-site evaluation was conducted on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. A recommendation was also made to grant an initial accreditation to Mission College as an accredited regional training program (ARTP). An on-site evaluation was conducted on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Chair Mike Richwine commented that each accreditation would need to be motioned and voted on separately.

**It was moved by Member Dave Gillotte to approve the accreditation; motion seconded by Member Michael Williams. Chair Mike Richwine called for a vote and the motion was carried unanimously at 1543 hours.**

**It was moved by Member Michael Williams to approve the accreditation; motion seconded by Member Jerry Davies. Chair Mike Richwine called for a vote and the motion was carried unanimously at 1545 hours.**

Chris Fowler gave an update on the Structural Collapse Specialist Curriculum. This was taken to the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) the prior month and

they received positive feedback along with suggested edits. This is an update to the rescue system series and it is meant to create alignment with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006 code as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) participant guides so stakeholders who are trained in these modalities can go out of state as a part of the use of our team, which our current system falls short of. This is a new certifications rating standard with two course plans and a Certified Training Standards (CTS) guide. This is currently a State Fire Training (SFT) Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) course, but they are looking to transition it to a California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) certification. The 2012 Rescue Systems series will retire effective December 2022.

Brian Marshall asked a question. He noted that SFT is moving to NFPA titles, definitions, job performance, etc. and asked if this one was the exception because it is trying to align with the FEMA Urban Search Rescue Task Force.

Chris Fowler responded that was correct. There was a discussion with STEAC and member of the project. Due to the specialized branding that comes with the FEMA Structural Collapse Specialist, this was kept separate from the NFPA professional qualifications because it wouldn't meet the need and wasn't recognized. All of the other updates and technical rescue courses will be following the NFPA professional qualification titles.

Brian Marshall then asked why this is being aligned with FEMA when they are not aligned with NFPA. He mentioned that we stay within NFPA to stay consistent and to standardize California, but we are diverting from that consistency by aligning this with FEMA.

Chris Fowler responded that there is no current solution for that, but the situation creates a barrier around California for our participants who engage on the national platform for rescue. By taking the title and making this adjustment, it takes down some of those walls for the end users, which is the intent.

Brian Marshall stated that we should be driving FEMA to NFPA standards.

Chair Mike Richwine asked if Brian Marshall would be willing to go to STEAC with his concerns and he responded that he would.

Chris Fowler gave an update on the Confined Space Curriculum, which was updated to align with NFPA 1006. Most of the updates are editorial and the list of changes is in the staff report. There are no changes to the time or cost to deliver the courses. The current 2008 curriculum will retire on December 31 of 2022. There will be no changes for registered instructors at the current courses, as long as they meet those minimum requirements to be an SFT registered instructor.

Chair Mike Richwine asked if it was an FSTEP class and Chris Fowler responded that it was.

Chris Fowler presented an update on Blueprint 2030. This was presented to STEAC in 2020 and Mark Bisbee presented a gap analysis. They reviewed the action items listed under those major goals that were published and those that were not. There are still some opportunities for improvement in the program and system and Blueprint 2020. They are proposing a cadre that represents a cross section of their stakeholders and of STEAC as a steering committee. More information is available in the staff report.

Mark Bisbee added that they will be adding a new staff report for the next STEAC meeting that will give more details. They are looking at some of the deliverables for Blueprint 2030 in terms of values, mission, vision, goals, the objectives, and defining success indicators. They also want to have an implementation action plan that will be a living document for the life cycle of Blueprint 2030 so they can track progress and measure how they are measuring up to those goals that were outlined. It is expected to be a yearlong process. They expect to have more updates by the next meeting.

Chair Mike Richwine asked the Board if they felt that any association or group was being left out. There were no responses.

Chair Mike Richwine then asked the process to solicit more members. Mark Bisbee responded that there was already a STEAC subcommittee that was furthering their California Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) aspect. The steering committee will be responsible for putting together a draft that would be disseminated on a broad scale to all stakeholders to be vetted. They plan to work with small focus groups to run this by young emerging fire officers who will have to use the system in the future and get their feedback. They also plan to run this through Cal Chiefs and California Professional Firefighters (CPF), as well as other stakeholders and convening special focus groups.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

Member Mike Williams gave a report on the collaborative SBFS/CHP Highway Incident Training Video. The working group met on February 10 at 10:30 am. CHP presented an overview of the concept which parallels what the Board submitted. The video would present views of firefighters vs. law enforcement going to the same incident, switching views back and forth among internal discussions within each internal organization about what to do and what not to do. This is to give insight on the environment and cultures so that people can understand where conflicts begin and then show how the conflicts are resolved.

A script has been drafted, but not reviewed at the time. There are action items being asked of the Board and of CAL FIRE. The first one is the request for a subject matter expert (SME) to go over the script to ensure that they have the fire culture, standards, and practices captured correctly. CHP is on a time crunch and also needs assistance with video editing. For the area of a SME, the name Paul Stein came up, as well as Josh Callista. CHP can handle the script and other local talent, but need someone from fire service to work with. They may also need technical support with the filming and editing, as well as some background actors. They primarily need help with the back end, post production. They look forward to working closely with CAL FIRE because of past partnerships. The first action item is to find the new fire service representative for the video.

Chair Mike Richwine commented that Joe Castro was no longer available.

Member Gillotte remarked that it was important to use someone who was contemporary and actually working in the field. Someone that is relatable. He stated that Paul Stein and Gordon Graham are not relatable to fire fighters and it should be someone who is currently out there.

Member Mike Williams agreed and restated that we needed a representative to move forward.

Member Brian Rice recommended John Danciart, a battalion chief for Sacramento Fire. Yvonne De La Peña suggested Josh Callista, who is also based out of Sacramento. Member

Michael Williams commented that CHP would like to have someone nearby who is accessible, so having someone out of Sacramento would accommodate the project.

The group agreed that they should get all of the contact information for both potential representatives and to open a discussion with each one.

Chair Mike Richwine then brought up the request for post-production support and Yvonne De La Peña suggested Fire Star Studios, but there would need to be a discussion about funding, which would depend on how big of a project it is.

Kevin Chan commented that the concept was to have a primary training video and to have multiple short videos specific to situations and law enforcement or fire service.

Member Mike Williams said he would find out the time commitment for the actual shoot. He anticipates the shoot to take one or two days and another day or two with outside sources.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

## 10. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

Member Jerry Davies gave a California Fire Safe Council (FIRESAFE) report. He that there was a huge legislative day that would be happening in May or June, and would keep everyone apprised. He also reviewed the grants they received over the past two years and have hired two of three regional directors in FIRESAFE. The organization is growing and there will be a lot of news coming in the future.

Member Ed Foster gave a report from the California State Firefighters Association (CSFA). The organization received a training grant from FEMA associated with life fire training. This is a renewal of a previously approved grant and will be working with this training over the next couple of years. CSFA will be having their centennial conference in San Diego on April 6<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup>, where they will be developing their work plan for the next couple of years.

Member Moke Simon reported that Lake County is working on tree mortality issues and taking a proactive approach. They are also working on their home hardening program through state sponsored grants and thanks CAL FIRE and Cal OES.

Member Brian Rice reported that CPF is engaged in the new legislative year and that everyone could watch for some new workers compensation reforms that will strengthen the presumptive protections for all firefighters. There are ongoing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) discussions with Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT). They are working at a high level with Cal Chiefs and Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). They are also engaging Cal OES on contract firefighters and for-profit companies operating in the State of California. We are seeing an increase in for-profit companies moving into California.

Member Pete Muñoa added to Member Brian Rice's report on for-profit contractors. Butte County has a \$140 million contract with private companies to provide type-2 crews to the Plumis area. There will be 600 private firefighters added, taking away from public safety. They plan to take action during the legislative conference in Washington D.C. in March. They are engaging with local legislators to bolster the staffing issues within CAL FIRE. Senator McGuire is running a bi-partisan bill.

Member David Rocha provided a Metro Chiefs update. The new chair for Metro Chiefs is Todd Harms from Sacramento. The term is normally a year.

Yvonne De La Peña gave the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CalJAC) report. They are working an update to the fighting wildfires curriculum that will be coming out within the next year. They are also busy with their pre-apprenticeship academy for EMT in Los Angeles at Frank Hotchkins with 34 cadets going through that program of which 15 are women. They are also working on their paramedic accreditation process so they can become a paramedic training provider.

Brian Marshall provided a Cal OES update. He mentioned that it is budget season and they are working on a couple of collaborative projects with CAL FIRE. The biggest one is a \$30 million Fire Integrated Real-Time Intelligence System (FIRIS) program which is the Orange County aircraft for real-time intelligence program. In OES mutual aid news, there were 150 engines recommended for OES to purchase and assign throughout the state. There are still a few type-6 engines that still need to be distributed. They did not come with replacement money and not enough maintenance money, especially with year round fire season, so that is an issue. A big item is that they are dissolving their joint powers agreement with Sac Metro for the California Fire and Rescue Training Authority. That will be moving over to California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) without any lapse in service.

Chair Mike Richwine gave an update on CAL FIRE. The Department is currently without a Director, Chief Deputy Director, Legislative Director, and a Strategic Communications Director. We are looking forward to the Governor's Office making appointments soon. Chair Mike Richwine was appointed as the Acting CAL FIRE Director in January of 2022.

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

## 12. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Upcoming meeting dates in 2022 are May 19, August 18, November 17.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

**Chair Mike Richwine adjourned the meeting at 1632 hours.**