



# MICHIGAN FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Oakland Community College - CREST June 14, 2019**

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 1152 by President Bigger.

### **Roll Call of Officers**

President Bigger, Executive VP Blomstrom, Treasurer Dean, East VP Wilson, South VP Wlosinski, West VP Cleveland, Member at Large Dornbush, Member at Large Hubbard.

All other Board members were excused.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Approval of Agenda**

The group overviewed the agenda. *Motion of support for the agenda (Wlosinski/Hubbard).  
Motion Passed.*

### **Minutes of last meeting**

Reviewed with a change – Dornbush revised the last page of the minutes to state the “Stress First Aid Program” was the only one that was moved away from the NFFF. *Motion made to approve with changes (Cleveland/Wlosinski). Motion Passed.*

### **Guest Presentations**

None.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Dean reported the current balance of today \$16,291.17; the last balance statement in May was \$22,656.05. Largest bill paid in the last few weeks was the annual insurance payment to Decker Agency for supplemental insurance. The liability insurance bill will be coming soon.

*Motion entertained to accept the Treasurer’s Report (Blomstrom/Cleveland). Motion Passed.*

## **Standing Committees**

### Instructor of the Year (Wilson):

No nominations have been received as of this meeting. Forms have been updated and are available. *CORRECTION AFTER MEETING – one was located and forwarded to committee.*

### Conference/Programs (Bigger):

Bigger is finalizing instructors and still reviewing possible instructors for the conference. There should be enough instructors to cover both days. Due to requests, there will not be a “call for presenters” as in years past. The same compensation for instructors apply as previous years.

It is possible Pashowsky will be hosting a two-day NFA Fire Prevention course through the State of Michigan on Wednesday and Thursday (as a pre-conference class). The IAAI course is still going on Thursday.

The banquet has been moved to Friday night; breakfast will still be on Sunday.

The hotel “second block” has also been filled at this point; people are being diverted to the Holiday Inn – West Bay.

### Articles and By-Laws (Hubbard):

Hubbard reported the following proposed changes:

Adding a 1.2 – Executive Board definition

Update 4.4 – three meeting minimum attendance required unless good cause is found

Update 5.4 – must be present to be nominated for the board

Update 6.9 – minimum attendance; no voting over phone during meetings

Update 6.10 – email voting outside of a meeting is permitted if the board consents to it

Update 6.11 – People on the phone do not count a part of a quorum

Update 6.20 – Board Secretary will maintain records

Update 8.2 – Due to adding 1.2 on Page 1, the definition of Executive Board was deleted

Update 9.10 – Added name of “Deward Beeler Educational Scholarship Award.” Added that the stipulations will be in the award rules.

Update 11.1 – Passing amendments (streamlining the process)

*Motion made by Dornbush, second by Wlosinski, to approve the changes. Motion passed.*

Hubbard to have the changes posted on the website for at least 30 days, and the final vote will be taken in August.

### Membership/Web Report (VanHorn):

VanHorn reported to Bigger that 383 members are in good standing; the 2CheckOut on the website is working again.

### Public Relations/Advertising (Dornbush):

Dornbush will work on updating the brochure, as the organization needs to order more brochures for distribution. Draft brochures were given to all present and feedback was requested.

Tabletents – Dornbush stated there were a few ideas about the back of the tabletents, but was leaning toward a basic design of something that will not change in the future, such as just the URL of the website.

Education/Research/Development (Dornbush):

Per the Blue Book person, Teri, she states she has some reservations about moving forward in giving the McNeil Driver's Training Course EMS credits without a student manual. Cleveland is working on this.

The Instructor I curriculum is not being updated by this committee at the present time, due to the perception the BFS is more concerned currently about updating "The Rules" document.

**Special Committees**

Scholarships (Dornbush):

There is one scholarship nomination right now.

Joint Council (Wlosinski):

Civilian fire deaths across the state: 42  
Looking at moving around dates for better participation  
Discussed training regarding Peer Support  
No legislation discussed  
Next meeting: September 9th, Kellogg Center, 1PM

Training Council (Blomstrom):

Discussed the meeting from June 11, 2019, including:  
ICS 300/400 meeting with the State Police still needs to occur  
Letter sent to MIOSHA about inclusion of NFA 1403 in Part 74  
Jones and Bartlett-4th Edition and IFSTA-7th Edition will be used next year  
Blomstrom requested review if hours can be placed on FFTD certificates in SMOKE  
Blomstrom requested a flow chart showing how a person can achieve Driver's  
Training finalization  
Blomstrom requested the Bureau obtain a copy of the NFA "Health and Safety  
Officer Program Manager for review (it replaces the current HSO curriculum)  
Q-Course applications were approved

There was a long discussion regarding the Council's upcoming decision regarding allowing in-state and out of state reciprocity possibilities. Positives, negatives, and the intent of the Coalition (when the new Act 291 was updated) were discussed. In the end, Blomstrom stated it is his job to weigh the positives and negatives, and also determine what is best for all instructors, firefighters, and the language of any given motion on the table at the time of any vote.

Curriculum Committee (Wlosinski):

Met twice in May  
Currently looking at Firefighter I and II tests  
Waiting for the test bank to review the written exam  
Already "fine-tuned" some of the practicals and returned them to the Bureau

Coalition (Bigger/Blomstrom):

Upcoming meeting on 6/24/2019.

MI Prevention (Pashkowsky):

Spent 75% of first grant of \$575,000

Bringing 9 classes to the State of Michigan

NFA Youth Fire Setter Specialist course may be coming to Michigan in December

Distributed 28,000 smoke alarms already

Waiting list of 40 departments for smoke alarms to install in their community

Media campaign will kick off in July (prepping for it in June)

Billboards, video, PSAs will occur

Public Assemblage (Cleveland):

Bill sponsors for old legislations were term-limited; legislation to update this issue will be introduced.

**Reports/Communications**

West VP – No Report.

North VP – Wilson had another instructor who wants to speak at the conference; he will email Bigger the information.

South VP – No Report.

Treasurer – No Report.

Executive VP – Taught one McNeil Drivers Training T-t-T in last 60 days. Also in last 60 days, is averaging one meeting a month, whether it be Rules, MFFTC, or Curriculum Committee – this does not encompass all the time spent researching issues and communicating with others. Recognized the fact Chris Mantels sent an email regarding his opinion on reciprocity.

President – Renewed the 501c3 paperwork with the IRS, let the Directors know we have an outstanding insurance premium to pay in the next 60 days, and that the MFSIA is now a partner with Columbia Southern University. Bigger also read an email from John Conrad at IFSTA regarding updates on manuals.

**Old Business**

All old business already covered. Need to check with Rick regarding the acquisition of a new computer.

**New Business**

Blomstrom discussed he is working with Kevin Decker to develop a “prototype” liability insurance policy for counties, Fire Associations, and Chief Associations who sponsor local training or fire academies. This will provide insurance if a student or firefighter would get hurt and there was a civil issue regarding the incident.

Next meeting: Not finalized on Mackinaw Island as of yet. Location still pending. Wlosinski offered the Roscommon area for the meeting if Mackinaw Island does not work out.

**Good of the Order**

Wlosinski thanked Oakland Community College – CREST for the room and for providing lunch.

**Adjournment**

*Motion made to adjourn (Wlosinski/Dean). Motion Passed.* The meeting adjourned at 2:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Executive VP Brian Blomstrom  
Acting Secretary for 6/14/2019*