

The Utah Fire Service Certification Council

Minutes of May 26, 2016

The Utah Fire Service Certification Council met on May 26, 2016 at Utah Fire and Rescue Academy, Provo, Utah.

Welcome Council Members and Visitors – Scott Spencer

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. – Scott Spencer

In attendance: Brett Ostler, Paul Bedont, Don Adams, Craig Stanley, Merlin Spendlove, Rod “Hoss” Tomkinson, Ray Stokes, Chris Trevino, Scott Spencer, Shane Freeman, and Jason Earl.

Visitors: Brad Wardle and Chuck Querry

Declaration of quorum – Scott Spencer

Scott Spencer declared the presence of a quorum.

Approval of minutes from the meeting of March 16, 2016 – Scott Spencer

There were no changes made to the minutes. Brett Ostler motioned to approve the minutes. Don Adams seconded. The motion was approved.

Approval of the agenda for the May 26, 2016, meeting – Scott Spencer

Paul Bedont motioned to approve the agenda with the change of moving item 13 after item 16.

Chris Trevino seconded. The motion was approved.

Testing/Certification & Failed Skills Report – Jennifer Lindley

Jennifer reviewed each of the reports with Council members. She pointed out that Non-affiliated testing has increased. Testing has increased from 410 exams in February to 1114 in March with increased certifications to follow. She noted the transition of the Technical Rescue Certifications into levels I and II.

Report on Standards and Training Council – Ray Stokes

Ray had nothing to report.

Wildland Issues and Updates – Shane Freeman

Shane reported:

- Spring training is in full swing.
- Most Fire department Wildland engine workshops have been completed.
- Two state Hot Shots crews, Lone Peak and Alta, are still in Northern Minnesota on fire assignments.
- All hand crews with the FFSL division, as well as their cooperators, UFA and Utah Co. are coming together.
- The Fire Department Assistant Grant Committee met recently and awarded approximately \$775,000 to 65 - 70 fire departments. The monies will be divided between the State Fire Marshal's office and the Forest Service.

Brett Ostler reported that in mid -April about 40 firefighters from around Central Utah went down to Hurricane to be taught new versions of S-212 and S-211 courses. After testing was complete it was reported that "the new versions didn't correlate with the version of testing they received." Brett mentioned that only one person failed the test and that observation of the testing will continue.

Executive Session – Scott Spencer

Paul Bedont motioned to move into the Executive Session. Ray Stokes seconded. The motion passed.

As a result of the Executive Session:

Regarding Helper Fire Department:

- Ray Stokes motioned that a hearing should be held in behalf of all the individuals involved. Paul Bedont seconded. The motion passed.

Regarding Parowan Fire Department:

- Ray Stokes motioned that the two individuals be denied a third attempt and that they cannot re-enter the testing process until they re-take the HazMat Operations class. Chris Trevino seconded. The motion passed.
- Ray Stokes motioned to suspend the Tester, Mathew Gale's, privilege to proctor for one year effective 5/26/2106. After that time period and/or if ye desires to continue to be a Tester, he will have to petition the Certification Council in person, for approval. Brett Ostler seconded. The motion passed.
- Ray Stokes motioned to suspend the In-house testing privileges for Parowan Fire Department for one year effective 5/26/2016. Merlin Spendlove seconded. The motion passed.

Regarding the petition submitted by Brady Stewart a candidate from DATC, requesting a 4th attempt exam for Firefighter II:

- Ray Stokes motioned to deny the petition for a 4th attempt exam for Firefighter II. In addition, if Brady decides to petition for re-entry into the program, that that petition will be approved contingent upon receipt at the UFRA Certification Office. Merlin Spendlove seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion on what entities the Certification office certifies – Brad Wardle

This item was tabled.

Discussion and motion on Technical Rescue-Chapter 5 and Ropes Skills – Ray Stokes

Ray Stokes presented updates and changes to the TR- Chapter 5 and Rope skills which included the addition of a “Contingency Anchor” for use during training.

Paul Bedont motioned to accept the updates and changes to both TR-Chapter 5 and Ropes skills. Dave Youngberg seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and motion on Technical Rescue –Vehicle Level II – Lori Howes

Lori presented the Technical Rescue – Vehicle Level II draft. She employed one Subject Matter Specialist – Charles Dejournett, to compile the skills set. These skills were then reviewed by his review team, the Certification Council and Gary Kilgore to make sure they met the NFPA standard. They are in line 100 percent with NFPA. The written test bank questions were taken from a previously approved test bank. The written exam will have 30 questions and the skills exam will have three. Lori created a prerequisite list for all Technical Rescue levels which will be added to the Technical Rescue Standard.

Ray Stokes motioned to approve TR- Vehicle Level II skills. Chris Trevino seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and Motion on Technical Rescue-Surface Water Level I & II – Chris Trevino, Lori Howes

Committee members for this level:

Chris Trevino – Council Rep

Tyson Frasier – Captain with Saratoga Springs FD

Kenny Johnson – Captain with Saratoga Springs FD

Jake Beck – Captain with Lehi FD

Jeff Smith – Captain with Lehi FD

Chris Reported that the skill set does correlate with NFPA level 1006.

Lori reported that the written test bank for Level I has 90 questions, for Level II, 62 questions, the skill set has 19 skills.

Lori recommended for Levels I & II there be 30 questions for the written exams and for the skills both Levels I and II, there should be three skills.

Discussion and suggestions for verbiage additions and changes were made.

Ray Stokes motioned to approve the TR-Surface Water Levels I & II skills objectives with changes. Shane Freeman seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and Motion on Technical Rescue – Ice Level I & II – Chris Trevino, Lori Howes

Committee members for this level:

Chris Trevino – Council Rep

Tyson Frasier – Captain with Saratoga Springs FD

Jake Beck – Captain with Lehi FD

Travis Ball – EMT/Firefighter with West Jordan FD

Chris reported that the skill set correlates with the NFPA standard.

Lori reported that the test bank for Level I has 46 questions and Level II has 41 questions. There are five skills in the skill set. Lori proposed that the written exams for Level I and II consist of 20 questions each. She proposed that the Skills test for Level I would consist of three skills: 1, 2 and 4 and Skills for Level II would be 3 and 5.

The prerequisite for Level I is TR-Chapter 5.

The prerequisite for Level II is TR-Surface Water 11.2, which consists of all of the Surface Water Level II skills set.

The Council members reviewed each skill in the skill set and made no changes.

Paul Bedont motioned to approve the TR-Ice Level I & II Skill Objective. Ray Stokes seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and Motion on Technical Rescue – Machinery Level I Test Bank – Lori Howes

The skills set for this level was approved previously and is in the Technical Rescue Standard. Lori received the written test bank for this level and is going to vet it herself. It does correlate 100 percent with the NFPA standard. The test bank contains 40 to 50 questions, Lori proposed a 20 question exam.

Lori told the Council that there would not be a Machinery Level II because there is no existing text for that level.

Ray Stokes motioned to approve the TR-Machinery Level I test bank. Chris Trevino seconded. The motion was approved.

Discussion and Motion on HazMat Operations Skills – Paul Bedont

Paul presented a new HazMat Operations Skill 18 - *Demonstrate control activity by vapor dispersion of a product.*

Lori changed Skill 15 to read “Demonstrate the use of absorbent *or adsorbent*...”

Rod Hammer motioned to approve the addition of Skill 18 and the changes to Skill 15. Chris Trevino seconded. The motion was approved.

Discussion and Motion on Technical Rescue – Swift Water Level I & II – Lori Howes

Committee members for this level:

Jason Earl – Council Rep

Kenny Johnson – Captain, Saratoga Springs

Stephen Miche' - Captain, North Fork

Jay Torgersen – Captain, UFA, member Task Force One

Jason Earl – Firefighter/Paramedic, UFA, member Task Force One

Lori presented the Technical Rescue – Swift Water Level I & II. These skills were obtained from Alabama and adapted for Utah.

The written test banks are 45 to 50 questions. Lori proposed that there be a 20 question written exam for each level. There are six skills. Lori proposed that the skills test should be a combined Level I & II with an evolution of Skill 6.

The prerequisite for Swift Water Level I is Surface Water Level I.

The prerequisite for Swift Water Level II is Surface Water Level II.

Chris Trevino motioned to approve the Technical Rescue – Swift Water Level I & II. Hoss Tomkinson seconded. The motion was approved.

Discussion and Motion on Officer II certification for Young, Graham & Miller-Ray Stokes

Each individual was asked to re-write their original written presentations as they were considered inadequate. After the re-writes, the presentations were again reviewed and found to be much improved. Based on those reviews, Ray Stokes made the recommendation that each candidate be approved for Officer II certification. Don Adams motioned that the Council complete the approval for the Officer II certifications. Merlin Spendlove seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and Motion on updated Policies and Procedures – Lori Howes

Lori presented changes and updates to the Instructions for Written Exam and the Testing, Appeal and Cheating Notice forms.

Ray Stokes motioned to accept the changes and updates to the policies and procedures. Brett Ostler seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion and Motion on Submitted Petition – Lori Howes

Lori presented a petition submitted by Brayden Stewart, a student at DATC, requesting a fourth attempt written exam for Firefighter II. After discussing the options and the character of the candidate, Ray Stokes motioned that the petition for a fourth attempt is denied. In addition, if he decides to petition for re-entry into the program, that that petition will be approved contingent upon receipt at the Certification office.

New Business – Lori Howes

- Lori presented as an FYI that the terms for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman end in July 2016. Elections for a new officers will be held at the July Council meeting.
- Lori reported on the preparations for the upcoming IFSAC Site visit, June 7-9. She said that things are pretty close to being ready. There are six certification levels that are currently not ready out of 40 however, they would be complete in time for the visit. She expressed thanks to all who helped with the preparations.
- Brad Wardle informed the Council that the current HazMat Technician curriculum, which was developed by Andy Byrnes, will be replaced. Effective July 1, 2016 UFRA will be using the IFSTA version of HazMat Technician to be more in line with the current industry standard.
- Brad announced that he and Chuck Querry would be switching Assistant Director positions. Effective September 1st, Chuck will be the Assistant Director over Certification and Brad will be Assistant Director over Training. They will each maintain certain projects that they are currently working on and take over the perspective duties of the new positions.
- Brad reported on the Blended Learning Program:
 - The Company Officer Inspector course is just about complete.
 - The LIVE Fire curriculum is going to be updated to more of a Fire Behavior curriculum.

Old Business – Scott Spencer

None to report.

Next Council Meeting, Wednesday, July 20, 2016, 10:00 a.m., at UFRA, Provo, UT

Ray Stokes motioned to adjourn the meeting. Brett Ostler seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.