



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
OFFICE OF STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATION



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**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2006 MEETING OF
THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

Vice Chairman Kevin Kowalski called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Brady, Blashchik, Morris, Nicol, Schenck Stankye, Walsh and Wilkinson.

Staff members Lewandowski, Lewis, Morrissette, Piechota and Piskura were present.

Attendees took a moment to pledge allegiance to the American flag.

Guests to the meeting were identified as John Alexander and Jack Flanagan, Hazardville Fire Department; Larry Hepburn and Kevin Engle, Torrington Fire Department; Douglas Chavenello, Chief Richard Felner and Arthur Reid, Fairfield Fire Department.

Vice Chairman Kowalski welcomed guests to the meeting.

Vice Chairman Kowalski moved to Agenda Item 1, Presentation of FO-IV Certification.

He said on behalf of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control we are pleased to announce the awarding of the first FO-IV certifications in the state. Certification to this level is rare and only nine states or jurisdictions are able to offer this level of certification. The level of FO-IV is the pinnacle of upward progression through the certification process. The two individuals who are recognized today are the first of approximately ten candidates who are progressing through the testing process. A total of three candidates have completed all the requirements for FO-IV certification. Candidate John Henessey was unable to attend today because of a prior commitment. In addition to participating in approximately 40 hours of classroom group discussion and lectures, these candidates completed numerous in-class projects on topics such as human resource management; community government relations; budgeting and emergency services delivery and finish their case work in certification preparation by developing a comprehensive strategic plan that can be used in their department. The certification process culminated with the candidate participating in an oral interview panel consisting of a town manager, fire chief and a senior fire service instructor.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated it is his pleasure to present certificates of FO-IV certification to John Alexander of the Hazardville fire department and Kevin Engle of Torrington fire department.

State Fire Administrator Morrisette asked Mr. Piechota and Mr. Piskura if they would like to comment.

Director of Certification Piechota remarked that from the perspective of certification, because the level of FO-IV is so intertwined with the evaluation process it is very different from the traditional certifications in that there is less of a separation between the testing process and the instructional process. As the candidates made their way through the program, the whole concept was to have them finish with a product that is usable and gives them all the tools and motivation to do that. He said Commissioner Schenck was gracious enough to participate in the oral panel and his feedback was that it was an outstanding process and he was very impressed with the candidates and what they did. Mr. Piechota extended congratulations to the candidates.

Director of Training Piskura remarked that when you progress through education from entry level on, you have far less memorization and you move toward critical thinking skill. When we left FO-I and FO-II and started to develop FO-III we realized that we needed to develop a new methodology in fire knowledge and that was new for the students as well as us. The curriculum of FO-IV was predicated on the style of FO-III and when students graduate we wanted to leave them with enhanced skills. He said we've succeeded in that role and we're very happy and proud of these individuals who are also adjunct instructors here at the Academy so we're personally very proud of their achievement.

Vice Chairman Kowalski moved to Agenda item 2, Approval of the Minutes of May 30, 2006.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Stankye and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nicol to approve the minutes of the May 30, 2006 meeting. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Kowalski changed the Agenda and moved to New Business item 5a Recruit Firefighter Program Expansion.

Mr. Piskura stated that the Recruit Program is our highest visibility program as such for servicing specifically the career departments in the state. There are random occasional volunteers that participate and those from out of state or out of the country but our primary customer is the career fire departments and we have a Training Steering Committee of the Career Fire Chiefs' that we meet with periodically who provides us with guidance. Some of the concerns that have come out of the Committee in the past have been not timely or insufficient amount of comments on charting individuals. In a ten week program we barely have enough time to chart them twice and the third time is the final. The other aspect is people may graduate our program and when they get to the workplace they have behaviors that may not be desirable. He said through these various conversations that have occurred, we've met and recognized that we need some enhanced time with operational skills which is putting all the lessons together and going in a response to whatever the incident may be. We've added nights and days and now Chief Felner of Fairfield has taken a leadership role in this interfacing with the Career Fire

Chiefs. Mr. Piskura asked Chief Felner to share his experiences and his opinion on the program.

Chief Felner thanked the Commission for having him speak and stated that he's on the Training Committee of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association and he's very satisfied with the way training is conducted when the candidates come back to the department. He said they voted unanimously to support the addition of four weeks to the Recruit program because they feel there should be more hands on training. He said on behalf of the Connecticut Career Fire Chiefs they strongly encourage the Commission to support the administrative personnel and add the additional four weeks to the Recruit program and he would be glad to answer any questions the Commission may have.

Commissioner Nicol asked if he's talking about additional subject areas for the hands on training.

Chief Felner remarked that he would let his training officer respond and he introduced Captain Douglas Chavenello to the Commission.

Captain Chavenello said as an example, with their most recent recruit class having 25 recruits and burning some cars not everyone gets on the nozzle to extinguish the fire and the need is for additional time for the Connecticut Fire Academy staff so they may function especially when there is a large class.

Vice Chairman Kowalski said he doesn't know the background of the cost of the Recruit program and asked if it is a 40% increase.

Mr. Piskura remarked that it is approximately an additional \$2,000 more per person.

Vice Chairman Kowalski asked if the chiefs are aware of this.

Chief Felner remarked that Mr. Piskura had been attending the chiefs meeting on a regular basis and he does a good job at explaining to them what's been going on.

Vice Chairman Kowalski said he appreciates Chief Felner coming to the meeting because it is good to hear positive feedback from the programs and hearing what the customer wants firsthand.

Commissioner Nicol asked as far as the Career Chiefs are concerned if there was full endorsement from the Career Chiefs or is it a Committee recommendation.

Chief Felner replied that this is from the Career Chiefs and they voted last meeting supporting four additional weeks. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Nicol asked if there were any individual departments that indicated that it would be a problem for them with the four additional weeks of training.

Chief Felner replied no one spoke against it and they were all in favor of adding an additional four weeks.

Vice Chairman Kowalski asked Mr. Piskura to review his implementation plan.

Mr. Piskura said the first part is as Captain Chavennello said the aspect of increased student practice rotations and the need for additional operations days to hone skills. Nothing new is being done but the schedule is being expanded and at the end of every five days a practical exercise has been inserted so they'll pull together everything they've done so it's basically a six to seven hour day of practicing all the skills they learned and that is what has expanded the schedule. He said it is 70 days of training and it is added throughout each of the segments. We've retained some of the evening training because that has been well received by both the students and the Career Chiefs. Initially there were some issues with Bargaining Unit contracts and some people would get time and a half and others wouldn't but that never materialized. We're retaining the evening sessions to be more efficient and the fact that it is 14 weeks; our suggested implementation is the fall of 2007. This will give us an appropriate length of time to notify the departments and give them two budget years to prepare for this. He said we just started the scheduling and logistics aspect and asked Mr. Lewandowski to comment.

Mr. Lewandowski said if you look at the 14 weeks schedule there are only three classes offered each year. We don't train primarily in the months of January and February because those are the roughest months of the year for us. Looking at the 14 weeks schedule, the fall class would graduate the week before Christmas and start just right after Labor Day so that's about four months of training in those 14 weeks. We have some logistical concerns about other programs like the Introduction to the Fire Service which is really successful and impacts the June School. We'll have to look at some creative ways to get those in during the ten weeks available for down time in between programs.

Vice Chairman Kowalski asked Chief Felner if he believe that schedule is acceptable to the chiefs as our customer.

Chief Felner said yes and at their meeting Mr. Piskura had shared the schedule and there wasn't any opposition. There were a few questions which were answered by the staff and they were all in favor of it.

Commissioner Wilkinson added that he had the privilege of sitting in as an observer on one of the meetings between Chief Felner's Committee and the CFA staff and he can attest to the fact that what's being presented to the Commission is very much representative of what the Career Chiefs Committee was asking for.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brady that the Commission approve the expansion of the Recruit Firefighter Training Program to 14 weeks as recommended by the staff and Career Chiefs effective with the class scheduled for the fall of 2007. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brady asked about the cost structure which is currently around \$3,000 if that is subsidized by the Commission's budget or is it just a wash and how would this new costing be compared to that.

Mr. Piskura remarked that it's all based on cost recovery so we're as close to neutral as possible. He said there are some costs built in and the cost is just for the delivery, not the support.

Commissioner Walsh added that even though in Hartford they don't utilize the Academy for recruit classes, they run a 14 week recruit class and if they were to go in any direction it would be longer than shorter. He recommended that the Commission adopt the 14 week Recruit program.

Commissioner Morris said he disagrees with it because when you say hands on for example with the vehicle fires and things of that nature how is the availability to get all these additional vehicles to burn and then get rid of them. He said he would think that would be a difficult task.

Mr. Piskura remarked we will control this through better logistics and control. He said right now we have a good relationship with the salvage yard and we don't pay for any of these things.

Vice Chairman Kowalski returned to Agenda item 3 - Committee Reports.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brady to approve the staff report for the period of May 15, 2006 through June 14, 2006. Motion carried.

Moving to item 4a.) Budget/Staffing Update –Mr. Morrisette reported regarding the budget. We have executed our budget allotment paperwork for the new fiscal year which sets up our schedule, for each of the four quarters and we're set to move into the new fiscal year in relatively good shape. We have a new responsibility as Commissioners are aware, that is facilitating the funding for the Regional Fire Schools. We are working on trying to ensure that the appropriation is made to the Connecticut State Firefighters Association (CSFA) without any delay as well as ensuring that any of their additional needs are addressed. He said we look forward to the new relationship and assisting the state Regional Fire Schools.

Mr. Morrisette also reported that we received the grant funding award for two durational positions, one primarily for training to aid in the facilitation of all the NIMS as well as the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEHMS) related training programs and the second position relates to a planner to support the needs of the Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan. These are grant positions funded through federal money and that money goes away in November. DEHMS will be seeking an extension for the grant funding for these two positions for an additional year. Mr. Morrisette also said in talking with DEMHS' Deputy Commissioner Sandford last week,

he indicated that in the 06 grant funding just awarded by the federal government, they would be seeking an additional two years of funding for both of those positions which would be tremendous. He said it would far exceed our initial expectations and would definitely aid in terms of providing the level of support we are doing on behalf of and for DEMHS. We hope to have those positions filled in a very timely manner. They will be adjunct related positions because that's the quickest means to actually bring people on board and have them operational. We are now working through the budgeting process and trying to set up the accounts to pay these people. These are reimbursable type accounts so in other words we front the money and then get reimbursed by DEMHS.

Mr. Morrissette also reported that within the next 30 days or so we will begin receiving guidance information as it relates to developing our next biennium budget and looking at a number of the areas that we've either expanded or would like to expand and receive greater support for. He asked Commissioners to keep in mind if they have any specific thoughts or ideas for any budget adjustment or expansion options to begin sharing those thoughts with him. The budget document is usually developed in the summer months and hopefully we'll have until after the September meeting for Commissioners to review and approved that submittal.

Commissioner Nicol asked about the hiring of the two durational positions and what is included in their hiring package.

Mr. Morrissette remarked that they are primarily advertised as level III instructors so it would be at the \$23 per hour rate so essentially it would be adjunct instructor position working a 40 hour work week. For the planning position as an example, we know up front that there will be a need for night hours so there is a lot of need to go out into the field and work on a local level visiting local fire departments and working with our regional and county coordinators. The fringe factor will depend on what the requirements of the individual are but we will have the opportunity to provide benefits if that is required of the positions and they were factored out to provide a full benefit package.

Moving to item 4b.) CSFA Education Committee Update – Commissioner Wilkinson reported that the Education Committee has been extremely quiet since his last report. The only item of progress that has occurred in the last month is steps have been taken to conduct the initial walk thru with Department of Public Works (DPW) on preferred sites for the Eastern Connecticut School. Because everything has been quiet and stagnant, after consulting with Chairman Hawkins last week, the June meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for July 27 in Wethersfield.

Commissioner Johnson arrived at 10:22 am.

Mr. Morrissette also reported regarding the land issue at Bradley Airport. He said it is his understanding that Office of Policy and Management (OPM) will allow movement to begin on the property but it would have to be through an agreement between DPW and

Department of Transportation (DOT). He said he talked with project manager Don Ouillette on the issue to see if we could expedite.

Commissioner Nicol added that at our last meeting we talked about the financial picture or the legislative action of this session. One item is the \$10 million in the bonding package that was put in there by the Governor this year for the next phase of the building program but unfortunately the legislature did not act on the bonding package before they adjourned. There was some talk of the bonding package being taken up at the Veto Session which took place last week. He said he had an opportunity to talk with Senator DeLuca over the weekend and he indicated that nothing was done with the bonding package in the Veto Session. He also said he asked Senator DeLuca if he felt something would be done before the General Assembly reconvenes in January and he thought it is on the Governor's desk and she is the one who would call the General Assembly back into session so we'll have to wait and see.

Moving to item 4c.) Service Voucher Update – Mr. Morrisette reported regarding the Limited Access Highway (LAH) Supplemental grant award program. We are closing out the grant program as we're mandated to do for the past fiscal year. We've expended or encumbered about \$90,000 out of the \$100,000 and we'll be lapsing about \$9,600 primarily because fire companies did not notify us after multiple repeated attempts to contact them asking them to make a decision. He said we're closing out in relatively good shape and there may be a few unhappy people but we went as far as we could go in trying to get them to make a commitment on how they wanted to receive the funding. There is \$200,000 available in the new fiscal year so the grant funding will nearly double. We will encourage companies to seek a direct payment instead of the voucher as it is less of an accounting burden for the agency.

Commissioner Brady asked regarding the vouchers and checks if it is a regulation that we have to offer companies a voucher or could we just send them a check.

Mr. Morrisette replied that originally when the program was set-up the legislature was looking for a creative way to provide the funding and they didn't want to just hand out money so they really encouraged training or procurement of fee based services.

Moving to item 4d.) New London County IMT Recognition – Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that we still have not heard from Chief DeLia therefore we will continue to table this item.

Moving to item 4e.) Minor Firefighter Issue – Mr. Morrisette said as mentioned at last month's meeting, as a result of the accident that occurred in New Hartford we pursued a meeting with the Department of Labor (DOL) Wage and Workplace division to look at the issue more closely specifically what the department may be cited on and what some of the restrictions they were talking about were. We've had the opportunity to meet with them and one of our primary concerns was the Introduction to the Fire Service program and the potential impact upon this program by any new or previously unused regulation. We extended an invite to members of the Commission to attend and Vice Chairman Kowalski and Commissioner Brady attended the meeting along with him, Director of

Training Piskura and Program Manager Mark Salafia. The initial discussion was broad and we looked to narrow it a bit. He asked Vice Chairman Kowalski to comment.

Vice Chairman Kowalski said we're trying to get some background and about five years ago he was part of a group that talked with the DOL in trying to come up with some reasonable guidelines for the junior firefighter or minor firefighter. He said they were into it quite deeply when communications stopped and when that happened apparently there was some political pressure being placed on one end and everything went off track. Everyone's attitude was to follow on. At this particular time our concerns are that if a reasonable conclusion is not achieved then the next time something happens it will be open season on minors. He said there were two specific objectives; one being under the requirements of the CFA and what we're able to do here with the Cadet program and the second being on the side of the fire service; was to come up with a reasonable plan to facilitate juniors and minor firefighters in the field. He said they are two separate objectives and he and Commissioner Brady have met with the board from the fire chiefs association and some other folks seeking input from the fire organizations to say what exactly do they want their junior firefighters to be able to do. He said he had the opportunity to run off some information on what all the states are doing with minors in the fire service. He added that our concern with the Cadet program is that this is one of our most important tools for career and volunteer fire departments. We're having an aggressive schedule, meeting with DOL every two weeks and we're going to come up with a list of items based on our input from the organizations as to what we want the junior firefighters to be able to do in the response mode. We'll keep everyone up to date on the issue as this is very important.

Commissioner Brady added that some of the issues on the table not only impact the fire service but other emergency service personnel. Some of the activities that would be permitted or prohibited also have an impact on police Explorers and some of the EMS cadet and Explorer programs throughout the state. He said he and Vice Chairman Kowalski disseminated a list that was given to them by the DOL which is a list of permissions for 14 and 15 year olds and they're looking at this in two separate categories. Activities that would be permitted for 14 and 15 year olds and activities that would be permitted for 16 and 17 year olds. This is a recommendation that came out of the DOL in 2004 and they've taken the list of permissions and prohibitions and are circulating the document among the organizations to obtain feedback from them. He said he and Vice Chairman Kowalski are scheduled to meet again on June 13 with the DOL and we'll present them a list of our feedback before the meeting. He said he wanted everyone to understand that the impact of this is very wide ranging and a lot is subject to interpretation and negotiation.

A brief discussion period followed.

Mr. Morrisette added that there is a new Exploring coordinator for the CT Rivers Council whom he had scheduled a meeting with a month or so ago. That meeting took place last week and he was able to update the new Coordinator. He said they had apologized because the previous Coordinator was not all that active and diligent about

going out into the field and meeting with the various Exploring posts. The new Coordinator appeared to be very interested. He said he also shared with them the informal legal opinion which he had received from the Attorney General's office several years ago, specifically identifying that Exploring is still considered similar to a junior or cadet program. He had made that available to the previous Exploring coordinator several years ago.

Moving to item 5b.) Safety Stand Down Report – Mr. Lewandowski provided an overview of the agency's efforts as it relates to the Safety Stand Down called for by the IAFC. The Stand Down was held in conjunction with our Safety meeting on June 21st. We had some adjuncts in attendance and reviewed what we talked about the preceding year and what changes we made and we accomplished about 75% of our goals from the previous year and look forward to continuing on. One of the biggest things that came out of our discussion is we want to look at continuing education for our full-time as well as our adjunct staff. He said we are going to work this coming year at developing some type of program for staff to continue their education beyond just taking programs and that impacts firefighter safety. We also talked about attitude changes in people and discussed some recent injuries that occurred at the Academy and some of the attitudes towards the injury. We referenced for example the cadet that was injured in New Hartford and we're looking to prevent something like that from happening here.

Mr. Morrissette added that we worked with the Governor's office to issue a Proclamation in support of the Safety Stand Down. He said while it may seem insignificant to many people it does extend the Governor's leadership role in supporting the fire service. He said he's aware that fire departments utilized the Proclamation as a motivation tool as part of their stand down activities within their departments. We also worked with the Chiefs Association to issue a media advisory in support of their efforts to promote the event and overall as an agency we've worked to support the stand down both on a state as well as national level.

Moving to item 5c.) Summer Meeting Schedule – Mr. Morrissette reported that traditionally at this month's meeting we recommend to the Commission that the July and August meetings be cancelled unless there are emergencies or other necessities. He said this goes along with the next agenda item FY 06 Annual Report. The report is usually developed during the summer months and needs to be submitted to the Governor's office by August 1st. Therefore, Commissioners don't have much of an opportunity to review the document prior to submittal. Therefore, he is seeking the Commission's approval to submit the report on their behalf as well as to begin working on the biennial budget.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Stankye and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schenck that we dispense with the July and August meetings except with the call of the Chairman and that we empower the State Fire Administrator to submit the FY 06 Annual Report on behalf of the Commission. Motion carried.

Moving to item 5d.) FY 06 Annual Report – Previously covered.

Moving to item 6- Comments from the public - There was none.

Moving to item 7 – Matters to be raised by Commissioners and staff –Commissioner Stankye remarked regarding the minutes that were approved today from the May 30th meeting. He said the skills certification time limits we had discussed that is under study was brought up at the Valley Regional Fire School Board of Director's meeting last night. They are in favor of some sort of time limits however, it should be studied further but they do recommend that something be done.

Mr. Morrissette stated that the current CFA Introduction to the Fire Service summer camp program is set to graduate this Wednesday at 5pm and extended an invitation to any members of the Commission to attend. He asked those Commissioners planning to attend to notify Mr. Piskura or Mr. Lewandowski. He also commented that there was a rumor going around that the management was working to kill the Introduction to the Fire Service program and he wanted to indicate to the Commission that we support the program fully and have worked hard over the years to support and empower the Program Coordinator to fulfill the needs of the program. With the expansion of the Recruit Program to 14 weeks in FY 08 we will have some scheduling hurdles to overcome but we will do our best to support both programs.

He also reported that he's spoken to Chairman Carozza about trying to get the felony subcommittee moving from the perspective that if there is a need for legislation we need to be in a position to review or act upon any outcomes of that Committee by our September meeting.

Mr. Morrissette reported that he's spoken to the Commission's Chair and Vice Chairmen on Public Act 06-22 which requires the State Fire Administrator to establish guidelines to address the career/volunteer issue. He asked Vice Chairman Kowalski to provide a brief overview.

Vice Chairman Kowalski remarked that the State Fire Administrator has been tasked with coming up with model guidelines for career firefighters being volunteers in their community. We've taken the task and he's met with the Chairman and the State Fire Administrator and they would like to establish a Committee within the Commission to facilitate some model guidelines. It may not be perfect, but it will be reasonable. We'd like to keep it within this Commission unless there is another organization that feels very strong that it not be the individuals within this group. He said he'd like to hear from Commission members if that is a possibility.

Commissioner Johnson asked if we're talking about members of the Commission coming up with a recommendation.

Vice Chairman Kowalski said yes.

Mr. Morrissette added yes with the view point that the various statewide organizations are represented on the Commission.

Commissioner Schenck said he feels it is a very good idea and he would be willing to volunteer to participate.

Commissioner Walsh said he'd be willing to volunteer provided there is no conflict of interest since it's based on Hartford and their contract.

There was a brief discussion and it was decided that it would be best that the Commission determine these guidelines rather than the legislature.

Mr. Morrissette mentioned for the Commission's information we had an offer by the Connecticut USAR team to host one of our meetings. He said originally he had looked at doing it in September but he'd like to defer that to October. As the Commission may recall, they had approved about a year and a half ago an initiative to have portraits done of some of our previous chairs. One of those portraits has been completed by Paul Walsh for Phil Crombie, Sr. We couldn't arrange an unveiling for today's meeting but we would like to do something at the September meeting here at the Academy. As time permits, Paul Walsh would like to follow up on portraits of Ed Fennelly and Corky O'Connor.

Mr. Piechota stated that in general the process to become certified to any level is based upon the prerequisite requirements of the standard. We generally take that to also include the testing process. To be certified to a higher level you must not only be certified to the level but you cannot take the test to the higher level until you're certified to the lower level and that's the process we've had for a long time. This does not preclude a person from taking training to the level. He said we make some adjustments to that depending if there are some extenuating circumstances. We received a specific request from an individual who wants to participate in a FSI I course but he's not eligible to sit for the examination because he's not FFII. The question is because FFII training is fairly lengthy and his work schedule gives him a problem finding a class that he can sit for he's asking whether or not the Commission would be interested in changing the overall process whereby one has to meet a prerequisite before you can take the higher level. He said he brings this to the Commission's attention.

He also stated that he wanted to inform the Commission that last month we had the discussion about the cost of various certification examinations and the Vice Chairman was going to speak with the Chairman about creating a subcommittee to look at long-term fees and what we charge for certification examinations and the like. He said we've begun to do the Confined Space Rescue Technician certification for other than the USAR team and currently the projections of the cost and the personnel required is pretty much what we had anticipated. We'll be able to provide further information and data as the months go along. He sought the Commission's concurrence that we conduct practical testing for the Rescue Technician certification levels here at the CFA. If an outside organization can support all the equipment, facility and logistical needs then perhaps we could consider doing it somewhere else.

Commissioner Morris asked if we've talked with Millstone about their training facilities for confined space and what they have for their facilities at that end of the state.

Mr. Piechota remarked no he has not and generally we would conduct the examinations here at the CFA but certainly if another facility had the props and facility then we would go there.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Brady and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Walsh that the Certification division be responsible for establishing the location of the testing. Motion carried.

Mr. Piechota thanked Commissioner Schenck for participating on the FO-IV review panel. He said his position as a Town Manager lends great validity to the interview process. In speaking privately to the folks that went through it they thought it was very useful and was a continuation of the learning process which says a lot. He said he hopes that Commissioner Schenck will continue to serve.

Commissioner Schenck remarked he would be happy to and it was an excellent opportunity for him to learn more. There were three different candidates from different departments and the strategic plans he was given to review were quite different.

Mr. Piskura distributed statistics for the 2006 June Fire School showing participation level. He said we're pleased and fortunate again this year to have an increase with total attendance being 862 compared to 759 the previous year.

Commissioner Nicol asked what would be the maximum we could have for attendance.

Mr. Lewandowski replied that 225 is the maximum we can handle per day for the facility.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Johnson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Walsh to compliment the training division for the improvement in the June Fire School. He said some good decisions were made during the June Fire School and they did a fine job. Motion carried.

Mr. Piskura reviewed options for providing Commissioners with an agency shirt.

Mr. Morrissette added that Commissioners do represent us and we appreciate when you have an opportunity to put a face on the agency.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Blashchik and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schenck to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Kowalski adjourned the meeting at 11:40 am.

Dated:

James P. Wilkinson, Secretary
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control