

Fire Technology Advisory Committee – Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2009

Present:

John McFarland / *Arcata Fire Dept.*

Jonni Mayberry / *CalFire*

Eric Smith / *Eureka Fire Dept.*

Chris Jelinek / *Eureka Fire Dept.*

William Reynolds / *Humboldt Fire Dept.*

Robert Rivelle / *Six Rivers Nat'l Forest*

Steve Brown / *College of the Redwoods*

Michael Thomas / *College of the Redwoods*

Ed Trigiero / *College of the Redwoods*

Purpose of Fire Technology Advisory Committee

Areas of Interest to Local Fire Agencies

Fire Technology Associates Degree

The degree program must be in place before the FireFighter One Academy can start. State Fire Marshall may give a conditional accreditation to keep the Academy plans moving forward.

The biggest concern at this point is the **instructor base**. There is a Title 5 stipulation that may accept vocational Instructors with a stipulated amount of experience even without a degree. An adequate number of instructors are needed to avoid the TLU (load) maximum set for part-time instructors.

The possibility of some **distance education courses** is being considered with the lecture being conducted from the Eureka campus and transmitted to classrooms at Del Norte and Mendocino campuses.

The **curriculum committee** is going over course outlines as well as SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes) – what must be accomplished during the course of each class.

The Degree will consist of 18 units for six core classes, 18 units of general education (math, English, etc) and elective courses to equal 60 units.

The **pay issues** for instructors are still under discussion. There may be 'primary' instructors who will be paid more for their experience than 'secondary' instructors.

Budget Update

\$25,000 was awarded for 2009/2010 to help get the program started. A Perkin's grant through CTEA (Career Technical Education Act) for \$45,500 to cover equipment needs. There is also some professional development money to send instructors to classes out of the area.

Equipment Update

- Ed has been contacting manufacturers for special pricing on equipment.
- Fireman's Fund insurance has money for agencies but not for training centers though CR can (potentially) partner with an agency to get equipment money.
- The Diesel classes at CR had done some repairs to the firetruck and may continue in order to expand their knowledge of fire equipment.

- It was suggested that new ladders be used for climbing practice but that damaged ladders can be used for “carry and throw” practices.
- Discounted purchases on power equipment were being made through Miller Farms.
- Use of ‘hand-me-down’ turnouts may be allowed as long as there is no exposure to live fire. If there is to be live-fire training, higher standards are required for personal protective equipment.
- Students will be required to buy their own boots, gloves and brush suit. Sponsored students will also bring turnouts and SCBA.

Facility Needs?

Eric Smith would start working on an agreement for use of the fire tower. There has been suggestions that a bond be considered for a complete emergency service training center - a \$46 million bond recently passed at Alan Hancock College which would get them a classroom space, shooting range, burn house, burn tower and a track for driver training capable of handling police, ambulance, and fire trucks.

Prioritizing Classes

- Instructor 1A is scheduled for October, 1B in November and 1C in December. Without instructors, there can be no other classes.
- Command class
- Volunteer classes
- Fire Control 3

What’s Next?

Not ready for letters of support. CR is on warning status so can’t add new programs until clear though we can continue to develop.

How often should Advisory meet? Every two months.

CR is entering into instructional agreement with USFS – 18 NWCG classes. A dispatch class is scheduled for the middle of October.

Roundtable

Jonni Mayberry: “What are the initial goals?” AS degree program will start first.

Michael Thomas: Suggested “How to Instruct” classes to prepare for college instruction.

Ed Trigeiro: Has been collecting Policy and Procedure manuals from academies as bases to compile one for the CR Training Center.

Steve Brown: Thanked all for their contributions “critical to program success”.

Bob Rivelle: USFS is pleased that “CR is back”.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Topping
(Recording Secretary)