

## FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD

**Work Session**  
**April 22, 2009**  
**Tumwater Fire Department**  
**Tumwater, WA**

**Board Members Present:** Mike Ciraulo, Dean Shelton, T.J. Nedrow, Scott Kramer, Wayne Wienholz, and Rick Chaney.

**WSP Staff Present:** Mike Matlick, Ellen Tombleson, Paul Perz, Paul Snider, Dan Johnson and Anjela Pimentel

**Guests Present:** Chief Steve North - State Fire Defense Committee  
Ward Knable - Training and Education Committee

### **Opening**

Chair Nedrow opened the Work Session at approximately 9:10 with introductions. Chair Nedrow advised that two new appointments to the Board have been made. Chief Gregory Dean, Seattle Fire Department will be replacing Chief Jim Broman, representing fire chiefs and Mr. Joe Schramek will be replacing Mark Kahley as the WA. Dept. of Natural Resources representative.

T.J. also thanked Wayne Wienholz for providing lunch for the work session.

**Conference Call Protocol** – During discussion it was agreed that providing the ability for Board Members and Committee Chairs to participate in Board meetings and work sessions, via conference call, would be very beneficial. Mike Ciraulo stated that he was in support of the concept, providing that meeting agendas and materials would be distributed for review two weeks prior to the meeting. It was further agreed that Committee Chairs have the option of providing written reports and attending meetings in person when relevant information is being presented or discussed. Board members were asked to forward suggestions to be included in the draft conference call guidelines/expectations to Ellen by May 6<sup>th</sup>. State Fire Marshal Matlick advised that a draft on the conference call guidelines/expectations would be provided to the Board for their review at the May 27<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting.

**Pro-Board** – Assistant State Fire Marshal Paul Perz advised that after the Board had voted against accepting Pro-Board certification, Fred Piehota, Pro-Board Program Administrator, contacted the State Fire Marshal's Office to reiterate that the Pro-Board prefers to work primarily with the state in terms of accreditation, rather than with individual agencies and requested the opportunity to have further discussion with the Board regarding their decision. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Pro-Board be contacted by State Fire Marshal staff and asked to provide a summary of the points to be presented to the Board at the May meeting. The Board would then decide if it desired to meet with Mr. Piehota.

It was noted that in part, the Pro-Board request was in part related to a local need as some entities desired a quicker turn around of F/F test scores. A recent TAG effort and outcomes have resulted in efficiencies that have nearly eliminated a lag in deliver of test results. Paul Perz reiterated the importance of passing on concerns regarding processes or responsiveness to issues on the part of the State Fire Marshal's Office as soon as possible.

**Raw Test Scoring** – Paul Perz reviewed the Information Item on Raw Test Scoring and provided a background on the WSU report and recommendations provided in the report. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of removing the Standard Error of Measurement and determining the minimum passing score. Discussion was also held on the value of the written test compared to the ability to apply knowledge on the practical test and in the field. Mike Matlick advised that Page Two of the Information Item details seven steps that are being proposed for test validation and analysis when raw scoring is implemented. Mike Ciraulo advised that he would find it beneficial to know what other IFSAC accredited states are using for a passing score before making a decision.

A Decision Item will be brought forward to the Board at their May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting asking if the Board wishes to implement raw scoring, and what will be established as the passing score.

**State Fire Marshal Report** - Mike Matlick advised that no significant opposition to eliminating the Policy Board has been received. He further advised that the funding for the regional contacts, NFIRS grant funding and the Regional Coordinator position are included in the agency's \$3.4 million budget reduction, and that the agency may continue to take cuts in the general fund budget. Mike advised that he would develop and forward a summary of the budget cuts to the major fire service groups and the Policy Board as soon as the budget is finalized.

Mike provided an overview of a meeting he had with Mr. Jonathan Martin, Dept. of General Administration, who suggested that the Fire Protection Bureau may want to consider putting forth a Supplemental Budget Request for \$500,000 to update the Fire Training Academy's Master Plan and to request design funding for the kitchen facility.

T.J. stated that he feels it is critical for the fire service to come together in support of a funding system for the fire service. Evident is the fact that the revenue stream we have now is not meeting the demands of the fire service and communities.

**State Fire Defense Committee** – Chief Steve North advised that the State Fire Defense Committee has been working on updating the Mobilization Plan and that the two main areas being focused on are the IAFC's Interstate Mutual Aid Plan and Type 3 IMT teams.

Dan Johnson reviewed the proposed changes and advised that an electronic copy will be forwarded to the Board for their review. Dan advised that this year the Plan will be distributed on CD and posted on the agency's website, rather than being produced in printed format. Following discussion, the Board agreed that they will review the electronic copy of the revised plan and will forward any comments to Dan by May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Board provided direction that the Plan should go forward for printing on CDs by May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Board will take official action to approve the Plan at their May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Prevention Committee** – Wayne Wienholz advised that at their last meeting, the Prevention Committee discussed their future direction in support of the elements outlined in the Policy Board's Strategic Plan. Anjela Pimentel provided information on Vision 2020, a program that focuses on trends and best practices at the national level. The Committee will be meeting again in June.

**Training and Education Committee** – Paul Perz advised that the Training and Education Committee met by conference call on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Discussion was primarily held on regional training facilities. Paul also discussed the proposed standard for live fire training. T.J. advised that this standard is currently out for public comment. The primary goal of the Training and Education Committee for the coming year is an assessment of regional training facilities and gaps in coverage.

**Fallen Firefighter Memorial Committee** – T.J. advised that the Committee is beginning to plan for the Annual Memorial Service being held on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The Committee is discussing how line of duty deaths are recognized, and will be drafting a guideline. Their next meeting is currently scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup>

**Good of the Order** – T.J. advised that with the number of Board liaison vacancies, the next meeting will include a discussion and identification of Board assignments to the Fire Service Leadership Forum, Training and Education Committee, State Fire Defense Committee and the Prevention Committee. Elections of Chair and Vice-Chair position will also be on the May 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Mike Matlick advised that the FTA's Basic Recruit Graduation will be held May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Criminal Justice Training Academy, beginning at 10:00 AM. Mike also advised that after 33 years, Deputy Chief Paul Beckley retired from the WSP, effective April 16<sup>th</sup>. Mike further advised that Assistant Chief Dave Karnitz has been promoted to Deputy Chief, and that he feels Deputy Chief Karnitz will prove to be as strong an advocate of the Bureau and its programs as Deputy Chief Beckley was.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15.

**Next Meeting**

May 27, 2009  
WSP Conference Room  
General Administration Building  
Olympia, WA