

TEL: (860) 627-6363 Jeffrey J. Morrissette State Fire Administrator

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OFFICE OF STATE FIRE ADMINISTRATION



34 PERIMETER RD. WINDSOR LOCKS, CONNECTICUT 06096

April 30, 2002

Page 1

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2002 MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Vice Chairman Kowalski called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners' Brammer, Gomeau, Haber, Maheu, Nicol, Ouellette and Wilkinson. Commissioner Johnson arrived at 9:33 a.m. and Commissioner Vendetta arrived at 9:40 a.m. Commissioners' Carozza, McDonald. Milewski and Stankye were excused. Staff members Morrissette, O'Neil, Ouellette and Piechota were present.

Attendees pledged allegiance to the American flag.

Guest to the meeting was identified as Ernie Herrick, Chairman of the Connecticut State Firefighter's Association Memorial Committee.

Mr. Herrick gave an update on the Firefighter Memorial project. He stated that site work has started and that he is waiting for a construction schedule from the Contractor. The Contractor has indicated he will have the concrete done by the end of May. Mr. Herrick stated that O & G who is doing the work on the bricks said that they have about half to no more than a week to put down 1900 square feet of brick. Because they were not asked to lay down the memorial walk there will be additional labor cost for that phase of the project. He stated that bricks would be laid on the walk in numbered sections which would provide a reference point for anyone wishing to view bricks they may have purchased. Having a reference master list was also suggested for the names listed on the face stones. These recommendations will be brought to the attention of the committee, but he does not feel this will be a problem. He stated that until he receives a construction schedule he couldn't estimate when a dedication ceremony will be held. The Connecticut Fire Marshals' Association (CFMA) will be donating funds to cover the cost of the flags and flag poles. After an impromptu meeting at the recent Legislative Reception, it was decided that a third flag would be placed by the memorial, that of the Connecticut State Firefighters' Association.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that the CFMA have agreed to donate funds for two flagpoles and he plans to go back to the Board to request funds for a third.

Commissioner Ouellette inquired about the cost of a flagpole.

Vice Chairman stated that he would guess about \$1,500 to \$1,900.

Mr. Morrissette stated that one of the Memorial subcommittees recently sent a second mailing to fire chiefs seeking information on local line of duty deaths (LODD). Thus far we are having a pretty good rate of return. We've requested clarification in terms of how the death was sustained and also next of kin contact information. This information will help evaluate the request in consideration of the name being included as part of the memorial. He asked Commissioners to go back to their organizations and ask their membership to make sure that the LODD form is returned. Fire Chiefs were also asked if they did not have a LODD to also let us know.

Vice Chairman Kowalski called for a motion to approve the March 26, 2002 minutes.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ouellette and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wilkinson to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2001 meeting. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Kowalski called for a motion to approve the Staff Report for the period of March 15, 2001 - April 14, 2001.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Haber to approve the Staff Report for the period of March 15, 2001 - April 14, 2001.

Commissioner Nicol asked for clarification of item 3 c.) in the Staff Report.

Mr. Morrissette stated that the Academy was looking at replacing the hardware used with the existing TV monitors in the lobby to direct students to appropriate classrooms. The existing system has begun to fail.

Commissioner Ouellette inquired about the notes from the Stakeholders' Meeting on April 16, 2002 and the fact that Hartford County is listed under the heading of new sites.

Mr. Morrissette stated that Hartford County may be a misprint, what it shows is that Derby and Middletown facilities will need to move. The improvements Hartford County is requesting will require additional land.

Motion carried.

Moving to item 4 a.) Vice Chairman called for any additional comments on the Firefighters' Memorial update at this time.

No additional comments were offered.

Moving to item 4 b.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the CSFA Education Committee. He stated that the CSFA Education Committee, Regional Fire School Consortium met two weeks ago with the consultant hired by the State under contract to DPW to develop a master plan. All of the Regional Fire Schools were represented which was positive. Initially the consultant conducted site visits to each of the facilities, took photographs and evaluated the infrastructure of each school. Quickly the determination was made that most of the facilities need to be completely rebuilt. The consultant also went through an exercise to find out the needs of the various schools.

As a group, there was consensus that all of the facilities would seek to acquire class A burn building. None of them would be utilizing propane. Secondarily, they all identified the desire to have a four-story training tower. Aside from that, that's where some of the differences come into play depending on the region they service. This will impact how many classrooms and other ancillary facilities. In terms of outside training props they would probably be manually controlled propane very similar to what we have here.

Commissioner Nicol inquired if the consultants would be identifying available sites.

Mr. Morrissette stated that this is up to DPW. Also, representatives of the schools can assist as they are familiar with land availability in their region.

A discussion period followed on environmental issues.

Moving to item 4 c.) Mr. Morrissette referenced the two Bill Tracking Reports distributed and asked if Commissioners had any questions on any of the proposed legislation.

Commissioner Johnson inquired when the Legislative Session would end.

Mr. Morrissette stated that the Legislative Session was scheduled to end on May 8. A Special Session is probable.

Moving to item 4 d.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on Domestic Preparedness. He stated that included in the Commission package was information from the last Senior Steering Task Force meeting. He also handed out a list of Homeland Security related legislation that is being reviewed and considered by the Legislature. A couple of major points are being considered. The first, being on the next round of grant funding from the Department of Justice. The group is looking at a new scenario. Instead of the first round funding that went to the five major cities plus other key infrastructure areas such as Groton/New London, they are now looking at a regional approach. We are seeing at least within the fire service an escalation of regional cooperation. For instance, fire departments in the New Haven area met last week, they are moving forward to develop a regional emergency response capability for hazardous materials as well as technical rescue. Hartford and the Capitol Region are moving very rapidly in the same direction and they're probably in the lead. He stated he also understands the Willimantic area is looking at a regional cooperative effort. Right now this is the desire and the direction that the Senior Steering Task Force will recommend.

Mr. Morrissette stated also under New Business item 5 b.) there is a federal funding proposal specific to state fire training. This is a proposal that came out of the State of Missouri. He stated that Chairman Carozza, Director Piskura and he met with Senators' Dodd and Lieberman's Office in Washington to seek their support. Specifically, this bill would provide \$100 million dollars to state fire training programs. The idea there is that most states have an infrastructure in place that has been delivering training program in terrorism and related areas for years.

Commissioner Nicol inquired about the amount of funding from the Department of Justice.

Mr. Morrissette stated that it appears it will be in the \$3 to \$4 million range for Connecticut.

Commissioner Nicol inquired whether funds from the \$100 million grant would be dedicated to certain programs or whether these funds could be used to subsidize existing programs.

Mr. Morrissette stated that these funds are intended to support existing and new programs administered by state fire training entities.

Moving to item 4 e.), Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the Statewide Disaster Response Plan. He stated that the mutual aid agreement is in the final phase of development. The advice from our Associate Attorney General was to post it and obtain feedback before it is made official. Because this plan is an agreement between this agency and locals it's probably something that the Commission should approve. Participation in the plan is voluntary whereby locals that want to participate, as part of that statewide disaster response plan, will be required to sign an agreement.

Moving to item 4 f.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) Program distribution. He stated that the agency is very busy facilitating the distribution of TIC thanks to Alberta Ouellette and Denice Fortin. The agency has distributed a little over 130 cameras or about 32% of the total number cameras that were ordered under the plan. The final order of cameras was placed by the state last Friday because of delays receiving payment from the various towns that ordered the Scott camera. There was a \$600 difference between what the state subsidy was and the cost of the camera. A few towns were a little slow in submitting their payment to OPM.

Commissioner Nicol inquired what the Lt. Governor's Office was planning to do about publicizing the TIC distribution to fire departments.

Mr. Morrissette stated that the Governor's Office is looking to hold a press conference in two or three weeks. We were asked to identify some possible sites in Fairfield and New London Counties. Towns that have received cameras in those areas have been identified but to date plans have not been finalized.

Commissioner Johnson inquired if the Commission was offering any training to fire departments on the tactical use of the camera.

Mr. Morrissette stated that when people pick up their camera they are given an updated CD of the Academy's TIC training program. A TIC program delivery is scheduled for the June School. Also, all of the vendors will be providing training to those departments that obtained their product.

Moving to item 4 g.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the Regional Foam Trailer Program. He stated that a bid opening was held yesterday for the trailers. Two bids were received, one in the amount of \$52,435 from United Plastics Fabricating of North Andover, Mass and the other for \$59,950 from Crash Rescue Equipment Service of Dallas, Texas. He stated that he would be contacting the Chairman of the committee, Chief Wayne Sandford, to assemble a meeting to evaluate the bids probably sometime next week. It appears that we only have enough money to purchase three or four trailers.

Moving to item 4 h.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the Freelancing Policy. He stated that the Commission asked him to research through the State Ethics Commission whether the Code of Ethics applies to part-time instructors. He stated that the opinion of the Ethics Commission is as part-time employees they are subject to the Code of Ethics just as any other state employee, elected official, etc. A number of the scenarios that we're aware of that have allegedly occurred would be in violation of ethics laws. The Ethics Commission suggested that in the future if we have some firm information they would be happy to investigate any of those situations. The specific area within the Code of Ethics was section 1-84 that refers to the use of position for personal gain. In addition, the Ethics Commission offered to do some educational outreach for our employees.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that based on the report from the Ethics Commission it is immaterial to come up with a freelancing policy. There is already a policy on the books that applies. He suggested for the purpose of discussion that it would be a good idea to have an educational program for instructors and staff.

Commission Nicol stated that it's a good idea and he would go one step further by notifying the part-time instructors of the existing Code of Ethics to make them aware of their responsibilities and follow up with an educational program.

Moving to item 4 i.) Mr. Morrissette gave an update on the State USAR Team Initiative. He stated that a second advisory board meeting was held last week. A number of fire service representatives are on a larger advisory board (i.e. Chiefs' LaVecchia, Weber, Brady) in addition to himself. There are five working groups currently operating. It is hoped each committee will finish up soon and identify needs.

The selection committee has a draft application set and they are finalizing job descriptions. The selection committee anticipates posting the position descriptions and application over the summer months allowing interested individuals may apply. The committee figures that it will take six to nine months before individuals are selected to serve on the team.

Mr. Morrissette stated that he was heading up the training committee. Some of what that committee is considering is dependent upon what the selection committee establishes.

Chief LaVecchia is heading up the operations' committee and they are using the Fairfax County Plan as a basis.

Commissioner Nicol inquired if any funding is requested in this year's budget proposal for the USAR team.

Mr. Morrissette stated there are some items within the proposed budget, specifically a training proposal, although not specifically for USAR for \$500,000.

Moving to item 5 a.) Mr. Piechota stated that his presentation was made up of two parts. The first part has to do with the actual prerequisites required for Fire Officer III (FO-III). The Standard, NFPA 1021 requires as prerequisites for FO-III Fire Officer II (FO-II) and Fire Service Instructor II (FSI-II). Through an oversight, we did not publicize the fact that individuals needed to be certified to the level of FSI-II in order to be certified to the level of FO-III. Those prerequisites do not exist for training. The process that's used for training now is anyone who wants to apply is afforded the opportunity to take training. The prerequisites are only specific to certification. Thus, the Academy's first two FO-III classes allowed students through the process and they were all certified as FO-II. They went through the practical skill process that's done during the course and then they participated in the oral panel that is the substitute for a written exam, then they were certified as FO-III. It has now come to our attention that about half of the students were not previously certified as FSI-II. This matter is being brought to the attention of the Commission. A class just started on April 8 and they too were not made aware of this requirement.

Mr. Piechota stated that a potential solution would be for the Commission to grant approval for those individuals currently certified to the level of FO-III without being certified to FSI-II. This would be for those individuals certified in the previous two classes as well as individuals in the current class.

Mr. Morrissette stated that under our Accrediting Boards we, as the Authority Having Jurisdiction, can establish our own policy as it relates to each of the levels. What Mr. Piechota proposes is essentially grandfathering or waiving prerequisites for individuals that have gone through the program.

Mr. Piechota stated the grandfathering is not waving any of the requirements of the Standard itself. All of the objectives required for FO-III are still being addressed and tested. The request is only to wave the prerequisites.

Commissioner Johnson inquired about the number of individuals involved and going back to what date.

Mr. Piechota stated that this applied to about 20 individuals going back to the first class on October 23, 2000, second class on July 9, 2001 and the current class.

Commissioner Johnson stated that he sees no problem in grandfathering these individuals.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that this is really a mute issue because we do not currently have a FSI-II program to offer.

A lengthy discussion period followed.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson to wave the requirement for FSI-II to be certified as FO-III and certify the individuals in question.

Mr. Piechota stated that he would like it to be noted that the motion is only for the individuals in the classes that began October 23, 2000, July 9, 2001 and April 8, 2002.

MOTION was **AMENDED** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II to be certified as FO-III to certify the individuals in classes that began on October 23, 2000, July 9, 2001 and April 8, 2002

A discussion followed regarding when the Commission will be able to offer a FSI-II training program.

For the purposes of discussion Commissioner Vendetta **AMENDED** the MOTION and it was **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson to be specific only to the three classes that began October 23, 2000, July 9, 2001 and April 8, 2002

Vice Chairman Kowalski recommended that for the future the motion should be amended to say that until further notice or until a FSI-II class is available in the state. He then asked for the original motion to be read.

Executive Secretary Ouellette read the motion as follows:

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson to stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II to be certified as FO-III and certify all individuals in question.

MOTION was **AMENDED** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II for the purposes of FO-III certification for the individuals in FO-III classes that began on October 23, 2000, July 9, 2001 and April 8, 2002. Motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II for the purposes of FO-III certification until such time as the Commission has blended the FSI-I and II curriculum.

MOTION was **AMENDED** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that until such time as the Commission has a means to provide FSI-II certification then that level would not be required for the purposes of FO-III certification. Motion carried.

Commissioner Ouellette stated under the new FSI-I and II individuals will be given extra time to bridge each level. Will individuals be given the option to stay at level I if they wish in the new instructor program?

Mr. Morrissette stated that FSI-I and II programs will be combined in the new curriculum.

Commissioner Ouellette inquired if there will be a bridge program to bring up the current FSI-I to level FSI-II.

Mr. Morrissette stated that option has not been discussed but thinks it will now have to be.

Commissioner Nicol inquired for an estimate of time when the Commission would be able to offer training at the level of FSI-II.

Mr. Morrissette stated Mr. Piskura should be in attendance before the end of the meeting and he can address that.

Commissioner Nicol stated that he has some concern about adopting something that is open ended and he does not feel the Commission should be doing that. He stated that he agrees with the motion that we shouldn't penalize people who want to take a course, but we should identify an ending date. Let's pick a date and then revisit this matter at that time.

Commissioner Vendetta inquired for an estimate on an ending date.

Mr. Morrissette stated that if January 1, 2003 is the established date, then that's the date we will work towards.

A discussion period followed.

The original and amended **MOTION** was **WITHDRAWN** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson.

Commissioner Vendetta asked the Executive Secretary to read the original motions and amendments.

The motions and amendments are as follows:

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II to be certified as FO-III and certify the individuals in question.

A MOTION was made and AMENDED by Commissioner Vendetta and SECONDED by Commissioner Johnson to state that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II for the purposes of FO-III certification for the individuals in classes that began on October 23, 2000, July 9, 2001 and April 8, 2002. Motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II for the purposes of FO-III certification until such time as the Commission has blended the FSI-I and II curriculum. Motion carried.

The MOTION was **AMENDED** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Johnson stating that the Commission will wave the requirement for FSI-II for the purposes of FO-III certification until such time as the Commission has blended the FSI-I and II curriculum, not to exceed January 1, 2003.

Mr. Piechota suggested that to simplify wording we could perhaps say "that FSI-II certification shall not be required for FO-III certification until after January 1, 2003."

Everyone was in agreement to use the wording suggested by Mr. Piechota for motion on the table.

The MOTION was **AMENDED** by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nicol that FSI-II certification shall not be required for FO-III certification until after January 1, 2003. Motion carried.

Mr. Piechota gave an overview of a second item requiring comment and input by Commissioners. The entire certification system is training based. To be certified, an individual has to be exposed to all of the objectives of the applicable Standard they are seeking through a training process. Individuals have to provide to us documentation that they have been trained in and meet all the objectives and then they are randomly sample tested. That's the way the system works for all levels. Approximately one or two times

per year we get a request from someone to review their experience against the Standard to allow them to use experience only as a means to have met the objectives of a Standard to allow them to then test out. An individual has requested that we examine his experience to allow him to test to the level of FO-II that would give him the prerequisite to then become certified to FO-III. The regulations do not allow us to do that. The Commission does not have a process by which we can evaluate experience only against the Standard. He stated that he wanted to bring this matter to the attention of the Commission and asked if this is something they would the agency to pursue.

Mr. Piechota stated that the State of Maryland has such a system. Approximately two or three people per year maximum go through it. It takes at least a year to document it to the level that's required to prove that they meet the Standard. It cost the individuals about \$250 to \$300 as payment for Maryland to hire staff to evaluate the documentation. The reason for that is because the Pro Board and IFSAC eventually require very strict documentation as to how someone's experience met a particular objective. If the Commission wishes, we can look at the development of such a process to allow us to look at credentials and experience to challenge a level. He then asked the Commission for suggestion or guidance as to how we should proceed on this matter.

A lengthy discussion period followed.

Commissioner Vendetta inquired where an individual could go to have their credentials reviewed.

Mr. Piechota stated that the State of Maryland is the only place right now.

Commissioner Vendetta inquired if the Commission has in its regulations a means of accepting something from Maryland.

Mr. Piechota replied affirmatively.

Commissioner Vendetta recommended instead of going with additional staff to review the credentials of an individual, we direct any individual that is looking to secure a waiver to go to Maryland and then present it to the Commission for acceptance.

Commissioner Ouellette inquired as another alternative would Maryland be willing to share their program with Connecticut whereby we would be able to administer a program without reinventing the wheel.

Mr. Piechota stated that be believes Maryland would be willing.

Commissioner Maheu stated that he has concerns with going this route. To move this discussion along he suggested that Mr. Piechota look into this system and present a detailed outline of what it would entail along with cost and procedures, etc to implement such a system in Connecticut at next month's meeting.

A question and answer period followed.

Commissioner Ouellette suggested as Mr. Piechota looks into developing a review system for Connecticut that he also look at the sharing of resource with Maryland.

Commissioner Nicol stated that he could envision that a lot of people in the fire service may want to take advantage of such a system. He stated that if we could offer a program like this, it's a good direction to go in. While investigating this matter it might be a good idea to talk to Charter Oak College on their system that exists currently in the state.

A discussion period followed.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that it is obvious that we need to further discuss this matter and called for a motion to table this matter.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Nicol and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Vendetta to table the matter of reviewing an individual's experience to allow him to test to become certified to FO-III for future consideration.

Commissioner Maheu stated that he would like Mr. Piechota to come back to the table with how he would perceive this system would operate if we were to adopt it in Connecticut.

Motion carried.

Moving to item 5 b.) Mr. Morrissette stated that this item was covered previously and stated that when he has the language for this Bill he will share it with Commissioners and ask for their support.

Moving to item 5 c.) Mr. Morrissette stated that included in the Commission package was an informal opinion he requested from the Attorney General's (AG's) Office regarding the training of minors as firefighters. This inquiry came about as part of an informal group of advisors of these programs that had asked him to seek the opinion, especially as it relates to Explorer programs. The Boy Scouts and Labor Department have historically indicated that the Explorer program is not subject to labor laws. The informal opinion he finally received doesn't necessarily concur with that. They feel that members of Explorer programs are employees. This is documentation he will share with the Boy Scouts and he doesn't know if this will have any ramification. Maybe this communication will clear up some misinformation that is out there.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that he was directed by his Fire District to go to the Labor Department to get a read from them. Their initial response was if someone gets hurt and they are a minor in your fire company, they are considered an employee. If the person is a minor then it will be covered under the child labor laws. The Labor Department is looking to possibly make some changes in the very near future.

Mr. Morrissette stated that it suggested in the AG's letter that the Labor Department could make changes to their regulations.

Mr. Morrissette asked to add to new business a request from Norwalk Community College.

Mr. Morrissette stated that on April 19 Mark Lewandowski received a telephone request from Jeff Cantor, Ph.D of the Norwalk Community College requesting the Academy conduct a Firefighter I at the college. You may recall a couple years back the Commission worked on a cooperative program with them. They would like to work with us once again. They have already arranged for all of the program logistics such as using several training facilities in the Stamford, Greenwich and Norwalk areas. As you may recall this program would be primarily for people not affiliated with a fire department. The Commission in the past has granted waivers for us to conduct the training and testing. However, we don't certify them. They are eligible for certification if appointed or if they join a volunteer fire department within a year of testing. This request came in after the agenda was developed but we need to begin moving on this quickly. Essentially we are looking for some type of approval by the Commission to offer the same program.

A discussion period followed.

Commissioner Johnson spoke about a request he received from the staff at the Academy to host a firefighter from Dublin, Ireland in an exchange program. He asked if the staff could provide him with more information regarding this exchange request.

A discussion period followed.

Commissioner Vendetta inquired if the State Fire Administrator was seeking a motion to approve the request from Norwalk Community College.

Mr. Morrissette replied in the affirmative.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Vendetta and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ouellette to approve the waiver for Norwalk Community College to conduct a FF-I training program. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrissette stated that he was contacted by the Child Fatality Review Board and asked to have a representative of the agency attend their May 15 meeting to discuss some of the impact of fire on child fatalities and problems that they're seeing. John Blaschik from the State Fire Marshal's office and Russ Emons from our agency will attend that meeting.

Also following today's meeting anybody interested can take a tour of the training tower to view the modifications that were made.

Commissioner Nicol reminded everyone that the Fire Apparatus Rodeo sponsored by the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors Association (CFDIA) is taking place this weekend and more drivers can be accommodated. If you have anybody that is interested let the CFDIA know.

Commissioner Nicol stated that he has an opportunity to be at the National Fire Academy (NFA) for the Connecticut Fire Officers' weekend. Approximately 200 Connecticut Fire Officers were in attendance that weekend. It was a very good program. A memorial was held on Friday evening that was very well done. He stated that he wanted to express his thanks to Messrs. Morrissette and Piskura and especially to Paul Nyerick who coordinated the program.

Commissioner Vendetta stated that the New England Association of Fire Marshals is sponsoring a three-hour session at the New England Fire Chiefs' Association Convention June 22, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This session will be a report from the assessment team on the World Trade Center collapse.

Vice Chairman Kowalski stated that there is a separate application for that program. The application is included with the New England Fire Chiefs' program and also there are some flyers available on the Internet on neafm.org.

Mr. Piechota stated that the Certification Division will put together a committee from each of the fire service organizations to take a look at the Safety Officer Standard and make recommendations on how the agency should proceed to train and ultimately grant certification for not only the two main levels, health and safety officers, but also the four modules. This will be prepared within a couple of months and bring back a recommendation to the Commission as to how we should proceed.

Mr. Piskura stated that the CPAT program would be demonstrated at the New England Fire Chiefs' Association Convention.

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

Vice Chairman Kowalski adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.