



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



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MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 2009 MEETING OF  
THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Chairman Carozza called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Brady, Dagon, Hilbert, Kowalski, Mitchell, Murphy, Nelson, Nicol, Stankye and Walsh.

Staff members Carroll, Lewis, McGowan and Morrisette were present.

Attendees took a moment to pledge allegiance to the flag.

State Fire Administrator Morrisette introduced Jim Carroll, Program Manager in the Training Division and Brenda Murphy-Tenney, from the East Hartford fire department who also serves as the Commission's representative to the Department of Public Health's OEMS Advisory Board.

Mr. Morrisette recognized Jim Carroll for 15 years of loyal and conscientious service to the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control both as an Adjunct and full-time Program Manager. He congratulated him and presented a certificate of recognition.

Moving to item 2) Approval of the Minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Brady and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murphy to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Moving to item 3) Staff Report October 15, 2009 – November 14, 2009.

A **MOTION** was made Commissioner Mitchell and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nelson to approve the staff report for the period of October 15, 2009 – November` 14, 2009. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brady inquired about staff report item 9 training conducted and completed in Brewster, NY. He asked what the Commission's policy is for delivering training to border state towns and whether they pay a premium.

Mr. Morrisette said he was not familiar with that specific delivery however it's not unusual for fire companies in a bordering state to also be incorporated in Connecticut providing automatic aid or response to a geographical area within Connecticut.

State Fire Administrator Morrisette asked that we deviate from the agenda and asked Brenda Murphy-Tenney to provide a briefing on some recent activities of the OEMS Advisory Board. He said last month he and Mr. McGowan mentioned proposed changes to DPH regulations as

well as some recent changes to their testing policies which are impacting many fire departments. He said Mrs. Murphy-Tenney felt it was important to provide a briefing to the Commission.

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney said there are two separate issues to discuss today. She said DPH OEMS put out a memo on October 20<sup>th</sup> with revisions to the way in which they are going to provide testing for EMS programs both at the MRT and EMT level for both refresher and initial programs. Those changes went into effect on November 15<sup>th</sup> so there was less than a 30 day notice for people to make changes and it has a significant impact on anyone doing refresher training for MRT's or EMT's in the state as well as initial training programs. From a fiscal standpoint, there's now a \$125 fee to hire a proctor from the EMS Region to deliver this written examination. Also, along with that requirement is you must provide them with a minimum of 15 candidates to test at a time or they won't go out to a facility. She said she's heard from three separate individuals concerning how this has affected current programs. She said Commissioners may or may not be aware we all have to submit requests to conduct training and receive approval through OEMS ahead of time. Currently there are programs going on that have gone through the approval process and now these changes affect people in the middle of a budget year. She used the Hartford Fire Department as an example because Dep. Chief Costello had contacted her. The situation for the city of Hartford is such that they have MRT's that are all expiring January 1, 2010. They are in the middle of conducting their MRT refresher program so they've already received approval to conduct the training. What this means for the City of Hartford is an additional training day for every MRT they are recertifying and it also means a \$125 fee every time that they want to test their people. She said it's costing them thousands of dollars in the middle of a budget year so it's impacted them financially as well as their ability to complete that training before January 1. She said she was asked to make the Commission aware and there is a concern that some of these memos may not reach the smaller departments and a lot of Instructors in these departments may not be aware of it. She offered to provide Commissioners with a copy of the memo.

Commissioner Nicol asked what the procedure is for refresher testing of EMT's and MRT's.

Mrs. Tenney replied that it depends upon the region in which you're in. In the case of East Hartford fire department she would receive the examination from the region and she would administer that examination when her personnel were on duty which is the same thing that the Hartford fire department does. She said you can only afford to take a certain number of personnel off the line at a time so you can still deliver the level of service you're providing to your community. She said now she would have to have a proctor come in and departments can't afford to have 15 people off line at the same time nor are they all scheduled on the same shift. She said normally she would have four people on day one and day two would be the next shift and she may have three people and she would administer the examination. She said with the revision in the examination process she would now have to pay \$125 at least four times but she also doesn't have 15 people to meet that requirement to have a proctor come out so the expectation is that she would open it up to the outside or that she would send her personnel to another examination which could cause other logistical issues with regards to overtime.

Commissioner Nicol asked if there was a fee on the old procedure and who provided the examination.

Mrs. Tenney said for refresher training the examination has always been provided by the region so it wasn't a state examination. Each EMS region had an examination that was provided to the service. Some regions already had proctors in place and have been charging. Region 4 has never had a fee associated with the examination.

Commissioner Nicol also asked who provides the examination.

Mrs. Tenney replied that the examination is provided by the region and the move is coming January 1, 2010 for the initial EMT examination not the recertification process. She also said it will now be a statewide examination developed by the training and EMS coordinators group that will be used throughout the state for initial certifications and then it will be used for recertification.

Commissioner Kowalski asked what if any recourse could the Commission take on this issue and what the reason behind the changes is.

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney said there was no reason given. She said she's aware that Hartford fire department has sent a letter to the region. She said the letter was brought forth at the Regional Medical Advisory Committee for this region. She also said when Dep. Chief Costello contacted her she recommended that he speak directly to Kevin Brown who oversees the testing process at OEMS. She said Chief Costello met with Mr. Brown and was told that it is what it is and he'll have to meet the new requirements. She said not only is Hartford fire department struggling with the financial impact but logistically as well. The concern is whether or not they can continue to provide the 1<sup>st</sup> Responder service that they are committed to and required to provide to the community.

Commissioner Kowalski said it sounds like there isn't much more the fire service can do as a group. He asked if it's just our region that is operating like this or are there other regions that are already doing the examination with a proctor.

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney replied that some regions are already requiring a proctor but not with the minimum requirement of 15 people so it will impact the entire state. She also said she doesn't know if there is any recourse other than writing a letter expressing concern to OEMS or through the EMS Advisory Board. Each of the fire service organizations should consider writing.

A discussion period followed on the issue.

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney also mentioned that OEMS has rewritten their regulations. They hadn't been revised in over 20 years. She said they are in draft form and released on September 9<sup>th</sup>. The EMS Advisory Board is looking for comments on the regulations at their December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. She said there are significant changes with regards to the training piece that will also impact any departments that offer MRT, EMT Paramedic level care. She said they've extended the required hours of training programs for recertification so that will impact department budgets. There is a push to follow the National Scope of Practice which is a good thing because we should all be on the same page providing the same level of care but there are also some significant changes to the EMS Instructor recertification requirements. There is now testing that they want to put into place so there are some serious concerns on the instructor side.

She said the first draft that was released was very difficult to read but it's been rewritten in draft form and every line now has a number so it's easy to comment on sections. Any language that has been removed is indicated in red and new language is in blue so it's much easier to read. She said she thought it was interesting and Commissioners should be aware that for the Medical Directors which are the physicians that oversee these programs they made a provision for them to be grandfathered but there is no grandfathering for instructors or anyone else.

Mr. Morrisette asked what the due date is to submit comments.

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney replied that they meet the second Tuesday in December.

Mr. Morrisette said he believes we may have transmitted to Commissioners about a month or two ago a copy of the proposed revised regulations. He said he's not sure if it's in that format or not but if Commissioners have any comments or recommendations to let him or the Executive Secretary know and we'll pass them on to Mrs. Murphy-Tenney.

He asked Mrs. Murphy-Tenney if she is planning to present formal comments to the EMS Advisory Board or does she propose to present on behalf of the Commission?

Mrs. Murphy-Tenney replied that she will be out of the state but she will meet with the Chair ahead of time and can present anything in writing at that time. She said that will be the first comment period because the Commission will probably not have everything ready for a vote at the January meeting. She said she believes we'll have the month of December and January to offer comments.

Mr. Morrisette stated for the Commission's information he was contacted yesterday by another representative of the OEMS Advisory Board asking to meet to discuss an issue which will impact the fire service.

Chairman Carozza thanked Mrs. Murphy-Tenney for providing the Commission with the information and returned to the regular meeting agenda.

Moving to item 4a.) Budget/Staffing Update – Mr. Morrisette reported regarding staffing. He said as noted in the staff report Mr. Bycenski in the Business Office is back to work on a flexible schedule. He's out every other Thursday for treatments. Ron Vietts has been approved to provide coverage as needed for an additional 60 days. He said hopefully that will take us at least through the end of the fiscal year. He said we're probably going to have to seek approval for the new calendar year as well. He said once that 60 days expires there will be no more approvals and we really need to work on a plan for a long term solution.

Mr. Morrisette also reported regarding the budget. He said Commissioners were apprised of the budget rescissions that the Governor put into effect which amounts to essentially a 5% reduction impacting the Firefighter I Entry Level Training Reimbursement Program, Supplemental Grant Program as well as the Regional Fire Schools. Those cuts are in addition to the original holdbacks of about \$175,000 directly impacting the agency's operating budget. He said it's our estimation that this is the first of several rescissions and budget deficit mitigation plans that probably will need to be enacted throughout the current fiscal year. He said he's not sure how the rescissions will be rolled out if it will all be taken in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

allotment. Mr. Morrisette said he had also noted in the staff report that we are required, as part of the mid-year budget adjustment cycle to submit an additional 5% reduction for FY11. He distributed a document depicting the breakdown of these proposed reductions. The two columns to the right are FY10 and FY11 appropriations. He said a 5% reduction amounts to approximately \$194,000 and we are told that will be in addition to the holdbacks that will be carried over from this year, so we expect to start off FY11 with a holdback of at least \$175,000 plus an additional \$194,000 and any other additional rescissions or holdbacks. He said it's very significant and he has until next week to submit our Reduction Option to OPM. He said an across the board cut of 5% would meet our target goal. As an example, for the FFI Reimbursement program we would be looking at a reduction of about \$25,000; Supplemental Grant \$9,700; Personal Services \$82,000; Other Expenses about \$35,000 and each of the Regional Fire Schools would be reduced anywhere from \$8,466 for Hartford County to \$1,856 for the Derby School. An across the board reduction is the most equitable means to address this. He said he was told to use the \$3,882,507 appropriation figure as the starting point. He said he entertains any discussion or recommendations.

Commissioner Kowalski asked what impact does this have on personnel.

Mr. Morrisette said our philosophy is to ensure that we have the full-time positions covered and any fund balance would cover our part-time salary obligations. He said anticipating some additional reductions in the current FY we'll begin to see some impact as we close out the FY. Secretary Genuario's presentation last week outlines revenues are still declining and obligations rising. Thus, unless the fiscal climate changes dramatically, things will become even worse in FY11 and 12.

Commissioner Kowalski asked if we're looking at the possibility of increasing our course or testing pricing structure.

Mr. Morrisette said if anything we are trying to maximize what we do with what we have. He said we need to continue to do that because the fire departments are in the same position as us and don't have any additional funding so he hesitates to propose that, at least in the near future. He said we've remained steady on fees for a considerable length of time and it's probably not a good economy to be raising fees. We also need to reflect on what OEMS has done; specifically mandated testing fees payable to the Region with very little notice. He said when we are going to propose additional revenue enhancements we need to provide fair warning of at least six months in advance of implementation. He said he's personally sensitive to giving adequate notice unless it was a sudden impact type of scenario where we had no other choice.

Commissioner Kowalski said we should consider suggesting a 10% or 15% increase on training or testing fees so we can start the ball rolling now. He said he saw the presentation from Secretary Genuario and it's very scary what they are predicting two to three years from now. He said when 30% of the budget is not covered something will have to give some place and obviously our agency will take a severe hit. If we still want to maintain some level of service we have to prepare our constituents that there's going to be a cost increase.

Mr. Morrisette said the other thing we have to be cognizant of is the potential for our private fund accounts to be swept. A number of planned projects could be funded now to prevent a

seizure of these funds. Bottom line the funding in these accounts belongs to the fire departments and firefighters.

Commissioner Kowalski said he recalls years ago just prior to the income tax being enacted we had to go before then Governor Weicker's staff to keep our Extension and Auxiliary accounts in-tact. He said he strongly suggests that if we have projects to complete to use the funds and get them completed before the funding is possibly swept.

Chairman Carozza asked State Fire Administrator Morrissette to repeat his proposal.

Mr. Morrissette said his proposal is that we submit to OPM by November 30<sup>th</sup> a Budget Reduction Option totaling 5% impacting each of our budgetary line items.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murphy that we accept the recommendation of the State Fire Administrator as stated. Motion carried.

Moving to item 4b.) CSFA Education Committee Update – Commissioner Nicol said he has no updates at this time. He said the next meeting will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Morrissette added that he spoke to DPW as late as yesterday inquiring about the status of the contract for the New Haven project. It still has not been signed even though the Bond Commission has approved the \$4.1 million at the last Bond Commission meeting. He said it's going through the final review process and they expect it will be another couple of weeks before the contract is signed. He said he also asked about the status of the Hartford County project because we were told numerous times that our project should be out to bid within 30 to 60 days probably 45 days ago so we still haven't seen any final drawings. He said he was told the contract drawings should be done by the week of December 14<sup>th</sup> at which time we'll have two to three weeks to review them. He said when that takes place we'll be ready to go out to bid sometime in the new calendar year possibly late January or February.

He also said for the Fairfield project we were told that they identified some minor contamination which he believes the City plans to remediate in the very near future. He said there was a walk thru at the Burrville Fire School with DEP to also look at any environmental concerns before moving forward. Lastly there was a meeting between the DPW Commissioner and the Governor's office to discuss approval of funding to procure the property for the Willimantic project. He said he's not heard the outcome of that meeting but he is hopeful it will be supported.

Moving to item 4c.) FY 10 Supplemental Grant Program Update – Mr. Morrissette reported that to date we have processed 119 grant requests for funding; 70 will be in the form of a direct check and all the towns that requested a check should have received them as of late last week. He said 49 requests were received as vouchers for a total of \$144,109 and we have no responses from 42 fire companies for who we will be preparing a reminder letter. He also said Commissioners may recall as part of the rescission there was an \$8,000 reduction in that particular account. We will have to make a decision as to how the reduction will be handled. At this point in time it may be best to await the outcome of any deficit mitigation plan proposed as additional reductions may be necessary.

Moving to item 4d.) FY 10 Entry Level Training Reimbursement Update – Mr. Morrisette said with the budget rescission we sustained a \$25,000 cut to that account. Currently we have Pre-authorization forms submitted or requests for reimbursement totaling \$115,000 out of the \$505,000 less the \$25,000. Thus adequate funding is still available to cover the claims to date. Again, we will have to see the impact of any additional reductions which are anticipated. Difficulty in fulfilling claims should be anticipated in the spring.

Moving to item 4e.) Legislative Update – Mr. Morrisette said we've received no response from the Governor's Office or OPM regarding our proposal for a revision to statutes reflecting how the funding is disbursed to the Regional Fire Schools as well as the designation of future Regional Fire Schools. He said he anticipates hearing something within the next 30 days. He said if they don't approve the proposal we'll have to see if any of the fire service organizations want to bring that forward.

Moving to item 4f.) LMS/Database Project Update – Mr. Morrisette said he had provided a briefing last month to the Commission on this project. We had a staff briefing yesterday for the staff to show them the proposed software. The state currently owns licenses for the product and it's something we want to look into further although no final determination has been made as of yet. He said it will significantly change how we conduct business and there is some potential for cost savings in the long term.

Moving to item 5a.) 2010 Commission Meeting Proposed Schedule – Mr. Morrisette presented the proposed schedule of Commission meetings for the year 2010 and asked for approval.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murphy to approve the 2010 Commission Meeting Schedule. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrisette added that we consulted with the Department of Public Safety regarding access to their photographer for updating Commissioners' photos and Director Rob Ross is trying to work that out for us. He said if we are successful we may opt to hold a meeting in Middletown or Meriden, possibly at the Forensic Lab so their photographer can take the photos all at one time.

Moving to item 5b.) Q Testing Policy Issue – Mr. Morrisette said this issue is two-fold. The first is we've received no formal direction from any of the statewide organizations regarding what they request the Commission to do with the Q testing issue and whether we want to take that on from the DMV. He said we can certainly do that as a separate operation. He said he saw the Governor's Chief of Staff at an event last week and told her that he needs to meet with her on the issue. He said if we were to move in that direction we would need authorization to hire a number of part-time examiners.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Brady and **SECONDED** Commissioner Kowalski authorizing the State Fire Administrator to proceed with discussions about moving the Q program to the auspices of the Commission. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrisette also stated that the second piece of the Q testing issue relates to the current administration of Pump Operator, Aerial Operator and Tanker certification that we presently offer. He said Commissions may recall Chief Herald was here from Danbury and spoke about a couple of licensing issues. One issue his department, as well as, other border fire departments has is that their personnel who live out of state cannot be licensed to drive in Connecticut. NY State does not offer a Q Endorsement thus they are ineligible to be certified here in Connecticut because our certification regulations require a Q license. We would propose a policy to permit out of state personnel seeking certification to be certified with the prerequisite of documentation of Q Training in lieu of an actual CT License.

Commissioner Mitchell asked if this is for people residing in CT to drive CT fire apparatus.

Mr. Morrisette said it actually could be anyone, but initially it would be to address people who live out of state who do not hold a CT driver's license with a Q Endorsement. He said because our regulations specifically have the wording "must be legally licensed to drive". Our proposal solely deals with a certification issue not the legality of driving an apparatus in our state.

A brief discussion on the issue followed.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brady to accept the State Fire Administrator's recommendations to clarify the Commission's Driver/Operator (Pump, Aerial, Tanker) certification testing prerequisites by allowing documentation of a Q Training program to serve as equivalency to holding a Q or CDL license.. Motion carried.

Moving to item 5c.) Mid-Atlantic Assoc. of State Fire Commissions Meeting Brief – Commissioner Nicol gave an overview of the 31<sup>st</sup> conference of the Mid-Atlantic Association of State Fire Commissions held in Louisville, KY on November 5-7. Six member states were represented with approximately 30 people in attendance; DE, KY, NJ, NC, WV and CT. Director Tom Preston of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security served as keynote speaker. There were field trips to the Frazier Arms Museum, Louisville Slugger Bat Factory and Middletown Fire Department. A Business meeting was held and there was a general discussion regarding members supporting future conferences. Next year's conference is scheduled to be held in CT.

Chairman Carozza asked if we have a location as yet for next year's conference.

Mr. Morrisette said we are planning to hold the conference in Hartford but we haven't secured a hotel as yet although we've received bid proposals from several hotels within the city. He said he met with Commissioner Nicol last week to discuss the plans for networking opportunities and field trips. He said we're looking at the Forensic Lab, ESPN and a facility for some type of an outdoor event.

Moving to item 5d.) IFSAC Re-Accreditation Site Visit Overview – Director of Certification McGowan gave an overview of the IFSAC re-accreditation site visit. For the past eight months the Commission's Certification Division has been deeply involved and committed to the reaccreditation process offered by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). John McPhee of Iowa, Douglas Goodings from Ontario, Canada, and Gordon



Descutner of Alaska received information and documentation in the form of two CDs containing the application and the entity self-study worksheets prior to their visit. Over the course of November 2-5, 2009 visit, the Team reviewed those items that are secure to the fire service testing and certification process in Connecticut.

The Team reviewed the following NFPA standards for re-accreditation previously accredited in 2004: Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, Driver/Operator Pumper, Driver/Operator Aerial, Hazardous Materials Technician, Fire Officer I, Fire Service Instructor I and Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I

Additionally the Team assessed the following NFPA standards for initial accreditation: HMWMD Awareness, HMWMD Operations, Mobile Supply Operator – Tanker, Airport Fire Fighter, Fire Service Instructor II, Fire Service Instructor III, Incident Safety Officer, Health and Safety Officer, Fire Inspector I, Fire Investigator, Fire Officer II, Fire Officer III, Fire Officer IV, Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist I, Rescue Technician-Ropes and Rigging I and II, Rescue Technician-Confined Space I and II, Rescue Technician-Trench I and II, Rescue Technician-Vehicle and Machinery I and II and Rescue Technician-Structural Collapse I and II.

Mr. McGowan also said the IFSAC Site Visit Team findings for the Commission's Certification Division testing and certification process stated at the time of the exit conference that a favorable recommendation will be presented on behalf of the Commission to the IFSAC Board of Governors at the April 2010 meeting for all re-accreditation and initial accreditation levels. He also discussed with the Commission the several items the Team had noted at the exit interview. He thanked the Site Visit Team, adjunct examiners and proctors, Ed O'Hurley, Denice Fortin and Cathy Goetz for their time and effort.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Moving to item 5e.) Recruit Training Program Labor Issue – Mr. Morrisette said he was hoping Mr. Piskura could be here but he's unavailable. He said we had a call from the Attorney General's office about approximately two weeks ago bringing to our attention an issue that occurred at the New Haven Police Department with their recruit training. There was an informal request by the City of New Haven to the Labor department regarding their program and potential impacts of overtime, etc. There was an article in the *New Haven Register* which spoke about the informal opinion and to this date no one has seen any letter so it could have been verbal but a newspaper article was generated as a result of this. He said it indicated that there could be a significant fiscal impact to the City of New Haven for overtime expenses as part of their police department's recruit class. He said the police chiefs looked at it and was concerned so a meeting was scheduled with the Attorney General's office who contacted him because he represents our Agency as well as POST. He said he and Director of Training Piskura participated in the meeting and invited Milford Fire Chief Levecchia as the Chair of the Career Chiefs Recruit Committee to attend. He said basically in CT as part of those departments that participate in our Recruit Class they could be liable for overtime retroactive back to two years. He said the concern here is the residential based program as is at POST. He said he believes the police chiefs and the career chiefs are going to be discussing moving forward with some legislative changes to address the issue. Those on the Labor side are aware that CT state law is more expansive than the federal labor laws. He said there could be an

impact to our program and to departments that send their personnel here either present or going back a couple of years. He said it will be up to each department to deal with the impact of that. He said we are already looking at alternatives and whether we will have to make any changes in terms of making the program non residential based so it's up to the department to decide if they want to use our lodging or if we would make it a commuter program. He said he just wanted to make the Commission aware of the issue. He said the Career Chiefs Executive Board and the UPFFA Executive Board had been planning to meet next week so this will probably be a topic of discussion at that meeting. He said we'll have to see how this plays out but we've already directed our Recruit leads to look at alternative options on how we could present the program.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Moving to item 5f.) Unclaimed Assets Resolution – Mr. Morrissette said Commissioners may be aware that from time to time the state Treasurer's Office publishes a list of unclaimed assets the state is holding in some individual or corporations name. He said the CT Fire Academy was on the list for approximately \$160. The application process requires a resolution authorizing him to claim the money. He said he drafted a resolution to be signed by the Secretary.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Mitchell and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hilbert approving a Certified Resolution authorizing the State Fire Administrator to claim assets from the Office of the State Treasurer's list of unclaimed assets owed to the CT Fire Academy. Motion carried.

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

Moving to item 7 – Matters to be raised by Commissioners or staff –

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brady that the Commission establishes a Committee to develop a contingency plan for possibility of price increases for courses and testing. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kowalski also said over the past year he and Commissioner Brady have been involved with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Silver Ribbon report pertaining to best practices for junior firefighters. He said Commissioners should have already received a copy if they are a member of the IAFC which was released this month at a conference held in FL. He said it's a comprehensive report and should give everyone an idea of what they can do. Connecticut had a lot of input as far as what we have in our state and a lot of input on what is allowed. He said it was a tough paper to submit because there were six regions involved in. He said we're trying to get some delivered to the CFA in the next week so Commissioners will receive one if they haven't already. He also said the Director of the explorer programs has ordered 3,000 copies and will be distributing them to all the explorer programs. He said if Commissioners need additional copies they should contact him.

Commissioner Brady congratulated Commissioner Kowalski for his efforts because this was a major project. He said he encourages everyone to read the report as it was very well put together.

Commissioner Nelson said he attended with the State Fire Administrator the Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association, Inc. event at the Connecticut Convention Center where a donation of eight training manikins was made for use by the Regional Fire Schools. He complimented the State Fire Administrator on how well he represented the Commission.

Commissioner Nicol said there was a discussion on the junior firefighter and the Silver Ribbon report at the Mid-Atlantic Association of State Fire Commission conference in KY. He said it might be a good topic for discussion at next year's conference.

Chairman Carozza asked if any Commissioner is interested in serving on the Committee that was proposed for increasing the price of fees for CFA courses.

Commissioners Kowalski, Mitchell and Brady offered to serve on the Committee.

Director of Certification McGowan said he wanted to clarify that the IFSAC Accreditation does not come until April 2010 so until that point, there will not be a dual set of seals on those programs that we already have for the ProBoard and there will not be any retroactivity.

Chairman Carozza wished everyone an enjoyable Thanksgiving.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brady to adjourn the meeting and to hold a December meeting at the call of the Chairman.

Chairman Carozza adjourned the meeting at 11:27 am.

Dated:

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Charles M. Stankye, Jr., Secretary