



**CALIFORNIA FIRE TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORS  
ASSOCIATION**  
**ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**  
**Mar 31, 2022 0900 Hrs.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Caryn Petty	State Fire Training	Brandon Erickson	State Fire Training
Derek Alkonis	UL's FSRI	Pete Cacossa	Fresno
Jeff Seaton	South Bay	Lorraine Hutchinson	Southwestern
Jason Hemler	Sierra	Scott Atkinson	Mt. SAC
Brian Preciado	Solano	Dan Silvestri	911 Safety Equipment
Lori DeGeorge	Jones & Bartlett	Derek Robinson	Bakersfield
Leonard Champion	Allan Hancock	Ryan Harold	Crafton Hills
Ken Sebastiani	Santa Rosa	Bob Buell	Chabot
German Sierra	Sierra	Ken Sebastiani	Santa Rosa
Janet Maleer	Jones & Bartlett	Gail Warner	Imperial Valley
Ramon Valdez	Jones & Bartlett	Ray Mosack	Mt. SAC
Scott Jaeggi	Rio Hondo	Charles Truvillion	Bakersfield
Cameron Miller	College of the Desert	Mark Gilman	
Hope Gottlieb	Jones & Bartlett		

- I. **Call to Order:** President Cacossa called the meeting to order at 0922.
- II. **Welcome/Introductions:** Pete welcomed the group
- III. **Approval/Changes to the Agenda:** Motion to approve by Brian Preciado, second by Jason Hemler.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the Nov minutes was made by Brian Preciado, second by Derek Robinson.
- V. **Financial Report:** The Treasurer's report submitted by Scott Jaeggi was as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$18,577.59
Deposits:	\$ 1,561.00 (39 New Memberships Dues)
Withdrawals:	\$ -4.00 (Overpayment)
Ending Balance	\$ 20,133.59

He has uploaded the 2022 membership forms to the website, welcomed members to pay now and added about 30% pay by ZELLE. However, if you are a new member and plan to pay this way to please forward your contact information to him as sometimes he does not get it through ZELLE.

VI. **Correspondence:** Peter discussed correspondence with Jason Josea a CSFA representative. There is a Safer Five scholarship of \$2,500 available to fire academy trainees before or after graduating from an academy who join a volunteer or combination department as a PCF in return for a two year commitment. They are working on the criteria and application process. As more information is available it will be placed on the CSFA website.

- Peter discussed emails are being pushed out to membership as well as being posted on the CFTDA website. Some members are not receiving correspondence please check your spam folders.

## VII. Standing Committee Reports:

### A. SFT Report: Caryn Petty reported on the following items of interest occurring at SFT:

#### Curriculum and Certification Updates

- State Fire Training has relocated to downtown Sacramento with minimal parking available. The new address is 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.
- 2021 Curriculum
  - Driver/Operator series-In alignment with NFPA
  - Community Risk Officer—Fire Life Safety Educator in line with national standards.
  - Structural Collapse Technician 1 and 2- this new curriculum will be replacing Rescue Systems 1, 2, 3. The new courses are in alignment with NFPA 1006 professional qualifications. SFT is anticipating an SBFS approval in May.
  - Confined Space Awareness and Technician-updated recently
  - Confined Space Rescue- the updated courses are in alignment with NFPA 1006 professional qualifications. SFT is anticipating a SBFS approval in May.
- **2022 Curriculum**
  - Fire Fighter Survival Course has been reviewed and updated for currency and relevancy. The course will be presented to STEAC in July for a first read. Minimal changes a cross walk will be provided.
  - Vehicle Extrication, Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue (Vehicle Extrication) course, and a new Heavy Vehicle Rescue course have been developed by a curriculum development cadre using NFPA 1006 professional qualifications. The courses will be presented to STEAC in July for a first read.
  - Trench Rescue-Meeting in the coming weeks to make any necessary changes.
  - Fire Fighter Rescue and RIC Ops Course has been reviewed and enhanced with a proposed extended duration of additional 8 hours to include all new material. The course will be presented to STEAC in July for a first read.
  - Maritime FF-New Course coming in June
  - Fire Control 4 being updated. Senior and Primary instructor going away.
  - SFT is presenting course updates and a new curriculum for FY2023-24 at the April STEAC. If you want to submit a curriculum proposal, please contact Chief Chris Fowler.
  - Distance Education, Only ALAs and ARTPs, Not COVID-specific, remains an option.
- Fire Fighter Certification
  - 2013 retirements and application processing update
  - Certification Exam tiering system for random skills
    - Discussion regarding wet vs. dry hose lays for skills testing due to water conservation issues. Caryn Petty will research this issue and get back to the group.
    - Report available on the State Fire Training website regarding the random skill tiering system. <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/media/2ihcfo1q/fire-fighter-exam-random-skill-issuance.pdf>
  - Exam Requests – minimum 6 weeks
- Chief Fire Officer Certification-Associate Degree Requirements
  - Effective January 1, 2021, State Fire Training is accepting applications for Chief Fire Officer Certification without an associate degree. This temporary exception allows applicants to submit the equivalency in a combination of both education and experience. Applicants are required to meet all certification requirements and apply on or before December 31, 2022. Interested persons should review the [Chief Fire Officer Certification – Associate Degree Requirement Informational Bulletin \(PDF\)](#) for further details.
- Courses
  - ARTP's should ensure they are submitting their course scheduling requests at least four weeks in advance.
  - To provide flexibility to fire academies, scheduling requests should be dated on the first date of the academy and end on the last date of the academy. This will allow for changes that may occur during your academy.

- Authorized Signers
  - All ARTPs that have not recently submitted a letter with their authorized signers need to submit the ARTP Authorized Signers letter using the template we provide.
  - The letter can be emailed to Diane.radford@fire.ca.gov
- Task Books
  - For task books and letters – Reminder that we don't accept DocuSign/digital signatures for the Authorized signers. Only wet signatures are accepted.
  - Make sure to use complete dates when completing the Instructor Certification Task Books. We need the month/day/year on JPR, Teaching hours, and experience.
- Letters
  - Reiterate that there is a difference between the Registered Instructor and Evaluator letter of verification. They are trying to use one letter to cover both but are not including the evaluator's required language.

**B. STEAC Report:** Caryn Petty reported on Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) next STEAC meeting will be held on April 1, 2022 at 0900. Items on the agenda:

- Blueprint 2030-State Fire Training Strategic Document.
- Skills Coach Update
- FI-210 Update
- Structural Collapse Specialist 1 and 2 (2021)
- Confined Space Rescue (2021)
- River and Flood Rescue Tech Task Book Update
- CICCIS Guide
- Instructor Update Course Status Report
- Accreditations
  - Rio Hondo College (ARTP)
  - Long Beach Fire Dept (ALA)
  - Upcoming Accreditations include: Imperial Valley, Fresno, Butte, Glendale/Verdugo, Los Medanos
- State Fire Training launched its Instagram @calfire\_statefiretraining
- State Fire Training completed its own IFSAC re-accreditation. They were impressed with the process. They found issues with Skill Sheets, so they have been updated and can be found on the State website.
- Academy of Excellence Award- STEAC, CFTDA, and STEAC Advisory Committee wanted to recognize ALAs and ARTPs for the great work they are doing last year the Ronnie J. Coleman award was launched and received eight nominations. Of those eight, they selected Santa Rosa Community College as the Academy of the Year.
- Variance Letter-Most courses have a max of 25-30 students; however, many academies are larger than this. To satisfy the student to instructor ratio, a variance request is required. This entails a letter to Chief Andrew Henning on department letterhead requesting a variance for our student enrollment for this academy and a list of every course you intend to teach that you need a variance for. When you submit your course request with those lower student maxes listed, you will list additional instructors to satisfy the ratios. One letter per academy is a good way to do it. At the start of the academy, you will submit one letter to cover all courses. When you submit your course request, make sure that you list the primary instructor and any other instructors needed to be there to satisfy the ratios. If you find yourself in a position where you don't have enough instructors to deliver a single class, you can split classes and offer two in smaller groups.
- Discussion regarding the implementation plan vs. the course plan for Fire Control 3 and the requirement to have additional primary instructors to maintain a minimum of 1:5 student ratio. Caryn will research the issue and get back to the group.
- LARRO-still exists but is now a legacy course and will become outdated soon. Academies are encouraged to adopt the new Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations course.
- Women's/Girl's Camps are starting to pick up statewide with the intent to be more of a boot camp format so students may have their EMT and fire classes or have completed an academy. Would like to start meeting females in the fire service.
- Discussion-Pete and Jeff discussed scheduling courses for the fire academy in a modular format and offering Firefighter II at the end of the academy. While attempting to add students from neighboring

agencies, they found out from the state that it was too late to add students. Students must be added two weeks prior to the Firefighter I exam. Caryn suggested scheduling all of your Firefighter I courses as a single exam request and then completing a second-course request for Firefighter II, which allows neighboring agencies more time to get the personnel names to you in plenty of time.

- C. Public Safety Committee:** Pete reported the committee is working on developing their part on the CFTDA website.

## VIII. Old Business:

### A. 2021-2022 Goals

- **Material Fee follow-up discussion:** Ken Sebastiani gave an updated report on material fees. According to Title V, there are a few things that are permissible for student material fees. An example given was shell casings for police academies and chemicals used in photography courses. The concept is that students must be able to take the material with them according to Title V. Ken proposed asking Police Academies and photography professors how their material use fees were put in Title V. Discussion ensued regarding the increasing cost of lumber for different FF1 training modules. Bob Buell suggested referencing the state curriculum as our justification to include the materials as consumable supplies under Title V. Ken, Jason and Bob will meet as a working group to push the issue forward and report back at the next CFTDA meeting. They will attempt to work with a representative from the Chancellors office (whoever took over for Shenuie Weber).
- **2022 Meeting Locations**
  - June 2 Bakersfield** – Bakersfield will not be able to host the June meeting due to a conflict with the CoAEMSP Accreditation conference. Other members will also be attending the conference. After a discussion the decision was made to hold the June meeting via ZOOM at the scheduled time.
  - Sept 22 South-Bay Training Consortium**
  - Nov 17 Consumes**
- **2022 Board Vacancies**

Scott Jaeggi will be resigning his position as Treasurer this year. Nominations for the position will take place at the November meeting in Consumes.
- **2022 Goals**

Pete discussed our goal of obtaining 501(c)3 status for the organization. Pete reminded the group that we approved a cost of \$1,000.00 to hire a firm to try and make us a 501(c)3. Derek gave an update on the status of the goal. He did some research and called some attorneys who advised him that \$1,000.00 was not enough money to hire a firm to create a 501(c)3 status for the organization. Derek will do more research and report back to the group on the actual cost of hiring a firm to assist us.

**January STEAC Meeting:** Caryn Petty reported on the January STEAC meeting:

- Fire and Emergency Services instructor update- Changed title from “Instructor” to “Fire and Emergency Services Instructor” to align with the NFPA professional standard.
- The following language in order to accept more applicants as Registered Instructors of the 100-Level and 200-Level courses. This language change is inclusive of state and federal partners for the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) courses. “Held a permanent position within a Recognized Fire Agency in California for a minimum of one (1) year, or worked in a volunteer position or paid call firefighter with a Recognized Fire Agency in California for a minimum of two (2) years.”
- An Accredited Rescue Training Site (ARTS) is a training facility that meets the site, training prop, tools, and equipment requirements. The sites for Rescue Systems 1, Rescue Systems 2, and/or Confined Space Rescue requirements must be verified by the Registered Instructor as described in the State Fire Training Procedures Manual per Section 1990.00. The state will no longer certify training sites for these courses.
- In their current format, RIO has a maximum allowable student count of 30, while CEET allows for 60 students. During the single-day delivery, many of the students attend both courses which has resulted in individual variance requests to accommodate the students in compliance with CCR Title 19. To ease the

course scheduling and delivery processes, SFT is seeking to amend the two courses' maximum class size to 50 students, respectively.

- Recommend Santa Ana College be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Reaccreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of five (5) years.
- Recommend CAL FIRE Training Center be reaccredited as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for an accreditation period of five (5) years.
- Recommend Burbank Fire Department be reaccredited as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for an accreditation period of five (5) years.
- Recommend Orange County Fire Authority be provided Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Initial Accreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of three (3) years.
- Recommend Mission College be provided Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) Initial Accreditation in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for a period of three (3) years.
- Update and correlate State Fire Training's Structural Collapse Specialist curriculum with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 edition, and the FEMA Structural Collapse Specialist Instructor-Led Training (ILT), April 2017 edition.
- Update and correlate State Fire Training's Confined Space Rescue curriculum with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006: Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications, 2021 edition.
- Ken Sebastiani inquired about RIO and Skills Evaluator courses. RIO will be offered online June 16th, 2022 in partnership with Sierra College Community Solutions. Live student to instructor engagement, meaning computer cameras must be on. The Skills Evaluator course will not be offered online. The maximum number of students to schedule a RIO course is 50 with a minimum of 20-25 students.

#### **IX. New Business:**

- A. UL Presentation :** Derek Alkonis gave a presentation on UL's Fire Safety Research Institute.
- B. FireBlast:** Joe Gonzalez from FireBlast Global gave a presentation on FireBlast training facilities and burn props.
- C. Vector Solutions:** Matt Rodriguez gave a presentation on Vector Solutions.
- D. Jones & Bartlett:** Janet Maleer gave a presentation on Jones & Bartlett.
- E. Fresno Pacific Bachelors in EM:** Chief McFee, along with University representatives, gave a presentation on a new Bachelor's degree in Business Administration: Emergency Management from Fresno Pacific University. The program is 18 months long, consisting of 39 units at a cost per unit of \$520.00. Admission prerequisites include a minimum of a 2.4 GPA, 60 transferable baccalaureate-level units, and two years of post-secondary experience. The application fee will be waived for students attending an information meeting.

#### **X. Roundtable:**

- Leonard Champion from Allan Hancock College Wildland Associate degree is up and running. Drager Phase Five prop was installed in July. Set up a student-led Instagram account. Installation of a new Bauer compressor. They are starting a Girls Academy in August/September. Paramedic is beginning in the fall. Working with CalFire, 10%-15% of Wildland components that they wanted to see incorporated into the academy. Students now graduate with a CalFire certificate.
- Jason Hemler from Sierra College academies are going well and working on a Certificate of Achievement for Fire Service Specialist with the US Forest Service and looking to start a Girls Academy.
- Scott Atkinson from Mt. San Antonio College is revamping the current Paramedic Academy. Started a student-led Instagram account and received positive feedback from students and family. However, Paramedic Academy

enrollment is low. We are working on advertising the Paramedic program through our EMT program.

- Ray Mosack from Mt. San Antonio College is working on implementing a Wildland Fire Program. Rio Hondo has helped with the curriculum. We are applying for Strong Workforce funding to support the program. We signed an affiliation agreement with Idaho State University.
- Bob Buell from Chabot College is on its 81<sup>st</sup> fire academy. They had hiccups with the vaccine mandate and not having a good upload system, for it didn't get the enrollment they had hoped for ended up with thirteen students in the academy. In June, an ambulance simulator is being delivered from Ambulance Solutions to support the EMT Program. New facility with Hayward Fire Department construction to conclude in fall; however, it will be dark due to a supply chain delay in getting switchgear to bring electrical into the facility. After the facility is up and running for a year they are going to restart the Paramedic Program. Bob will be reaching out to those that have paramedic programs looking at how other ARTPs are handling academy staffing, particularly instruction vs. skills evaluator. Want to identify how others utilize professional experts vs. instructors that team-teach specific segments and how to better work out the cost. There is a loop whole in our system that allows departments that are not ALAs to train their personnel, sign a letter attesting to the training, and then send them to ARTPs to be tested therefore bypassing our fire academies. State Fire Training is not taking any action on this. It is their position that any training is good training. Bob discussed with State Fire Training. ISAs will be fully funded, but you will only get credit for ISAs or degree certificate completion under the Student Center Funding Formula. If you are going to get into ISAs, you must have strong support from dedicated personnel on campus to run the program.
- Cameron Miller from College of the Desert had several problems with attrition and lost several students. Created an Instagram account and likes the idea of a student-led account. Completed ARTP accreditation one thing that didn't go well was staffing because they don't have any full-time staff members. Currently recruiting for fulltime fire faculty position. Hopefully, it will go well this time last year, we didn't have many applicants. They created a Fire and EMS Club with the intention to generate interest and retention in the program.
- Peter Cacossa from Fresno City College-New campus broke ground on the 17<sup>th</sup> but has been working since January. Agreement for water, sewer, and water runoff. Two EMT classrooms measuring 40' x 80' with several breakout rooms. In the last six months, they purchased a Type III 2022 Pierce, two ambulances, two ambulance simulators, submitted a bid for Phase 5 Box, and e-tools. They are upgrading EMT Program, power load system, Lucas Device, 50 simulation manikins, porta power unit, and Striker gurneys. Peter shared a video of the First Responders Campus for Fresno City College.

**XI. Adjournment:** Pete officially adjourned the meeting at 15:45.

Respectfully Submitted: May 24, 2022  
Ray Mosack, CFTDA Secretary