

Fire Service Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 6, 2012 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
League of Minnesota Cities

Members/alternates present:

Bob Johnson, Insurance Federation of Minnesota – Chair
Mark Dunaski, Designee MN Commissioner of Public Safety
Dan Winkel, MN State Fire Department Association
Jim Fisher, MN Association of Townships
Tom Thornberg, MN Professional Firefighters Association
Steve Zaccard, Fire Marshals Assoc. of MN/International Assoc. of Arson Investigators
Don Smiley, MN State Fire Chief's Association
Nyle Zikmund, MN State Fire Chief's Association
Rick Loveland, MN Professional Firefighter's Association

Members/alternates absent:

Sue Iverson, League of Minnesota Cities
Shane Schmidt, MN State Fire Department Association
Mark Kulda, (Alternate) Insurance Federation of Minnesota
H. Dan Ness, League of Minnesota Cities

Others present:

Kevin Reed, Department of Public Safety, HSEM
Bruce West, MN Board of Firefighter Training and Education
Jared Jordal, Department of Public Safety
Jerry Rosendahl, State Fire Marshal
Larry Fruend, Department of Public Safety, FAS
Tom Brace, MN State Fire Chief's Association
Angela Geraghty, Department of Public Safety – Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Johnson at 10:00 a.m.

The April 4, 2012 meeting minutes were approved as written.

New Business:

There was brief discussion on the legislative session and the onetime \$4.5 million appropriation in FY13. \$500,000 was appropriated for equipment for regional and state teams. During negotiations it was understood that the remainder would go towards firefighter training.

Bruce West presented a funding proposal from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education for the \$4 million appropriation:

- \$1,720,200 NFPA 1001, Firefighter 1 and 2, Hazmat OPS, Certification. The cost of the class is \$1,250 per firefighter with an additional \$150 for certifications. MBFTE will apply for a hazmat exercise program grant from HSEM, which will reduce costs to \$1,220 per firefighter.
- \$200,000 Conferences, Seminars, Leadership Development. Distribute funds to various organizations to bring in nationally recognized speakers regionally and to fire

departments. Spent \$150,000 this year and was very successful, would like to increase to \$200,000.

\$200,000	Live Burn training funding assistance. There are additional requirements in the NFPA 1403 standard. Up to \$1,500 in assistance per live burn acquired structure would be available provided the 2012 NFPA 1403 standards are followed and qualified instructors are used.
\$100,000	Incident Safety Officer: A 4-year project with an end goal to have an Incident Safety Officer in every fire department around the state. Anticipate approximately 195 classes per year.
\$214,000	1st Class Cities additional \$200 per firefighter: \$80,600 Minneapolis \$87,000 St. Paul \$26,600 Duluth \$19,800 Rochester
\$200,000	Task Force 1
\$110,000	ERT
\$100,000	Chemical Assessment Teams (10 teams x \$10,000)
<u>\$1,155,800</u>	Training Reimbursements
\$4,000,000	

There was discussion regarding whether certification should be a requirement when receiving state funds. Some believe that when accepting state dollars certification should be mandatory as it is a measurable outcome. Concern was expressed that this may create a barrier to training and some may not seek the training if certification is required. There was also discussion regarding the political aspect and possible risk of losing money if certification is not required.

Members discussed the proposed funding for conferences and seminars. A suggestion was made to designate \$50,000 from the \$200,000 request to an RFP for the creation of a leadership development train the trainer curriculum. The curriculum would be Minnesota based and provide a means to address succession planning concerns that are currently seen in the fire service.

State Fire Marshal Rosendahl presented the following funding request for consideration:

\$250,000	Shared Fire & Rescue Services Grant Program. \$200,000 was previously provided in grants to 8 communities that each hired a consultant to conduct a feasibility study on shared services. Those studies are complete and the communities are in various stages of implementing the resulting recommendations. Proposal for second round of shared services grants to be provided for new studies as well as to fund next steps for communities involved in the first round. Fire Marshal Rosendahl routinely
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receives inquiries regarding whether there will be another round of shared services grants.

\$100,000 Highway Responder Safety Program. Currently there is a group of public safety professionals working on a Minnesota training program dealing with the injuries, deaths and vehicle damage caused while working on highway emergency incidents. The group consists of the State Patrol, State Fire Marshal, Fire Training Board, MN Ambulance Association, MN Fire Chief's Association, MN Highway Safety Center, MN Police Chiefs Association and MN Sheriffs Association. Funding will be used to develop a MN version of this training to include a guidebook and DVD developed in modules suitable for training done in various lengths of time.

Members discussed the Highway Responder Safety Program. Because the program involves not only fire personnel but other emergency responders, it was agreed that funding recommendations for this program should be discussed with legislators. Members also agreed that recommendations for shared services grants should be discussed with legislators.

The following motion for recommendations to the Commissioner was made by Nyle Zikmund and seconded by Dan Winkel:

\$1,720,200 NFPA 1001, Firefighter 1 and 2, Hazmat OPS, certification offered

\$150,000 Conferences, Seminars, Leadership Development

\$50,000 RFP for Leadership Development Curriculum

\$100,000 Live Burn Training funding assistance, up to \$1,500.00 per burn

\$100,000 Incident Safety Officer Project

\$214,000 1st Class Cities Additional \$200 per firefighter:
\$80,600 Minneapolis
\$87,000 St. Paul
\$26,600 Duluth
\$19,800 Rochester

\$200,000 Task Force 1

\$110,000 ERT

\$100,000 Chemical Assessment Teams (10 teams x \$10,000)

\$955,800 Training Reimbursements

\$200,000 Shared Fire and Rescue Services Grant Program

\$100,000 Highway Safety Responder Program

\$4,000,000

The above recommendations were made with the caveat that contact will be made with Senators Limmer and Robling to seek their approval of the \$100,000 recommendation to the Highway Safety Responder Program and the \$200,000 recommendation to Shared Fire and Rescue Services grants. In the event that approval is not obtained, the \$100,000 recommendation to the Highway Safety Responder Program is directed to Live Burn training to bring the Live Burn training recommendation to \$200,000. Likewise, if approval for the \$200,000 shared services recommendation is not obtained, the recommendation is directed to training reimbursement bringing that total to \$1,155,800.

Nyle Zikmund made a motion, seconded by Tom Thornberg, to make the following recommendation to the Commissioner of Public Safety and to MBFTE:

Salaries and any other form of wage compensation is a reimbursable expense when related to firefighter training.

During discussion on the motion concern was expressed that some reimbursement will be made, but when the funding is exhausted no further payments would be made and this creates an inconsistent program. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 1.