



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



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MINUTES OF THE MARCH 29, 2005 MEETING OF
THE COMMISSION ON FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Chairman Peter Carozza called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners' Cantor, Haber, Nicol, Ouellette, Kowalski, Stankye and Wilkinson.

Staff members Lewandowski, Lewis, Morrisette, O'Neil, Piechota and Auclair were present.

Robert Walsh was a guest at the meeting.

Robert Kenney from the Dept. of Public Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness (OPHP) was introduced as a guest at the meeting.

Attendees took a moment to pledge allegiance to the American flag.

State Fire Administrator Morrisette said it gave him great pleasure to recognize James Scavetta for his 10 years of service. He said Jim began his career with the Commission back on January 6, 1995 as our Facilities Quality Craft-Worker and had also worked for the electrical sub-contractor that had the contract for construction of this facility. He takes a lot of pride in the type of work that he does and he is a perfectionist. On behalf of the Commissioners and staff he extended congratulations in recognition of Jim's 10 years of service to the agency.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Ouellette and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Haber to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cantor to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Stankye and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kowalski to approve the staff report for the period of January 15, 2005 through February 14, 2005. Motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wilkinson to approve the staff report for the period of February 15, 2005 through March 14, 2005. Motion carried.

Moving to item 4a.) Budget Update – Mr. Morrissette stated, as indicated in our staff report, we had our meeting with the Appropriations Regulations Protection Subcommittee to review our budget. From an operating expense standpoint, the agency only received some minor inflationary increases which were before a reduction. It did come to our attention that there was a small amount of money added for foam trailer maintenance, approximately \$9,000, and \$3,000 to assist with some of the production cost with the Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan. There was also some discussion amongst representatives of the legislature in regard to reviving the Limited Access Highway Fund (LAH). He said he's had numerous discussions with Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) cautioning them about the figure of \$100,000. He indicated, while the eligible fire companies would be pleased with the action, it would cause a significant problem in that upon program revival, funding would be gone probably within 3 or 4 months based upon prior usage.

We were told by Department of Public Works (DPW) that we were on the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) Bond Commission's agenda 2 months ago for funding of security improvements. The meeting was cancelled and there was no February meeting. Last week there was a Bond Commission meeting and that particular item was not approved to go on the agenda. DPW is hoping to get this item on the April agenda.

Moving to item 4b.) CSFA Education Committee Update – Commissioner Wilkinson reported that the Committee met on March 16th. Director of Certification Piechota and Ed O'Hurley, Certification Coordinator came and participated in excellent dialogue with the representatives of the various schools over the JPR's and final evaluations. They came to some positive agreement and it appears there will be progress in that area. As far as the regional school initiative is concerned, the Willimantic facility was attempting to schedule a meeting between themselves, DPW and the property owner to begin negotiations for the purchase of property. A formal letter was submitted from the Waterbury Area Chiefs stating their desire to have the Wolcott School relocated to the site at the Naugatuck Valley Community College. The list of architects has been reduced to 5 for the New Haven project and the architects are scheduled to make a formal presentation to the selection committee on April 13. It is their hope it to have DPW request funding through the architectural services and be on the May Bonding Commission meeting agenda. He said that DPW Project Manager, Donald Ouillette, anticipates the potential of 3 different architects; 1 for the New Haven facility, 1 for the expansion here at the Academy and 1 for all the other facilities. Mr. Ouillette also mentioned that they've received word of a possible stumbling block that may have to be addressed as the regional schools revitalization process continues. There's a concern by OPM that the state may be placing money into facilities and infrastructure on property that they don't technically own. They may ask to have a holding agency designated for some of the regional fire school properties. This doesn't apply to the Fire Academy,

Fairfield, New Haven or Stamford, but the other entities that are a non-municipal or non-state owned property. There was a discussion to have the Connecticut State Firefighter's Association (CSFA) act as the holding agency being that the Education Committee is an offshoot. Perhaps OPM would then recognize them to fill that need. The other alternative that was discussed was to ask the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control to serve as the holding agency for the other regional fire schools. He being a principal of both organizations offered to go back and talk to both groups. He's talked with the president of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association (CSFA) and indications are he's in favor of being the holding agency if the state will recognize them; but we're unsure if they would qualify. He proposed to the Commission that discussions be held with the consideration that if for any reason the CSFA cannot serve as the holding agency for these regional school properties; that the Commission go on record as being willing to take on that role so as not to hold up the revitalization process. He also mentioned that later on the agenda there is an item referencing Certification Testing Eligibility Policy and is happy to report that there was good discussion regarding that matter. The Regional Fire Schools voted unanimously to adopt that policy.

Commissioner Nicol added that a third group, the Comptrollers' office was considered for the holding agency, which Mr. Ouillette is planning to pursue.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nicol if circumstances warrant and a holding agency is required to facilitate the reconstruction of the regional fire schools, the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control goes on record as being willing to serve in that capacity if requested. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrisette reported that there has been a tentative agreement between the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) for some property here at Bradley to move the rubble pile that has been constructed for the TOPOFF 3 exercise in New London. The pile would be moved up to property here where the Fire Marshals currently run their Advanced Fire Investigation program. The location would be where they store the three trailers right off Perimeter Road near route 75. He said he's been in touch with Commissioner Blashick to advise him of that, as there may need to be some movement of those trailers to facilitate this transfer.

Commissioner Stankye asked if we're going to be pushing the trailers out of their space.

Mr. Morrisette said he had not been involved with the walk-through yesterday but it appears that DOT principles had indicated that the trailers were theirs and he understands that they may be in the vicinity of part of the pile. He said they probably will need to be moved and he had some discussion with Commissioner Blashick yesterday. They'll have to have the equipment on site to facilitate the movement of debris and engineering to some degree.

Commissioner Stankye said he just wants to make sure the fire marshal's class is not adversely affected.

Commissioner Kowalski added that they have been training there for quite a while and that's a central location to enhance the school instead of housing rubble. He understands the importance of that product to be placed out there but he's certain that there is enough room for everyone to use that area.

Mr. Morrissette said there is no agreement that those trailers exist and they are just there on a day to day basis. DOT thought they were their trailers and offered to have the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team use them while they are training.

Moving to agenda item 4c.) Service Voucher Update – Mr. Morrissette reported that letters were mailed to eligible fire companies and they were given until April 8th to select an option. They could either select to use the voucher as we did in last year's program or select to receive direct payment. It appears thus far, those who contacted us are opting for the voucher. Those who would like a direct payment have until April 22nd to submit the appropriate forms to be added as a vendor before the check can be processed. One minor problem is the Department of Social Services (DSS) hasn't transferred the money to us yet, although we are expecting to receive that any day. We are on a tight deadline where either companies have to utilize the voucher or have a check cut no later than June 15, 2005.

Moving to item 4d.) Certification Testing Eligibility Policy – Mr. Morrissette said we had discussions last month at length regarding the Commission's consideration of establishing a policy as it relates to eligible criteria for people who desire to become certified to various levels of certification offered by our agency. There are numerous reasons for this, essentially because the vast majority of levels have testing embedded within them, there are issues related to the review that many of the courses go through for college credit and qualifications of Instructors and such. He said, as Commissioner Wilkinson mentioned, we had discussions with representatives of the Education Committee and Regional Fire Schools, who adopted the policy. All the schools were present with the exception of Fairfield, Stamford and New Haven so we had two thirds of the schools represented. There were specific questions which were addressed. In our Mission Delineation Agreement this actually provides them with at present 1 additional level of training leading to certification which they can conduct on a regional level. He presumes that would be extended out to a local level being the level of Pump Operator and in the future would be Tanker Operator once we have an opportunity to pilot test.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kowalski that the Commission adopts the Certification Eligibility Policy as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrissette remarked that we currently have 2 requests on hand for local training currently underway for HAZ MAT Technician. One is for Guilford and the other is Middletown.

Mr. Piechota stated that the Guilford test is tomorrow. Middletown has given us informal information that they will be requesting a certification examination for HAZ MAT Technician but we have not received an official request from them yet. We have a written request for a stand alone Fire Service Instructor I (FSI-I) program with the Fairfield Fire Department. He asked how the policy will impact these two requests.

Mr. Morrissette said we might want to establish an implementation date so we can communicate the policy language.

Mr. Lewandowski added that the implementation date is what it is and those are on the board. He is aware of the request from Fairfield which they're involved with, as well as the Guilford request, which has been ongoing. He said there could be issues relating to the announcement of an implementation date.

Commissioner Wilkinson said from previous discussions it sounded as if the Commission staff would prefer if we didn't delegate the FSI-I class out to Fairfield and asked if that is correct.

Mr. Lewandowski replied that one of the situations with Fairfield was that they were looking to do training on shift for five people at a time. We've honored one request in the past few years to evaluate a FSI-I course done by a fire department. We went and did the skills testing for them with a high failure rate. It is a program that needs us to have Instructors out in the field and it could be very detrimental if they're doing it for five people at a time and not giving the interaction from other perspectives. He said he agrees with Commissioner Wilkinson that from a training perspective, we're not very much in favor with that. We did offer other alternatives to do partnerships with the Fairfield Fire Department, but they want to do small groups on shift and he does not feel it would be a good program to do it that way.

A discussion period followed.

Mr. Piechota said it is his understanding that we have no problem going and testing the HAZ MAT Technician class for Guilford and no problem offering testing for the Middletown program as long as that will be done in the near future. He said he is still confused about what to do with the FSI-I.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Nicol and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cantor that we allow the two HAZ MAT Technician exams that were previously mentioned based on the Certification Eligibility Policy motion we passed and we do not allow the FSI-I testing program to be conducted.

Moving to item 4e.) Certification Testing (Safety Officer) – Mr. Piechota said at the last meeting the Safety Officer Certification Procedure was revised and there was no quorum so a vote could not be taken. It is resubmitted for the Commission's consideration with one small change. Last month for certification to Health and Safety Officer, we were requiring that the individual attend the Connecticut Fire Academy (CFA) Incident Safety Officer course and that has now been changed. A person wishing to become certified for Health and Safety Officer would need to attend the Health and Safety Officer course offered by the CFA and go through the stated testing procedure. For Incident Safety Officer they would have to attend the CFA Incident Safety Officer course and go through the stated testing procedure. Incident Safety Officer EMS Operations would be that procedure plus the person would have to be an EMT-B, as well as submit proof of attending a Mass Casualty Incident training program. If the Commission chooses to offer Incident Safety Officer HAZ MAT Operations, a person would go through the Incident Safety Officer course and then also be a HAZ MAT Technician. Those are the procedures. He also said we are proposing for a period of one year from the date of adoption, that those persons who are currently certified to the level of Fire Department Safety Officer be allowed to use that certification in lieu of attendance at those two training courses. They still have to meet the other requirements and test out. The existing folks can get these new levels without taking training for one year by substituting their certification for the training.

Mr. Lewandowski said he was speaking for Director of Training Piskura and said that last month we discussed some of the issues with having these multiple levels of certification out there as well as how it impacts the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards and actually department operational procedures. He said they support the suppression end of this fully but looking at all these different areas may bring some confusion to the fire service constituents who really don't understand the OSHA versus certification. He said he's not sure we need to have all these levels of certification or not. The majority of fire departments operating in Connecticut right now are functioning at the operational level for HAZ MAT and we may be putting Safety Officer HAZ MAT Operations outside of their reach because we only have approximately 500 technicians in the State of Connecticut.

Commissioner Kowalski asked if we go for adoption will all the sections be adopted.

Mr. Piechota replied affirmatively but if the Commission chooses to only adopt two of the levels, he suggests that they adopt Health and Safety Officer and Incident Safety Officer Fire Suppression. Those are the two main levels that would be most applicable to the vast majority of the fire service.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ouellette that the Commission adopts only the Health and Safety Officer and Incident Safety Officer Fire Suppression portions of the Certification Procedure as presented and phase in the other factors at a later date if there is a demand from constituents. Motion carried.

Mr. Piechota also reported on the Rescue Technician Certification program. He said the Rescue Technician Certification program for all of the levels that the Commission has previously approved consists of two pieces. One which we are calling Core is essentially a set of requirements that are common to all of the levels that are being certified so the CFA has chosen to offer a stand alone program called Rescue Technician Core. At the time of completion of that program, persons are tested out for the common objectives. The question that arises is how long the results of that common test should be recognized, as the other levels of technician certification such as Rescue Trenching, Confined Space and Vehicle will take some time to be implemented. The proposal in front of us is that the successful completion of the Core test would be good for a two year period and if candidates do not become certified to a specialty level within two years, they'll have to retest unless the standard changes, at which time they would have to be trained and retested. If they become certified to one of the specialty levels, the Core results will be valid for an additional two years. When the standard changes, most likely the training would have to be re-conducted and candidates would have to be retested.

A brief discussion followed.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Nicol and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kowalski that the Commission adopt the Rescue Technician Core test time as presented.

Mr. Piechota also reported that last month this was brought before the Commission but due to lack of a quorum there was no vote. One of the recommendations from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Site visit is that the Commission begin to offer HAZ MAT Awareness and Operational stand alone certification levels. He asked if the Commission wants to do that and if so, we will create the process and bring it back to the Commission at a later date.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ouellette to have the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control carry on with the process of having those two separate levels of certification. Motion carried.

Moving to item 4f.) Legislative Update-Regulation Adoption Status – Mr. Morrissette stated that an updated bill tracking chart was distributed this morning and he doesn't have any specific comments. He asked if anyone representing any of the other organizations has comments on any of the proposed legislation. He also said he was recently asked by a Fire Chief to post information as it relates to the career/volunteer issue legislation and trying to get people to contact their legislators. He said he has a concern that it puts him in the middle and he's not sure how to address that specifically. It appears they're consolidating some of the bills and he hasn't talked to Ted Schroll specifically but there was a meeting in the Waterbury area about it. He said if one of the organizations presents something to him, he will post it through the List Serv. He also said the Chief understands the position that this places the Commission.

Commissioner Kowalski remarked that he would like to make sure we're not put into that position. He said he knows the importance of the issue on both sides but it is imperative that either the State Firemen's Association assume the responsibility of developing a press release or develop a supporting letter and submit it to be posted to the List Serv. He said he wants it to be perceived by our constituents that it really is irrelevant to whether a person is paid or not. He wants to maintain that level of professionalism on the political end of things.

Mr. Morrissette stated that Mr. Piechota left our last meeting a little early to attend a meeting with the Legislative Regulation Review Committee at the LOB. The Regulations as noted in the staff report were rejected without prejudice. There are a number of recommended changes that they've supplied to us.

Mr. Piechota added remarks stating that most of the rejections are administrative in nature. The only one of substance is we have a revocable clause in the new Regulation to specifically indicate when the Commission can revoke certification. They are saying that we did not identify due process for that revocation in accordance with some other state statutes, so we must put in the actual due process for the revocation. We will re-create that clause and resubmit the Regulations.

Moving to item 5a.) Paramedic Testing Initiative - Mr. Piechota said as was mentioned a few months ago, OEMS approached the Commission to see if we could put together a proposal of what it would take to do national registry paramedic testing here at our facility, which he believe would be the only state sponsored testing. He said we have put together a proposal and preliminarily, it appears that we will be able to charge a cost of approximately \$200 per person to develop and administer a national registry paramedic testing here at this facility commencing probably in September but perhaps earlier. He said we are asking for the Commission's approval to go forward to put this in place and added that the only potential problem may be the salary paid to examiners.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Wilkinson and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kowalski to have the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control administer paramedic testing. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrissette mentioned about the salary issue and asked Mr. Piechota to explain. Mr. Piechota stated that the only potential problem we anticipate is it requires nine persons to administer the various practical skills stations and they have to be paramedics. The current prevailing rate for persons who serve as practical skills evaluators at paramedic testing is approximately \$30 per hour. He said we are certainly going to do our best to try to get staff currently working for the Commission to do this at the Commission's pay rate. If we cannot find enough people we will have to figure out how we will be able to get the appropriate number of persons at the appropriate pay rate without causing a conflict. We don't have a \$30 per hour pay rate available to us so our folks cannot be paid that amount of money. There is no provision as he understands it to pay compensation rates depending on what you're doing, so if they are working for us they

will be paid their current rate of pay. If we bring in folks from the outside, we may not be able to pay them because we don't have that rate of pay and this situation could cause some problems.

Commissioner Cantor asked what the \$200 includes.

Mr. Piechota replied that it includes the cost incurred to proctor a written test and full testing of nine stations. Also it would include the cost of Evaluators at approximately \$30 per hour and the cost of assistants that are required as well as simulated patients. The purchase of some consumables would also be included.

Commissioner Nicol asked if the \$200 also include the fee for the National Registry.

Mr. Piechota replied that is a \$50 fee and it is not included.

Commissioner Wilkinson remarked that as a consumer from an agency that sends people to these exams regularly, it would be ideal to have paramedic testing available in state.

Commissioner Cantor also remarked that in as much as the college is offering the paramedic program right now, this would be something they could really capitalize on.

Mr. Morrisette stated that Robert Kenney is here today to speak briefly on an issue involving the Mark 1 Kits and to ensure that all fire departments statewide are aware of the program and avail themselves of it. He also said Bill Auclair, our Program Manager for Hazardous Materials (HAZ MAT) and other areas, is here to provide background information if necessary. Mr. Kenney stated that he is with the Department of Public Health Office of Public Health Preparedness (DPH, OPHP) and prior to that he was Assistant Police Chief for the Town of Orange. He has also been a volunteer firefighter with the North Haven Fire Department for about 24 years. He presented an overview of the Mark I Nerve Agent Antidote Program that has been developed to better help protect our state's first responders. This also includes those fire service providers that do not come under the direct control of a municipality, e.g., fire districts, as well as the private fire departments – Sikorsky Aircraft, Electric Boat, etc. He sought the assistance of fire departments statewide and said if any one has any questions, they should contact him or Director of Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), Leonard Guercia.

A brief question and answer period followed.

Mr. Morrisette added that a memo Mr. Kenney had sent to us yesterday was distributed and asked Commissioners to share the information with their organizations and be sure it gets disseminated, especially to some of those services that maybe somewhat segregated and not directly connected to a government entity.

Moving to item 5b.) FO-III Prerequisite Proposal – Mr. Piechota stated that right now to be certified as a FO-III, an individual must also be certified as FSI-II. That requirement

was not mandated for the first three classes of FO-III so folks were able to become certified as FO-III without being certified as FSI-II. We're proposing that the Commission extend that consideration to the last two classes because of some confusion as to whether folks thought they needed it or not; and allow those folks to be certified as FO-III without being FSI-II with the understanding that this does not allow them to go to FO-IV nor would it enable them to be nationally certified.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Kowalski and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Nicol that the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control allow the extension to happen. Motion carried.

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

Moving to item 7 – Matters to be raised by Commissioners and staff –Commissioner Cantor said he wanted to highlight and underscore a piece that Mr. Piskura wrote in this month's Instructors Dispatch on page 7 - the college credits for CFA courses and how CFA courses can be college creditable when moved into the college degrees in the state or elsewhere for firefighters. He said certainly we're all concerned about building career and educational paths so that the firefighter, as the first responder, can take information gained on the job and move it towards a college degree. He said that the Joint Commission on Public Safety is entertaining House Bill 5847 that would grant waivers in the Community-Technical College system for volunteers for up to 12 college credits. This would be a nice embellishment for Connecticut firefighters, at least the volunteers, to be able to take some of the CFA learning and with this Bill move it towards a college degree. Hopefully it would increase the numbers in our Fire Technology Associates Science degree program that we have across the state. They would like to pump some life into that program and this Bill, combined with the publicity that Mr. Piskura is giving to CFA programs, could get more people into the higher education pipeline. He thinks we need to promote that as much as possible.

Peter O'Neil reported that Fred Morton of the Business office had an angioplasty procedure last weekend is doing well now.

Mr. Piechota said a handout distributed this morning called the Summary of Recommended Actions is one which IFSAC neglected to send us from the site visit they conducted back in October. This outlines their recommended actions and none of them are mandatory, although we've enacted a number of them and are moving forward until they are finished. He said if anyone had specific questions to see him anytime.

Mr. Morrissette reported that the Auditor has completed her work as of yesterday and presented us with a list of six recommendations that we have to respond to by next week. These are deficiencies noted and we will prepare responses for those at which time there will be an exit interview. If any Commissioner is interested to sit in on the interview they are more than welcome to do so. He said she asked him to extend her appreciation for the cooperation the staff exhibited during her 300 plus hours stay here along with her

assistant. We always take to heart the recommendations and at times it is very difficult to fully implement, but we do our best to comply.

Mr. Morrissette also mentioned the TOPOFF 3 Exercise scheduled to take place next week in New London and asked if anyone needed assistance with arrangements. He also said the training staff is going to participate as safety officers in the event and we will have a compliment of individuals at the EOC as part of staffing the Statewide Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan.

He also mentioned that many of the Commissioners probably received a letter recently from a Mr. Hancock. He said this relates to the Hope Hose issue from many years ago. He said he's shared a copy with the Office of the Attorney General. Also right around the same time, another individual with a different name posted something which was made to appear as a news article titled "Cheating Scandal Rocks Connecticut State Fire Academy" on Firehouse.com. He said a copy of his draft response was distributed this morning and he sent a copy to the Attorney General's Office for approval to send to Mr. Hancock. Essentially Mr. Hancock is seeking an appeal of his failing the practical skill evaluation for Firefighter I three times. His argument relates to consistency in rules interpretations. Mr. Morrissette said his letter identifies what the appeals process is and he wanted Commissioners to know that the final step in the process is attendance at a Commission meeting, at which time the Commission's decision is final. There has been several law suits filed down in the Fairfield county area that have not gone in the direction a certain individual has desired, so they're trying to dredge up a lot of bad publicity to force an issue. Our initial investigation that we did several years ago showed that Hope Hose, while it was not a response company within the Norwalk Fire Department, was actually utilized by the former Fire Chief Jack Yost as a recruitment tool to give city residents additional credit to possibly acquire career positions within that department. Unfortunately Chief Yost has passed and cannot provide that history. Some of the other issues relates to the training and testing of someone below the age of 18. It is our understanding the test date was move up by the Instructor of record who was not working for us and the individual took the test and was certified. We feel we're on strong ground and we're sure this is not the end of it but we'll try to address things as they come along. If the Attorney General Office wants us to look at trying to revoke something we will do that.

Commissioner Ouellette asked how we're progressing on the HAZ MAT 472 program.

Mr. Lewandowski responded that the program has been up and running since the beginning of the year. We started out with only two people registered and now we're up to approximately 30 people in the Pathways program and it seems to be working out good.

Commissioner Nicol asked if we're supposed to do anything with the HAZ MAT Certification Fee Proposal.

Mr. Piechota said that at a future meeting we'll bring forward a range of options how to deliver these stand alone modules as well as some suggested costs.

Commissioner Nicol also asked if there were any new developments on the establishment of a Fire Service Caucus.

Mr. Morrisette replied that our original date with representatives from Pennsylvania was postponed due to snow and a new date is scheduled for April 13. Three representatives will travel up to meet with representatives of the Joint Council. Also we will try to solidify final plans for Fire Service Day at the Capitol scheduled for May 11. He said it's not too early to ask all the organizations if they have a need or interest in having a table to begin letting Executive Secretary, Yvonne Lewis or himself know. He said what is most important that day is the giveaway items below \$10 for legislators, staff and members of the public that may be traveling through the area. He's not sure this year if we will have exterior displays but in the past Hartford Fire Department has been helpful in bringing down a vehicle or two. It should be a relatively good day in terms of activities. It is important for as many organizations to participate and have information that they can share.

Commissioner Nicol mentioned that we had talked about having a meeting at the LOB and asked if we've scheduled it yet.

Mr. Morrisette replied that he's had some preliminary discussions with Chairman Carozza this morning. We're looking at possibly having a May or June meeting and we would invite Commissioner Thomas of DEMHS to attend.

Commissioner Ouellette said that Russ Emons one of our Adjunct Instructor should be commended for working with the American Red Cross and other fire entities to put together the Masters of Disaster Fire Safety Program. It is a fabulous program and will be good for the Fire Service.

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

Chairman Carozza adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

Dated:

Edward F. Haber, Secretary
Commission on Fire
Prevention and Control