



**MINUTES**  
Firefighter Mobilization Oversight Committee  
*May 4, 2007*  
*State Fire Marshal's Office*

**Members Present:** Karl Ristow, Phill Jolley, Paul Watts, Alvin Payne, and Ron Osborne. Wendell Wilburn, Bruce Kline, and Jim Bowie participated via conference call.  
**Others:** Jason Pope, Ed Roper and John Reich

- Chairman Osborne called meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Minutes from the January 12, 2007, meeting were read and approved.
- Jason passed out the US&R Director's report from Mick Mayers.
- Jason gave the state coordinator's report.
  - o We have received a quote of \$1,800 for a software package that would enable FFMob to print FireTrax ID cards directly from SEMS. Wendell made a motion to purchase this software; the motion was seconded by Alvin. No discussion and motion carried. Jason will handle this.

**Old Business**

- Sub-Committee Reports
  - o Workers' Compensation Reform – John stated that LLR Deputy General Counsel Sharon Dantzler had re-written the proposed legislation to address this issue. The Governor's Office said it would support the legislation. Ron stated the Governor's Office told him it would find a sponsor for this bill, but none has been found yet. John asked for direction with this legislation. John will send the draft proposal to Jason; Jason will then send it to the committee. Since it is after May 1, the bill will have to be introduced on the floor. Jim Bowie said he would try to get this added to an existing bill.
  - o US&R Funding – Jim reported that a US&R budget of \$983,840 was included in the House version as non-recurring and in the Senate version as recurring. It will be three weeks or so before we know which version will be adopted.
- The issue of FDID numbers came back up. There is not an easy answer to the question of who is and who isn't a fire department. Ed reported that Joe Palmer (President, Firefighters' Association) had not given him a list of FDID number issues so he had nothing to add. Jim stated that Morris Russell (Firefighters' Association Executive Committee) is working with a committee to answer these

questions, and Jim added that we should let Morris's committee address this instead of the General Assembly. Jim reported that the V-SAFE legislation lists the State Fire Marshal as the chair of the grant committee, with the members being fire service representatives.

- All the FFMob committee members have received the appointment paperwork from the Governor's Office. Nothing has been sent back to the members confirming this.
- FFMob Strategic Plan – Karl has put together bullets for this plan and will be sending them to the committee via email.
- 2006 Annual Report – Jason passed out draft copies of the annual report. Alvin wanted to include an update from the US&R director. Ron said he would include a US&R program update in his article. Wendell made a motion to perform the same mail out as was done for the 2005 annual report. One thousand copies were printed and mailed to each S.C. fire department, members of the General Assembly and the Governor's Office. Motion was seconded with some discussion. Motion carried.
- Karl asked about our budget status and requested we change the format of budget report so it is more detailed. He also requested we develop individual budgets for FFMob and US&R, since there is a good chance US&R will have its own budget next year. Jason will follow up with this.

## **New Business**

- Jason passed out the proposed organizational chart for the Division of Fire and Life Safety and the draft position description along with draft job posting for the proposed Assistant State Fire Marshal (ASFM) for Emergency Response.
  - o Bruce requested that the FFMob committee be moved under the State Fire Marshal on the organizational chart. The group agreed this change was needed. Jason will make this change and send it out via email.
  - o The question was raised as to whether or not the ASFM position could be paid out of the US&R budget. Jim stated the FTEs within that budget were not specific; therefore, the committee can decide how to handle FTEs. Alvin requested the ASFM and the US&R Director be separate positions. John requested the committee give him feedback on the position description. The group also said Mick Mayers needed to be involved with developing the position description. Jason was asked to get examples of US&R director's job duties, including the job description for the former SC-TF1 director.

- Alvin asked about funding of the Fire Grants coordinator position. John said that position could be funded out of the US&R budget.
  
- State Fire Project update – Jason stated the radiation detectors and chemical monitors have been sent out for bid. Jason also added that the list of fire departments, who serve populations greater than 25,000, was not a complete list. That list was based on data submitted to the Firefighters’ Association. Jason compared that list with the U.S. Census information and found discrepancies. Jason will compile a list of fire departments that serve populations greater than 25,000 based on data from the Firefighters’ Association and the U.S. Census and email it out to the committee for review.

### **Open Discussion**

- Ron updated the committee on the Earthquake Exercise coming up in June. SCEMD will be assisting SC-TF1 with funding, but Ron needs a detailed budget for that money. Jason will talk to Ken Bell about this.
- Ron also stated that the 800 MHz radios are being issued to fire departments east of I-95.
- Paul stated the state IMT would not be operational until sometime next year.
- Karl told the committee about the Senior PGA tour event at Kiawah this month. They have created an incident action plan and would be running this event like an incident.
- The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.
- Motion was made to adjourn and was seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Pope