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Andrew Henning advised they are monitoring what is happening with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). He advised they aligned their titles to match what NFPA had proposed and will be sending their curriculum plans to one of the North American Fire Training Directors representatives sitting on that cadre. He advised they will update the Company Officer, Chief Fire Officer, and Executive Chief Officer when the new NFPA standard comes out and at that time will look at adding these as courses as a requirement for certification. He thanked the cadre and staff for their hard work and time creating this course from scratch and thanked the committee for their guidance.

K. Conant recognized that the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee was a terrific partner by providing both material resource as well as a potential interest in further developing the curriculum that would assist both the students and instructors.

Taral Brideau advised they are working on the committee that will be using the course plan as the outline to come up with some more detailed curriculum so that instructors aren't having to pull in data and information to make their own lesson plans for the awareness level. She explained that it is an awesome course plan but there is no textbook so they are trying to fill the gap a little bit.

John Bagala stated that a couple of years ago there was a big shift in the personal protective equipment (PPE) for the wildland firefighter to where personnel started wearing combination uniform/wildland pants 24/7. He advised the idea and the practice seem to be inconsistent with everything else surrounding cancer awareness. These individual pants are treated as uniforms when convenient and then treated as PPE when convenient. He explained that most of the fires they are going on are urban interface fires and the carcinogens are the same when you have 50 houses burning as if you were one person sitting inside of a house. He asked if it was addressed or if there are plans to do so.

K. Conant acknowledged this as a great question. He stated that in wildland fire fighting we know that the toxins are there yet we're not addressing it. He advised that one of the cadre members is engineer Derek Erwin who is taking a leave of absence from the Los Angeles County Fire Department to finish his doctoral dissertation. He is a member of the fire service cancer cohort that did a lot of data collection. Last year he started the urine task force where they are collecting urine samples from firefighters in the field at wildland fires. He explained that when they get the data they will be able to specifically look at the issues, because they know that if there is smoke or char then there are cancer causing agents. He advised this is being addressed with scientific and evidence-based practices.

J. Bagala asked if he is the only one having this problem with the wildland pants or if this is widespread. Brent Stangeland explained that they have gone to a single layer

based off a risk assessment that identified that they saw a lot less burn injuries and a higher result of heat related illnesses. He advised it was based on the data that we need to get ahead of the heat related illness and adjust tactics appropriately. He agreed that J. Bagala brought up a great point that can't be turned a blind eye to and it is a big concern that we may want to calendar on future agenda items for STEAC.

J. Bagala advised he agrees with the reasons they switched to them, but they are PPE and they're being allowed into the fire station which conflicts with everything we are doing with the curriculums and changing the paradigm. M. Murphy mentioned that a big issue is culture.

David Baldwin stated that through Firescope they are developing this behavioral health process and trying to get it integrated into the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) system. He asked A. Henning how he sees this curriculum effecting the process in terms of prerequisites. A. Henning advised these are awareness level courses.

K. Conant advised they had members from that working group on the cadre so they made sure everything they placed in their curriculum would be within their vision of seamless alignment. He advised he doesn't think there will be an issue with this being out of alignment. He advised they must wait to see what they put in the task book and what they require as prerequisites.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>John Bagala moved to accept the motion. Gaudenz Panholzer seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

## **B. FSTEP Fire Control 3 Curriculum (2018)**

Presenter: Kevin Conant

Attachment: 20

Kevin Conant explained that there were 3 issues including gas cooling, completing the surveys, and aligning the requisites to include CAL FIRE C404 Safety Officer. He advised they have taken care of those items. He advised they took into consideration the feedback from the surveys and could provide a comprehensive report on the surveys if requested. He stated that he received one written statement from Chad Christensen. He advised this is the first live fire training curriculum that is National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant based on NFPA 1403, 2018 edition. He advised you can expect staff to come back to STEAC with an analysis and recommendation to update some of the skills sheets within this curriculum for Fire Control 3 and some of the instructor elements in the 2 instructor courses to align with the evidence-based best practice that UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute (FSRI) has come out with.

James Mendoza stated that it was a monumental undertaking to put the curriculum together. He advised they tried to focus on adding the information that is now becoming more mainstream, such as chemistry and physics, to explain underlying principles and a broad view of required skills to apply the information. He acknowledged it is probably not the curriculum that every expert in the room wanted but by consensus they came to an agreement that these were important aspects to include. He advised they expect it to be dynamic and changing as they gather more information but that is a process of science-based inquiry and application. He advised it is a culmination of many years of hard work and various points of view with a good cross section of people representing the state.

C. Christensen thanked K. Conant for the opportunity to speak. He thanked the cadre for their time and effort and advised it is an amazing and well-composed document. He advised his concern is referring to gas cooling and not meeting today's research. He advised the document needs to maintain a level of consistency with UL FSRI's research. He advised NFPA 1700 removed everything related to gas cooling and droplet sizes as a tactic. He advised he sent the information to K. Conant and would be glad assist in any way to address these issues that put CA firefighters at risk of learning things the wrong way. He advised anything related to a fog stream needs to be removed from this curriculum as gas cooling is ineffective.

K. Conant recommended approving this curriculum, and as new information becomes available they will update it. He advised he would like to offer the equivalent of a friendly amendment to pull skill number 4 out for further development. This leaves a hole in the curriculum and they must go to Andrew Henning in terms of resources, budget, time, and staff to be able to place something in there. He advised gas cooling has been a concern with stakeholders from the beginning and even some cadre members. The NFPA 1403 edition mentioned gas cooling one time with no definition or guidance so they included gas cooling to ensure compliance. K. Conant explained that there is a colloquial and scientific definition of gas cooling and he doesn't think it is worth it to rehash this out or to reject the curriculum after the 4-year process.

J. Binaski asked if there is an option to renumber the skills exercise and set this one as optional.

K. Conant advised the JPR is written as a "shall". He explained that even if we made this change there would still be issues with what some would say.

Bret Davidson explained that you need to cool down the overhead during fires and they use gas cooling. He advised the resistance seemed to be the European model of high-pressure low-GPM, which is what they don't do in the US. He thought the objection was over a European-style gas cooling style and not necessarily cooling of the room as they go along. He advised the gas cooling can be controversial but they've all done some form of gas cooling so it can be left to the instructors.

Randy Collins agreed with B. Davidson and is willing to leave the curriculum as it is.



Gaudenz Panholzer advised it is imperative this move forward and it can be revised as science moves forward.

Gareth Harris stated that he likes the idea of making it optional, but they can't leave it as a shall skill up to the discretion of the instructor.

Bret Davidson advised that as a Fire Control 3 instructor he doesn't think an instructor will not teach cooling the room, and he doesn't see it as controversial.

C. Christensen stated that he disagrees with leaving the term in. He advised gas cooling was removed from NFPA 1700 and he expects it to be removed from NFPA 1403. He advised that surface cooling and continual water flow was the most efficient way to throw water on a structure fire. He explained that by leaving it up to the instructor you have the potential for people to be hurt, especially if they incorporate a 30-degree fog into their live fire training. He advised it is not just that one skill sheet. He stated that with the American fire service tools a 30-degree fog is a horrible idea.

J. Mendoza explained that gas cooling is an important concept for fire fighters to understand. In terms of educating students in a general course about fire suppression it is important for the students to understand the science of what is happening. He advised more work and research needs to be done, but to understand future research students need to understand the basics of water droplet size, heat transfer, hang time, and the hot gas layer. He advised it isn't a political thing, rather it's a science thing and has application across the entire suite of fire suppression tools they use. He advised they haven't looked at all methodologies. He suggested keeping it in.

A. Henning advised the next time NFPA 1403 will be updated is in 2023. He advised the goal for California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses is to update within 2 years of publication and they have been doing it within about a year. He advised this is something they will keep on their radar to look at what has changed in 1403 and if updates need to be made. He advised that 1700 will hopefully be adopted and approved by the standards committee by then. He mentioned that Ray Bizal, who works with NFPA and is one of the regional directors for north America, wants to come speak to STEAC and he is looking at bringing him out soon.

Andrew Murtagh stated that he wants to applaud Chief K. Conant for being understanding. He advised the original amendment was good enough for meeting the needs of 1700 and 1710 and what they anticipate will come from 1403 and what they know from UL FSRI studies. He advised what they are discussing is surface cooling versus gas cooling, and they all cool overhead to make sure it doesn't roll over or flash over. His issue is that it requires 9-10 classroom days for incumbent instructors to meet the needs of the curriculum if they don't already have the certs, which is a heavy load. He advised it is a very tight timeline especially considering the pandemic so they may need to push out some deadlines.

K. Conant strongly recommended the ALAs form an association. He mentioned he would love if himself and A. Henning could work with the ALAs to do what they did for

the Accredited Regional Training Programs. He advised he is doing many PACEs. He explained that there is a very abbreviated way for incumbent instructors to not have to take those courses if they get either the authority having jurisdiction or the fire chief to attest in writing that instructor has been fulfilling the objectives of I-300 and fulfilling the role of the objectives stated in any of those safety officer courses. He advised the responsibility for ensuring they meet the obligation would fall on whoever is attesting. He advised that for new instructors who have never been a registered primary or senior will have an opportunity to apply for a PACE 2 and SFT subject matter experts can determine what their co-requisites are to become a registered instructor.

A. Henning advised they are offering free PACE 2's up until December 31, 2020. Starting January 1, 2021 applicants will need to pay the fee adopted by SFT. He advised the 2009 curriculum will be available until December of 2021 to allow current instructors to take the required courses or training or do the PACE.

<b>Motion:</b>	<i>Bret Davidson moved to accept the motion. Gaudenz Panholzer seconded the motion.</i>
<b>Action:</b>	<i>All members voted unanimously.</i>

### **C. Rope Rescue Awareness/Operations and Technician Curriculum**

Presenter: Joe Bunn

Attachment: 21

Joe Bunn stated that they had a great cadre and good shareholders. He advised that LA county has gone through the 40-hour Ops course and they received no poor feedback. He advised it is essentially Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations (LARRO) with a couple additional modules from Rescue Systems 1 (RS1). He explained that it is essentially an instructor update rather than a roll out because instructors are already teaching these curriculums now. He advised going from a low angle to technical rope level aligns us with the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and meets the current NFPA and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines.

Andrew Henning stated that their plan was to move to structural collapse this year. He explained that they did not have enough funding to move forward with the curriculum, and it is scheduled to be brought forward as new curriculum once they have funding available or once they have found an alternate funding source. He advised there is no NFPA standard for LARRO, just rope rescue awareness and operations and technician. He advised that based off Blueprint 2020 they have aligned themselves by having a single Rope Rescue course both at the awareness/operations and technician level.

Randy Collins state that LARRO is very popular with fire academies, has a manageable time span, and gives students hands-on applications. He advised the only concern California Fire Technology Directors Association had was the retirement of LARRO, as they would like to continue to be able to offer that class.

A. Henning explained that there is not a low angle designation with NPFA to align to, so it is essentially a legacy course now. He suggested the committee either retire LARRO, extend the retirement date, or use the curriculum as a legacy course that will not be touched by SFT. As a legacy course, it will not be able to be used to PACE or to reduce the delivery time of the new Rope Rescue Courses.

R. Collins requested that they leave the option for the Accredited Regional Training Programs.

A. Henning advised they will be removing the retirement date for LARRO but that it will not count as a prerequisite.

**Motion:** *Randy Collins moved to accept the motion. Bret Davidson seconded the motion.*

**Action:** *All members voted unanimously.*

**D. Emergency Vehicle Technician 1, 2 & 3 (2020) – Curriculum and Certification Update**

Presenter: Jim Eastman

Attachment: 22

Jim Eastman stated that SFT has had a long relationship with the California Fire Mechanics Academy (CFMA), who is celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> year. He acknowledged their president Joe Pastore and cadre member Boyd Clegg as being on the line. He advised in 2018 they came before the committee with curriculum to be approved for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1071. During that time as the CFMA was going through their modifications NFPA came along with an update. He advised that Andrew Henning made the decision to incorporate it in so that it wouldn't need to be updated a year later. He advised it will begin in transition and they will begin utilizing all the other associated NFPA references that go with 1071. He advised that they recognize there are many candidates that are in transition from the old fire mechanic curriculum program and will need to transition into the new emergency vehicle technician curriculum 2020. He advised during the rewrite they worked on combining some of the courses, so they have gone from 8 courses to 5 courses. He explained that NFPA now requires 20 hours of continuing education per year, so at the end of the 5-year certification they would submit their 100 hours to CFMA who would then submit to SFT to update in Acadis. He advised the goal is to retire out the old curriculum December 31, 2021, at which time the new curriculum will be fully implemented. He advised there is a transition for all the existing fire mechanics to cross over to the new EVT curriculum. He advised there may be some courses they must take to meet the new NFPA requirements.

Joe Pastore thanked SFT and the cadre. He advised they have been working on this since 2007 and they are eager to move forward with the crossover and the new curriculum.

## **VIII. State Fire Training Updates**

### **A. Title 19 Update**

Presenter: Andrew Henning

Andrew Henning advised that the SFT regulation package is with the Office of Administrative Law which has had slower turnaround time due to their teleworking. He advised he is anticipating the fee will be approved early August and start on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at the soonest, and they will be sending out an E-news. He mentioned they are still looking for a way to delay the increase until January if possible. He showed how Covid-19 has affected SFT and advised they will distribute the information to stakeholders. They are catching up on their percentages and are getting back on their feet.

He also stated that that staff will be required to take two furlough days a month and a two SFT staff have been tasked to do contract tracing when requested. They are not anticipating a big slowdown right now by looking at other ways to keep up with the demand of the programs. He advised they are keeping up with course processing and course scheduling which has been crazy with all the reschedules. He advised certifications and instructor applications are at a 30-plus day delay. He advised they saw a rapid increase for instructor registration, PACEs, and other certifications because people thought the fee increase was being implemented. He advised they are looking at ways to streamline their processes. He mentioned that most of the staff is still teleworking and that the front counter is still closed. He thanked staff.

## **IX. Future Meeting Dates**

### **A. October 9, 2020, January 8, 2021, April 9, 2021**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

## **X. Roundtable**

Presenter: Chief John Binaski

None

## **XI. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:59 A.M.