

WAUCONDA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Fire Commission Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Commissioner Stewart.

Roll Call- present: Commissioner Stewart, Commissioner White, and Commissioner Schreiner. Also present- President Bilisko, D/C Fessler; Div./C Schlick, B/C Pyne, Lt. Kane, and Lt. Russell.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Commissioner Schreiner seconded by Commissioner White to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2010 meeting as presented. On call of roll all present voted aye. Motion carried.

Communications: D/C Fessler provided a copy of a presentation from the Northern Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts Annual Conference regarding legal updates for Fire Commissioners.

Old Business: None

New Business: The Commission reviewed the request from Lt. Russell to change the NIMS 300 and 400 courses from Ascertained Merit Category 2 to Category 1. Lt. Russell presented a packet of information explaining the NIMS courses as well as his rationale for adding the courses to Category 1.

Commissioner Stewart asked for Staff's opinion on the request. D/C Fessler explained that the courses are excellent training opportunities but they don't really meet the general objectives of the Category 1 courses which are usually longer in duration- up to 1,000 hours of instruction, and regulated by the State Fire Marshal. The NIMS courses offer a Certificate of Completion, not a Certification per se and are not as intense as other classes.

The Commission discussed the request and wanted to move on to the second request which involves requiring the Fire Investigator Certification in Category 1 to be 'current' with continuing education hours. Recently the State Fire Marshall retroactively changed this certification to require on-going continuing education in four-year cycles. Those individuals who do not keep current with the continuing education would not be able to practice as fire investigators.

Lt. Russell explained that he believes that if you are not up-to-date on your continuing education requirements then your certificate should be excluded.

Commissioner Stewart asked for Staff's opinion. D/C Fessler explained that the Commission opened the Category 1 section to allow for State Fire Marshal

certifications that were either new or old as the list of courses and certifications change over time. Div./C Schlick expounded on the process and concepts of the evolving training programs.

President Bilisko asked how the continuing education time is credited. D/C Fessler explained that the certification would be counted in Category 1 and the on-going continuing education would be credited in Category 2. The Commission discussed the particulars.

There were no additional questions or comments. The Commission agreed to review the request and to make a decision at their next meeting.

Closed Session: None

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Wauconda Fire District Station Three, 1300 S. Gilmer Road.

Motion by Commissioner Schreiner seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. On call of roll all present voted aye. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
J.Fessler, recording secretary