

**WAUCONDA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**Fire Commission Meeting Minutes**  
*April 13, 2011*

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Commissioner Stewart.

Roll Call- present: Commissioner Stewart, Commissioner White, and Commissioner Schreiner. Also present- B/C Pyne, Lt. Kane, FM CaDavid, and FF Carlson.

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Commissioner White seconded by Commissioner Schreiner to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2011 meeting as presented. On call of roll all present voted aye. Motion carried.

Communications: None

Old Business: None

New Business: The Commission discussed the request to change the NIMS 300 and 400 courses from Ascertained Merit Category 2 to Category 1.

Commissioner Stewart addressed the other Commissioners regarding this issue. He believes that the Commission has gone to great lengths to maintain consistency in requiring certification in Category 1 from the State Fire Marshal and/or the Department of Public Health. Commissioner Stewart also believes that the length of the NIMS courses do not meet the duration generally required in other courses and that the 2.5 points awarded in Category 1 should be for courses that meet this higher level of importance in the fire service.

Commissioner Schreiner wanted to ask the Administrative Staff if the courses were mandated. The Commission contacted D/C Fessler by teleconference and he advised that the courses were recommended to all the Officers but were not mandated. Commissioner Schreiner was asked if he thought the two courses should be moved to Category 1 and he replied "I guess no".

Commissioner White thanked Lt. Russell for bring this issue to the Commission for review and encouraged all District personnel to bring questions and issues to the Commission. Commissioner White believes that the current rules best meet the needs of the District.

The Commission then discussed the request to only consider Fire Investigator certification in Category 1 if the applicant has maintained their continuing education hours as recently changed by the State Fire Marshal.

Commissioner Stewart disagrees with this change as it is an operational issue and not educational which is the purpose of ascertained merit. Candidates may or may not maintain their continuing education requirements, and thus their recertification, based on a variety of circumstances including their job assignment. The time and expense for a candidate to maintain this certification may not be in the District's best interest. Commissioner Stewart also noted that this particular issue should not be considered in the same light as EMT-B or EMT-P recertification which is required of all personnel regardless of assignment. Finally, Commissioner Stewart noted that the recertification time can generally be counted as a Category 2 submission.

Commissioners Schreiner and White agreed with Commissioner Stewart.

There were no additional questions or comments. The Commission agreed that no changes to the rules would be made based on the request.

Closed Session: None

The next meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Motion by Commissioner Schreiner seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. On call of roll all present voted aye. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted  
J.Fessler, recording secretary