

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD

Fire Education and Training Committee
Thursday, September 23rd, 2021
Virginia Beach Convention Center
Meeting Room 2 AB
11:00am- 12:00pm

A regular meeting of the Fire Education and Training Committee was held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center in conjunction with the First Responders Conference at 11:00am. Fire Education and Training Committee Chair, Jerome Williams facilitated this meeting a constituted quorum was not present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerome Williams
Abbey Johnston
James Poindexter

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Keith Johnson
Ernie Little
Scott Garber
Steven Sites

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Lee Day
James Calvert
Ben Reedy

GUESTS PRESENT

Greg Hunter- Fairfax County

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Travis Rickman	Brook Pittinger
William MacKay	JP Calhoun
Theresa Hunter	Briant Atkins

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Jared Goff

Tom Berry

CHANGES IN AGENDA

No Changes in the agenda

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Hunter a Deputy Chief with Fairfax County came before the board to discuss a couple of items for them to look at. The first item was that Fairfax is a delegated authority and he discussed that processing pro-board applications are around \$10,000. If Fairfax could go through VDFP purchasing with the discounted rates and process the seal as they currently do with IFSAC they would be at around 20% the cost at around \$2000. They are suffering from low staffing and hiring processes and certified individuals. He asked that the agency look at and revisit the process to integrate the pro-board certifications 2nd option to ask the board to move forward with cornerstone which is currently a hindrance within his organization. He has worked with some VDFP staff on the implementation. Access for training centers and training staff is on the future blue print but VITA is controlling our ability to move forward. He believed that the 5-10 year implementation plan needs to be reassessed.

Keith Johnson spoke that the Virginia Fire Chiefs have commissioned a letter with similar concerns to Mr. Hunter. That letter was not ready for this meeting but will be coming in the near future. The letter will be shared with the board members and VDFP Staff to take action.

Garrett Dyer asked for Mr. Hunter to provide his request in writing so that the agency could properly address the concerns. Since there were multiple concerns the agency wanted to ensure that all were captured.

CONSENT AGENDA

The board did not have a quorum so did not approve the previous meeting minutes at this time and will defer to the next meeting with a constituted quorum.

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COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The chairman thanked Mr. Hunter for bringing forth his concerns. The Chairman stated that he would look into the process and make sure to get back with him concerning his issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. **Topic:** Welcome and discussion from the Chair of the Committee

Discussion: The Chairman looked to the board Secretary Travis Rickman to discuss a few items that the board might take up in the near future. The secretary stated the committee had no official business, but discussed that the committee may want to review the VFSB Five Year Plan and propose any changes at the next meeting. Additionally the board clerk stated that The Governor Fire Service Awards were coming up and the agency would start collecting nominations in the month of October and collect them through December. The selection committee would then work through December to finalize the selections and submit to the Governor's office.

Additional Comments: Jared Goff asked to share an item with the committee and stated he meant to issue the statement under public comment. He shared that the Fire Marshal Academy is doing a complete overhaul of the law enforcement school within the VFMA.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the committee by Jimmy Poindexter seconded by Abbey Johnston committee adjourned at 11:25am

Clerk of the Committee: Travis Rickman

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REVIEWED BY:

Brook Pittinger

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