

Virginia Fire Services Board

Fire Education and Training Committee

Friday, June 6, 2025

VDFP HQ 1005 Technology Park Dr, Glen Allen, VA 23059

1:15PM

MINUTES

A meeting of the Fire Education and Training Committee was held at the Department of Fire Programs Headquarters. The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Jess Rodzinka and a quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Jess Rodzinka, Committee Chair – Virginia Professional Fire Fighters
Keith Johnson – Virginia Fire Chief's Association, ex officio
Abbey Johnston – Virginia State Firefighters Association
James Calvert – Industry (SARA Title III/OSHA)
Kevin Duck – Insurance Industry

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Jerome Williams – Certified Fire Service Instructor
Ernie Little – Virginia Fire Prevention Association
Walt Bailey – Virginia Fire Service Council
Donald Hart – Virginia Association of Counties

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Nicholas Nanna, Deputy Director
Jamey Brads, Chief of Training and Operations
Theresa Hunter, Chief Administrative Officer
Spencer Willett, Government Affairs Manager

GUESTS PRESENT

Larry Gwaltney Lee Williams

CHANGES IN THE AGENDA

No reported changes in the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment provided.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings (March 2025)

Motion: Johnston **Second:** Calvert

Discussion on the Motion: None

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Minutes approved.

REPORT FROM THE VDFP CHIEF OF TRAINING

Chief Jamey Brads spoke on his written report to the committee. The Branch realignment continues as staff become acclimated with the new changes. A new phone tree and inbox system is being put into place to improve customer service. He spoke on various partnerships with other agencies that included enhancing trench safety and technical rescue courses. New equipment has been purchased to help move assets around Virginia. Over 11,000 firefighters have finished the electric vehicle fire training. Various online testing courses are also being piloted via agency owned devices or locality owned equipment.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Rodzinka mentioned he was looking forward to working with the agency and thinks training is moving in a positive direction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

James Calvert asked about Incident Command System (ICS) 300 and 400 updates. Brads provided that some instructors may go through a bridge program for updates on the new versions of the course. Brads will provide an update and stated that, ideally, it should take about a day to complete.

Calvert asked about rescheduling the National Fire Academy State Weekend. Brads stated the agency was working with the other states (Delaware and Connecticut) and they believe the rescheduled date would be in October. The agency will return to the regular schedule in March for 2026.

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ADJOURNMENT

Clerk of the Committee
Spencer Willett

Minutes completed by
Tracey Frame

Documents related to this meeting of the Virginia Fire Services Board may be requested by contacting the Government Affairs Division by emailing PolicyOffice@vdfp.virginia.gov