

The Utah Fire Service Certification Council

Minutes of November 18, 2020

1. Welcome Council members and visitors - Scott Spencer

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM

In attendance: Scott Spencer, Rod Hammer, Merlin Spendlove, Jeremy Raymond, TJ Brewer, Ron Harris, Chris Trevino, Dave Youngberg, Rodney Tomkinson, Krista Horting,
Excused: Wade Snyder-Krista Horting as proxy, Jason Earl-Scott Spencer as proxy.

Visiting: Ted Black, Jolene Chamberlain

2. Declaration of quorum - Scott Spencer

Scott Spencer declared a quorum.

3. Approval of minutes from the meeting of September 16, 2020 - Scott Spencer

Jeremy Raymond motioned to approve the minutes. TJ Brewer seconded. The motion was approved.

4. Approval of agenda for the November 18, 2020, meeting - Scott Spencer

Krista motioned to approve the agenda. Rod Hammer seconded. The motion was approved.

5. Re-appointments to the Certification Council - Lori Howes

Names approve by Brad Wardle

Jason Earl, Dave Youngberg & Chris Trevino will serve another 3-year term on the council.

6. Executive Session, as needed - Scott Spencer

None

7. Recognition of 2020 Certification Testers of the Year - Scott Spencer

Those being recognized as Certification Testers of the Year for 2020 are: Mark Weekes from North Davis, Brett Bronson from South Ogden, and Kade Beachman from Diamond Valley.

Willing to do what is asked of them and above and beyond. Recognize them and thank they for their help in the certification process and keeping things going in a positive manner.

8. Report from Forestry, Fire & State Lands - Wade Snyder

Lori Howes reported for Wade Snyder. Forestry, Fire & State Lands is still planning to take back the red card process beginning Jan 1, 2021. An article will be in the next Straight Tip with their processes. UFRA Certification will include a link on their website to the Forestry, Fire & State Lands website. Updated the current packet and request form to fit their needs so it will be familiar for departments. They may not charge for a red card. Red Cards will be delayed when requested during fire season. Dispatchers and area FMOs will be issuing red cards.

The National Fire board that directs NWCG is going back to in person refresher medical training and pack tests beginning the first of the year. Currently set to expire Dec 31, 2020. Working to optimize presentation options for as many courses as possible for online, in-person and hybrid options. Working on other options rather than in-person.

9. Report on testing, certification, and failed skills - Jennifer Lindley

Jennifer Lindley presented the Certifications Issued report. There were 463 certifications July – September. Non-Affiliated numbers were all from Academies.

Jennifer Lindley presented the Failed Skills report. The report is the same from last council. People tested in other levels, but none failed a second attempt. Not many testing for Officer and Inspector.

10. Report on the Fire Prevention Board Meeting - Scott Spencer

Ted Black - Meeting canceled because of the growth of Covid 19. If numbers stay high the December meeting may also be cancelled. Working on updating conf room so they can hold the meeting with 100 participants if all wanted to join. Projecting Dec for next meeting.

11. Report and approval on submitted petitions, if needed - Lori Howes

Lori Howes reported that two petitions have been submitted for re-entry into the testing process before the one year mark. Both were approved.

West Jordan - Fire Inspector I

Diamond Valley - FFI & FFII

12. Report on certification levels currently being updated- Lori Howes

Lori Howes reported that Fire Instructor I & II are ready to be updated. Rod Hammer offered to head up this committee. Rod is reviewing the skills prior to the committee meeting.

Finalized the committee today. Meeting Dec 10 at UFRA. All have received packets to review.

Wildland is up next year Sept 2021. Will begin working on that next year.

NFPA released a new standard in October for Technical Rescue. Have 2 years to update.

13. Update on 60-day window for certification processes - Lori Howes

Lori Howes reported that all processes are back to 25 days. Certification website will be updated to original times.

Ted Black reported on the MOU.

When bill was passed, they inadvertently eliminated the cert council. Currently functioning as an ad hoc committee to the Fire Prevention Board. They will run a bill in 2021 to reinstate the boards ability to reinstate the cert council.

14. Update on Certification Look-Up System-Jolene Chamberlain

Jolene Chamberlain reported the Certification Look-Up System will be a resource for training records, dept lists, certificates. Candidates & Departments will be able to pull up a wallet card as well as IFSAC & Pro Board forms for printing. Development of new database needs to work with the look-up system. A notice will be added to the UFRA website when it is available. Quick access without contacting office.

15. Update on IFSAC Re-accreditation Site Visit for 2020-Lori Howes

Lori - Site visit not an option in April. Past deadline of August. IFSAC is granting 90-day extension. We are not allowed to travel or bring guests in currently. IFSAC is looking at doing a virtual site visit. Not as effective and secure. Looking at signing an affidavit saying we are still running as we should be. May not need to be re-accredited for another 5 years. Still accredited through IFSAC & Pro Board.

16. Discussion and motion on Red Card processing - Lori Howes

Lori Howes proposed to the council that the certification department will stop processing Red Card requests after Dec 16. That allows for time to process current requests. Others should then go to Forestry & State Lands to begin processing January 1, 2021.

Rod Hammer agreed with the Dec 16 date.

TJ Brewer recommended Dec 11 or 16. Allow time for Depts to get any request submitted.

TJ Brewer motioned that all red cards need to be submitted by Dec 11. Rod Hammer seconded. The motion was approved.

17. Discussion and motion on Airport Firefighter Standard-Lori Howes, Jeremy Raymond

Lori & Jeremy – No changes to the requisite skills and knowledge. Jeremy Raymond volunteered to do a review and spot check back to NFPA standard. One change will be needed.

Lori – Shared the standard document online to review.

Please send updated titles to Lori Howes
Notice the formatting change. All will be updated.

Reviewed all updates as listed in attached document.
One big change to PPE lists a helmet and eye protection.

Merlin Spendlove motioned to update the Airport Firefighter Standard
Chris Trevino seconded
Motion passed on Airport Firefighter Standard

18. Discussion and motion on Officer I, Officer II, Officer III, and Officer IV Standard - Lori Howes, Scott Spencer, Jason Earl, Jeremy Raymond

Lori – Shared the standard document online to review.

Reviewed all updates as listed in attached document.
Certification Council was tasked last year to update Officer I to new standard and create II, III & IV. Test banks were evaluated and created by the committee. Front cover may change.

Written objectives are from the IFSTA 6th Edition for Company Officer Book.

70 question written recommended for Fire Officer II
50 question written exam recommended for Fire Officer III
50 question written exam recommended for Fire Officer IV

Rural CTC course would meet the requirements.

Lori Howes presented the updated Fire Officer I, II, III, & IV standards and recommends an implementation date of Jan 1, 2021.

Lori Howes will submit the standard for approval. Candidates have 60 days for accreditation approval.

Krista Horting motioned to update the Officer I, Officer II, Officer III, and Officer IV Standard and implementation date of January 1, 2021. TJ Brewer seconded. The motion was approved.

19. Discussion and motion on Firefighter I and Firefighter II Standards - Lori Howes, Dave Youngberg

Lori shared standard online to review. Very few changes to test banks. Committee began meeting in February. Most changes made starting in August.

Firefighter I & Firefighter II were separate standards previously. All standard levels will be combined moving forward.

The Certification Council reviewed all updates as listed in the attached Firefighter I & Firefighter II standards document. Council recommended updates which were made to the standard document and will be reflected in the posted document.

50 question written exam recommended for Firefighter I
__ question written exam recommended for Firefighter II

Lori Howes recommended that the updated Firefighter I and Firefighter II standards to be approved as updated in this meeting. The implementation date of Feb 1, 2021 to test to the 7th edition is proposed.

Rod Hammer motioned to accept the updated standards and implementation date. Dave Youngberg seconded. The motion was approved.

20. Discussion and motion on updated Policies & Procedures, as needed-Lori Howes

Lori – None

21. New Business- Scott Spencer

Lori Howes stated that Winter Fire School has been canceled due to Covid restrictions.

All Updated standards will be posted on the website

2021 tester seminar options need to be discussed in January

Thank the council for all of the work this year.

22. Old Business- Scott Spencer

Ron Harris had an onsite audit of his testing abilities. Thanked Lori for her professionalism and help with our testers and certification council.

23. Next Certification Council Meeting, January 13, 2021, 10:00 AM, Provo, UT

Scott Spencer stated the committee will meet again on January 13, 2021 in person in Provo if allowed, if not, virtually.

TJ Brewer motioned to adjourn. Ron Harris seconded. The motion was approved.