

AFSC Special Meeting November 25th, 2024 – Draft Minutes

- I. 9:06 a.m. call to order
- II. Roll Call: Present: Grimes, Mathis, McMichael, Eckert, Simonds, Schultz, Maas, Nakano, Long, Bones.

Absent: Sprehe, Knowlton.

- III. Recognition of Guests: Guests Present- Rocky Jones, Geoff Coon, Ben Schultz, Chad Heineken, Pete Coots, Scott Learned, Jay Teague, Sarah King.
- IV. Approval of draft Agenda: Motion Schultz, 2nd by Simonds – one amendment, change numbering system of new business items to a-b-c format. No opposition, agenda approved with amendment.
- V. Public Comment:

Geoff Coon – Meeting with state chiefs, two AFSC agenda items were brought up at the meeting, will the opposition from the State Chiefs be discussed in this meeting? Chair Grimes – yes, that will be included in my testimony on that particular agenda item.

- VI. Old Business:

A1. Motion to change AS 18.70.350 Powers - specific to E3 change language from “May” employ an administrator and other persons necessary to carry out its duties to “Shall”

Motion Lloyd Nakano, 2nd Rob Mathis.

- a. Discussion: No negative feedback when brought to various constituencies, general feedback received before meeting was positive – Grimes and Schultz provided commentary. Nakano – this is a plus; will enforce the need after many challenges in hiring a dedicated administrator position.
- b. Vote: in favor Maas, Grimes, Eckart, Nakano, Schultz, Long, McMichael, Mathis – Simonds Abstain. **Motion Carries**

A2. Motion to change AS 18.70.355 Certification Optional – Change sentence reading “However, an entity for whom a person performs fire services as an employee or volunteer may require that the person be certified by the Council or attend training programs that are certified by the Council.” To the following language:

“However, when an entity requires a third-party accreditation, and that certification is available from the AFSC, that certification shall be issued by the AFSC.”

Motion Lloyd Nakano, 2nd Matt Eckart

- c. Discussion: Grimes – Received feedback from State Chiefs and Kenai Peninsula Chief Associations – no support from either organization. General confusion from numerous parties on the intent and impact. Biggest concerns seemed to be how this would affect departments, including the DOD who provide their own certifications in Alaska. Tyler Bones – Constituency was not in favor, same questions on impact on departments, how it would work with outside instructors.

Maas had questions regarding certifications we do not support now, how would someone get those in AK. Schultz – constituency were apprehensive regarding out of state reciprocity process with this in place.

- d. Vote: in favor Nakano, Eckart, McMichael
Opposed Grimes, Schultz, Maas, Bones, Mathis; Abstain Simonds, Long

Motion Fails

- B. **Motion to change certification manual processes for practical testing to limit the number of times a candidate can re-test their practical skills. Proposed change to emulate language change at fall meeting regarding written testing; specifically, that the current language will remain regarding three opportunities to complete the practical skills examination, and that a fourth and final opportunity will be offered after documentation of remedial training completed by the Training officer or Chief.**

Motion Eric Schultz, 2nd Brian Long

- a. Discussion: Mathis - might be a contradiction with the current CPM regarding who initiates remedial training – confirmed no conflict upon review.
- b. Vote: in favor Grimes, Long, Eckart, Bones, McMichael, Schultz, Mathis, Maas, Nakano, Mathis – Simonds Abstains - **Motion Carries**

- C. **Providing input to the Council Administrator and Council on the need and priority of a standing committee and program build out of NFPA 1010 Chapter 5 – Support Firefighter**

Motion to create a standing committee for NFPA 1010 Chapter 5.

Motion Dan Grimes, 2nd Eric Schultz

- a. Discussion – Grimes, overview of support firefighter standard, constituencies were generally in favor with it noted that we have a lot of other priorities. Eckart heard from constituencies who were very supportive and excited regarding the potential of this program; Schultz, heard same as Eckart – many departments doing it anyway, excited for the formal program to be built out.
- b. Vote: In favor Grimes, Nakano, Mathis, Maas, Bones, McMichael, Long, Schultz
Abstain Simonds.

- VII. Good of the Order – Grimes: Turn in travel info for spring 2025 meeting to Denise; Statutory changes start with briefing legislators early and often – State Chiefs Association legislative committee offered assistance with statutory changes bill.

- VIII. Adjournment: Motion Nakano, 2nd Schultz - Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.