Welcome, Call to Order, Invocation

Chairman Harley Cook called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mike Edwards to give the Invocation.

Ethics Statement

Chairman Harley Cook presented the Ethics Awareness and Conflict of Interest reminder as required by the North Carolina State Ethics Commission. There were no conflicts reported at this time.

Approval of Agenda

Bill Rogers requested that Jerry Webster's letter of complaint be moved to the beginning of the New Business. Motion was made by Walter Gardner and seconded by David Wray to approve the agenda with the change. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Phil Welch, seconded by Walter Gardner to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.

Board Reports

Certification Board Update – Kevin Gordon, Chair, Certification Board - See Attached

VSWCF – Cloyce Anders

The Board’s financial situations continue to improve. The Board is looking at several issues. The Board has recently denied their second renewal. There have been several emails going out and around regarding the denial of several claims. Those claims in question were denied by the League of Municipalities. North Carolina is a slip, trip and fall state.
Guidelines are set by the North Carolina Industrial Commission. Heart attacks and strokes are not covered.

**Arson Review Board Update – Wayne Bailey**

Meeting was held April 2, 2015

Recertification Applications
- 13 approved
- 3 pending addition information
- 1 denied

Applications
- 12 approved to take the exam
- 1 pending
- 3 denied

Staff is still waiting for the Instructor package from Jones and Bartlett. It should be released at the end of April. The question bank should be released May – June. All of the lesson plans and skills are ready we are just waiting on the publisher for their release.

Jerry Webster submitted a letter of complaint against Chairman, Henry Webster. Jerry is requesting to have the letter of complaint be added to the April 21, 2015 Fire and Rescue Commission Meeting agenda.

**NFIRS – Kim Williams**

We have 1105 reporting departments which is 88% of all departments with a total of 732,879 incidents. We asked all departments report their data by March 31, 2015. We are compiling and cleaning up the date. The goal is to have a final report posted by July 1, 2015.

**Jerry Webster – Letter of Complaint**

Jerry explained he was here representing the Arson Review Board and not the IAAI. These complaints regarding Henry Sermons were from him. He asked the Commission to refer to the last paragraph on page of the letter. He reviewed the last paragraph and then went over the rest of the letter. He asked the Commission to review the complaints, investigate and ask for Henry Sermons’ s resignation.

Cloyce Anders asked Jerry Webster several questions about the complaints. Why hadn’t the Board come forward? When did the problems start? Was the J & B book recommended by Henry Sermons? Did staff make a presentation and recommend the J & B book? Did anyone vote against it? Jerry said he voted no. Cloyce state he had concerns that this a result of a blow up and that the Arson Review Board should have brought these complaints to the Commission. Cloyce asked Kevin Gordon how many times he had been to the Arson Review Meetings to discuss material and By Laws. Kevin responded that he had been to
two meetings. Ronnie Griffin asked if the Arson Review Board members had to go through the North Carolina Ethics process. Jerry stated no.

Jerry Webster stated he didn’t believe anyone knew that Henry was on the By Laws Ad Hoc Committee. Cloyce stated he had not told the Worker’s Comp Board that he was one the By Laws Ad Hoc Committee.

Harley Cook stated that a written response would be provided to Jerry Webster.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Harley Cook recommended the Walter Gardner be reappointed to the Certification Board as the Fire and Rescue Commission’s representative. Motion was made by Matt Davis to accept Harley’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ken Briscoe, motion passed.

**William Heath Appeal – Kevin Gordon – See attachments**

Chairman Gordon reviewed with the Commission the Certification Board’s decision to deny William Heath’s request. Mr. Heath had allowed his instructor certification and qualifications to lapse. Mr. Heath has completed the instructor course and wishes to teach in the High School Firefighter Certification program in Pender County. However in order to teach certification programs a candidate must qualified to teach the certification program. To qualify a candidate must be Level 2 Instructor for two years. William Heath is asking for the two year certification in Instructor Level 2 requirement be waived. The Certification Board denied this appeal.

Williams Heath gave a review of his situation and listed reason why he let his certifications lapse.

Ken Briscoe asked if Mr. Heath had been given a teaching license. Mr. Cauley from the school system stated yes. Ken also asked if they have continuing education requirements and if they aren’t’ met does he lose the license? Mr. Cauley and Mr. Heath stated yes.

Matt Davis asked Rick McIntyre if there had been problems with the transcripts. Rick stated yes and they had been corrected.

Josh Smith stated that the Certification Board and we (the Commission) had approved the policy and procedures and he cannot see changing or voting against themselves.

Kevin Gordon made a motion to uphold the Certification Board’s decision. The motion was seconded by Josh Smith. Motion passed.

**Certified Fire Investigator Board Appointments**

NC Association of Fire Chiefs
Freddy L. Johnson, Sr. and Ken Briscoe were nominated. Kevin Gordon mad a motion to appoint Freddy L. Johnson. Cloyce Anders seconded the motion. Motion passed.

NC State Firemen’s Association

Barry Overman and Charles Ted Williams were nominated. Kevin Gordon made a motion to appoint Barry Overman. Walter Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

NC Fire and Rescue Commission

Kevin Gordon nominated Matt Davis for the Commission’s Representative. Cloyce made a motion to appoint Matt Davis. Walter Gardner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman appointed Ken Hair as his representative.

Chairman Harley Cook appointed Henry Sermons as his representative.

House Bill 147 – Rick McIntyre

This bill will update the membership on the Commission. This will add a position from the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). It has been referred to the House Committee of Insurance. It was on the April 20, 2015 agenda. This would remove the County Fire Marshal’s seat on the Commission and replace it with a seat from the NC IAAI. The second piece to this bill will clearly give the Commission the authority to issue, deny, suspend, revoke or take similar actions with respect to certifications issued by the Commission of minimum professional qualifications established under the current General Statute. July 1, 2015 should be the effective date. Matt Davis will still serve on the Fire Investigator Board even if the County Fire Marshal seat is replaced. He will remain on the Arson Investigator Board until his term expires.

Staff is reviewing the NC Department of Labor OSHA document. Staff will provide a recommendation to update our guide or replace it with Department of Labor’s document.

AGENCY REPORTS

Department of Insurance – Rick McIntyre

Wayne Bailey – See attached report

Brian Newlin presented a report for the Grants and Injury Prevention Section. See attached report.

Rob Roegner – RPD & Logistics

NCSFA – Ed Brinson – See Attachment
NCAR&EMS – Gordon Joyner – See Attachment

NCAFC – Ken Briscoe – See Attachment

NCCCS – Winfield Abe – Reviewed the many weekend schools that are coming up. The Public Safety Calendar is posted and linked to the OSFM website. McDowell Technical Community College’s weekend school hosted 73 classes, 30 classes were full, 1274 students were registered and 1180 students attended. Students were from 67 different counties and there were 133 instructors.

NCFRI – Jim Hanline – Spring Conference will be held in Wilmington, May 27 -30. Registration is available online.

Professional Firefighters and Paramedics of NC – Josh Smith
Everyone is adjusting well to the recent changes. They currently monitoring HN 666 which is the Cancer Bill.

NC Office of Emergency Medical Services – Vince Jordan
They are watching HB 327 and 611. EMS Today will be held Oct 5 – 7, 2015.

Next meeting dates are:
July 14
October 13

Both meetings will be held Pinecroft Sedgefield Fire Department with a start time of 10:00 a.m.

With no other business to be addressed today, the meeting was adjourned at 11:49 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Williams
NCDOI – Wayne Baily update
Inspections Staff – Significant Accomplishments January – March 2015

- Conducted 5 Surprise Inspections
- Conducted 30 complete Surveys
- Conducted 7 Countywide Inspections
- Conducted 147 District Inspections
- Taught 6 Classes with 144 students in attendance
- Taught 2 Lessons Learned class at Mid-Winter Chiefs Conference with 107 in attendance
- Re-Inspected 4 departments that had failures
- Inspected 7 new Sub-Stations
- Completed 2 Mergers
- Conducted 13 meetings with County Fire Marshal over various issues
- Had 71 address verifications for Insurance agents / consumers
- Inspections staff attended the Chief 101 Re-Qualification Class
- Inspections staff worked with grants division to update the Equipment List
- Inspections staff attended Officer I & II classes
- Updated all Pre-Survey forms on our website
- Updating the 9S administrative procedures
- Inspections staff attended all the regional meetings
- Re-drawn 1 countywide response maps
- Reviewed 2 survey results with FD's
- We are currently working on SOP'S for the Inspections Division
- Inspections Supervisor has been working closely with the SCDOI, NCDPS and the Commission for State Line re-establishment of the state border
NCDOI – Wayne Baily update

Commission Staff – Significant Accomplishments January – March 2015 Quarterly Report

Regional Exams
- Randolph CC – Qualification School Pilot (17 students)
- Concord FD (19 students)
- Guilford Tech CC (20 students)
- Horneytown FD (16 students)
- Cape Fear CC – Qualification School Pilot (37 students)
- Wilson CC – (17 students)

Conducted audits for certification testing at:
- Eastern
  - Meadow FD
  - Greenville FD
  - El Roy VFD
  - Antioch VFD
  - Emerald Isle FD
  - Wilmington FD
  - South Craven HS
  - Speed VFD
  - Grissettstown F/R
- Central
  - Eastern Wake FD
  - Sandhills CC
- Western
  - Mint Hill FD
  - Surry CC
  - Rowan Cabarrus CC
- Concord FD (24 students)
- Elizabeth City FD (40 students)
- Gaston College (20 students)
- Buncombe Co Training Center
  - Asheville – Q School (19 students)
- Raleigh OSFM (65 students)

New Delivery Agency
- Mebane FD
- Leland F/R
- Ft. Bragg FD

Audits
- Monroe FD
- Sherrill’s Ford FD
- NC Air National Guard

5 Year Site Visits
- Western Piedmont CC
- Johnston CC
- Rowan Cabarrus CC

Annual Visits
- Eastern
  - Goldsboro HS
  - Brunswick CC
  - Craven HS
  - Edgecombe CC
  - Wilmington FD
  - Lenoir CC
  - Craven CC
  - Wilson CC
  - James Sprunt CC
  - Wayne CC
  - Bladenboro HS
  - Bunn HS
  - College of Albemarle
  - Elizabeth City FD
- Central
  - Knightdale HS
  - Randolph CC
  - Guilford Tech CC
  - Wake Tech CC
  - Durham FD
  - Fort Bragg FD
  - Air National Guard
  - Harnett Co HS
  - Roxboro FD
  - Piedmont CC
  - Alamance CC
- Western
  - Hendersonville FD
  - Blue Ridge CC
  - Balfour Academy HS
- Central
  - McDowell CC
  - McDowell HS
  - Concord HS
  - Rowan Cabarrus CC
  - Salisbury FD
  - Sherrill’s Ford FD
  - Monroe FD
  - Hibriten HS
  - McDowell CC
  - Wilkes CC
  - Asheville
  - Buncombe Tech
  - Gaston
LODD
- LODD initial visit with Macon County
- LODD initial visit with Roaring River FD
- LODD initial visit with Forbush FD
- LODD initial visit with Franklin Co
- LODD follow up for Glendale Springs FD
- LODD initial visit with Rockingham Co EMS
- LODD follow-up on seven other
- Created shared folder for LODD documents
- LODD did a follow-up at Justice FD
- LODD finalized paperwork at Roaring River FD
- LODD follow-up on seven other

Other
- Staff met with NC Chief’s Association about Mid-Winter Conference
- Staff attended Pro Board Accreditation Meeting
- Staff visited, attended and instructed at NC Breathing Equipment School
- Staff presented at the Western Fireman’s Association Meeting
- Staff presented at the Eastern Fireman’s Association Meeting
- Staff presented to the Halifax CC Instructor’s Meeting
- Staff assisted with Qualification School Pilot
- Staff continued with Test Bank Management
- Staff presented to the Edgecombe Co Fireman’s Association
- Staff presented to the Granville Co Fireman’s Association
- Staff attended the 1006/1670 meeting in Boston
- Staff attended the Buncombe County Fire Chief’s meeting
- Staff attended the Arson Review Board meeting
- Staff attended the NC Fire & Rescue Commission meeting
- Staff met with Senior Officer’s of Enka Candler FD
- Staff attended NFPA 1002 Committee Meeting
- Staff attended Rules Committee meeting
- Staff attended Selma FD’s 100th Anniversary Dinner
- Staff compiled accreditation paperwork for IFSAC Site Visit
- Staff created 47 new tests for certification testing
- Staff attended Image Trend Demo
- Staff attended Certification Board Meeting
- Staff attended meeting with RPD
- Staff met with new high school programs at:
  o Chocowinity
  o Roanoke Rapids
  o Burke Co
- Staff attended NCAREMS Board Meeting
- Staff attended FIERO PPE Symposium
- Staff assisted with a 9S rating
- Staff completed the Pro Board Yearly Report
- Staff began IFSAC Self Study Document for Pending Site Visit in November
- Staff worked three instructor investigations
- Staff spoke at Cleveland CC Firefighter

NCDOI – Wayne Baily update
Training Staff – Significant Accomplishments January – March 2015

- Training staff conducted a NFA Arson Detection for First Responders class for the Gastonia Fire Department.
- Training staff attended a staff meeting comprised of the Training Staff and Commission Staff to discuss the procedures for Q School.
- Training staff Assisted in the first Q School held at Randolph Co Training Center in Asheboro.
- Training staff instructed at the January NC Breathing Equipment School at Gaston College.
- Training staff attended the January NC Fire/Rescue Commission meeting at Pinecroft – Sedgefield Fire Department.
- Training staff conducted a Live Fire Qualification at the Wake Co Training Center.
- Training staff attended a staff meeting Chief 101 requalification.
- Training staff instructed Fire Officer IV Matrix Meetings and conducted in the East, Piedmont and West as well.
- Training staff conducted a Fire Officer III course in Fayetteville, NC.
- Training staff attended NC TIC School Meeting (Guilford GTCC).
- Training staff conducted Live fire Qualifications at the following locations: Brevard Fire Department, Asheboro Fire Department, St. Stephens Fire Department.
- Training staff presented a program at the Mid-Winter Chief’s Conference entitled OHSA and Live Fire Training.
- Training staff participated in the Eastern Instructor Qualification School held at Cape Fear CC.
- Training staff continued the dive rescue program development.
- Training staff attended a NFPA 1006 revision meeting in New Orleans.
- Training staff delivered a NFA Leadership I course.
- Training staff delivered a NFA leadership II course.
- Training staff conducted an NFA Arson Detection for First Responders class at Fontana Village.
- Training staff conducted a Firefighting in the Modern Environment Class at Pittsboro FD.
- Training staff completed two Live Fire Qualification class second burns, one in Enka-Candler and one in Asheboro, NC.
- Training staff participated in the Q-School held in Asheville.
- Training staff conducted a Building Construction for Fire Command Officers class at Enka-Candler FD.
- Training staff participated in the annual Hurricane Exercise for State Agencies hosted by NCEM.
- Training staff instructed at the Spring NC Breathing Equipment School at Gaston College.
- Training staff conducted a Live Fire Instructors Class at Albemarle FD.
- Training staff assisted with Fire Officer III Class in Fayetteville, NC.
• Training staff assisted with a Live Fire Qualification class in Albemarle, NC.
• Training staff attended a DocuSign class.
• Training staff conducted a High Angle Rescue class.
• Training staff taught a Leadership I class in Nags Head, NC.
• Training staff conducted a Leadership III class in Nags Head, NC.

Davey Summey introduced Jeremey Hunt who recently joined the Inspections group. A new map showing inspectors and their regions will be posted to the OFSM website.

INJURY PREVENTION SECTION
Report for Fire Commission – April 21, 2015
1. The FEMA Home Safety Grant project has provided two regional training workshops for 52 fire department teams – providing smoke alarms and education resources for the participants.

2. We continue to partner with American Red Cross, The Baptist Aging Ministry and the NC Deaf and Hard of Hearing to expand our outreach program.

3. To date 25,000 alarms have been installed over the past 18 months. Close to 200 NC fire departments are now participating in the Smoke Alarm grant canvassing project. Five saves have been reported so far in 2015. (smoke alarm allowed occupants to safely escape from home)

4. Deaf and Hard of hearing alarms still available if need is identified. The request form is located on the OSFM website. (Ncdoi.com, Office of the state fire marshal, Injury prevention section, Deaf and hard of hearing smoke alarm request form.)

5. Following 5 fire fatalities in Brunswick County last month, we partnered with the Brunswick County Fire Marshal’s office, 22 local fire departments and other volunteers including American Red Cross and Baptist Aging Ministry to canvass the high risk communities across the county.

The result from this Rapid Response event:
In FOUR hours – over 800 alarms were installed. This may be a record.

6. On March 15-21 during Poison Prevention week Operation Medicine Drop campaign took place across NC.

• 220 events turned in more than 15.4 Million doses of expired and unused prescription drugs and over the counter meds.

• This was the largest campaign to date.
7. The 2015 NC Fire and Life Safety conference had to be cancelled in Feb – due to incumbent weather this is only the 2nd time in 39 years. The event has been Rescheduled for June 3-5th at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord NC.

GRANT UPDATE
1. The due date to turn in the invoices for the rescue grant is April 30th.

2. The Volunteer Fire Department fund grant awards will be announced May 15th.
   - We received 738 applications, the most we have ever received
   - Funding this year will be approximately $700,000 less than last year
   - Next year, funding for this grant will be reduced $1.4 million dollars. These funds have been reallocated to the Pension fund for Firefighters and Rescue Squad Workers.

G.S. 58-86-55. Monthly pensions upon attaining the age of 55 years.
Relief Fund Update
Changes made to the local relief funds by HB 1034 last year in the General Assembly have been disclosed to all fire departments and local relief fund boards through publications and meetings. NCSFA has seen a dramatic increase in relief fund uses, including an increase in interest for supplemental retirement programs. Individuals having questions should contact the Association office.

There will be a revised and slightly more detailed Relief Fund Financial Report this year (due Oct 31st) because of HB 1034. It will simply require more detail on use of funds and number of people affected. It will still be “question driven”, so it should not take much more effort to submit.

Relief Fund Bond
Several weeks ago we notified local relief fund boards that the current blanket bond purchased by the State does not cover below $25,000 because of the deductible. We suggested local boards may want to seek coverage for the first $25,000. This is primarily a concern of those with smaller accounts. VFIS has created a program “if” you are insured by them already, so you may want to investigate this is your department currently has VFIS insurance when you renew your policy.

Membership Update
This year NCSFA had the largest number of departments report rosters in history. Our repeat calling and revised roster reporting software kept people notified and simplified the process. We’ve also seen a slight increase in membership.

Please remember to use the Benefits PowerPoint on our web site to keep your members informed of their benefits.

New Membership Programs
The NCSFA Board added two new membership benefits programs last week to our list of membership benefits: A new “MetLife Vision Program” and “Advantage Rent A Car Program”. Watch for more about these programs in the near future on our web site ncsfa.com.

SAFRE Conference Update
The NCSFA Board has elected to host the 2016 and 2017 SAFRE conferences in Charlotte, while returning to Raleigh in 2018 and 2019. The 2017 conference will be held in Charlotte in conjunction with Fire Rescue International (FRI). This will provide NC attendees to attend our conference and a national level floor show for the same price as our conference, and will allow attendees the additional option of attending the full FRI conference (classes and meetings) for a reduced rate.

NVFC Conference
North Carolina will be hosting the 2015 NVFC Conference in Concord this Fall October 21st – 23rd. This will be an opportunity to showcase our state to the rest of the countries volunteer participants.

**Scholarship Submissions**
Scholarships submissions to this date total 128 High School Applications and 106 career or volunteer firefighter applications.

**Legislative Day**

We are hosting a Legislative Reception and BBQ Cookout May 5th from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM. The BBQ will be held at 1627 Navaho Drive, Raleigh. This is the evening before our Legislative Day (May 6th) at the General Assembly. All of our State Legislators have been invited. Please attend if you can and meet your legislator in a casual setting. If you know you are coming, better yet, call your State Representative or Senator and let them know you look forward to seeing them there. This will be a great time to relax and let them get to know you.

Also, don’t forget Legislative Day May 6th. We’ll be meeting at the Natural Science Museum at 8:30 prior to going over and "walking the halls". Wear your uniform! This is our day to make our presence known in the General Assembly and to seek support for our presence. We’ll also take a group photo at 9:00 on the red carpet steps.

Watch our web site for updates.

**Legislative Report**
The joint legislative committee (NCSFA and NCAFC’s) have met and have discussed a list of legislative priorities for the 2015/2016 session. These include but are not limited to:

- Legislation defining a firefighter
- Utility Vehicle Use on Highways currently allowing only ATV’s
- Tracking introduced legislation affecting the fire service

Some of the key bills we are tracking are:
See attached report which is the most recent legislative report.
We are also tracking federal legislation and it is included on the report as well as a federal update for CFSI discussions.

**Capital Impact Advocacy System**
We’ve had over 200 individuals join our legislative advocacy network. If you haven’t, go to the legislative flag on our web-site and click on the join button. This will allow you to receive weekly updates and geocodes you to your representatives.

**Additional**
We’ve had a number of LODD and AD&D deaths this year. The two most recent AD&D deaths not only included our $25,000 death benefit, but also an additional $10,000 because they were members of the NVFC. Please take a look at joining NVFC when your renewals come up this year if you have not already.
Additional
Here are some dates of importance:
May 5th, 2015    Legislative Reception, Raleigh
May 6th, 2015    Legislative Day, Raleigh
Aug 12 – 15th, 2015  SAFRE Conference, Raleigh
Sad News
17 Natural Deaths since the October meeting.

Scholarships: Scholarship deadline was March 31, 2015. We have 276 applicants. Scholarships are being scored. All applicants will notified as to where they were a recipient or not and recipients be posted online by May 15. Those that are not recipients will be placed on a prioritized list for one year.

High Angle Rescue School Unit 1 & 3 at Stone Mountain State Park was held March 27-28-29, 2015. Well over 100 students.

All eligible Association Departments filed their roster by the deadline. All the information was sent to the State on time and with no problems.

Annual Convention will be held at the Hickory Metro Convention Center, August 27-28-2-, 2015. all Information will be online shortly. We will have election for Commander and Vice Commander.

Joel Faircloth has been promoted to Executive Director. Gordon A. Joyner was appointed Executive Director Emeritus. We are seeking a person for the Deputy Executive position.

If we can be of assistance please feel
NCAFC Report

**New web site.** Launched April 20th. The new web site is incorporating suggestions and changes recommended from our membership.
- The new web site will have public view and members only portal
- Updated member registration process for individuals and departments
- Members can track all membership information and payments are invoiced and renewal notices are sent to members annually
- Members list serve groups for Volunteer, Combination or Paid
- Training offered on site on new web site changes
- Free Trial Membership for non-member until July 6th
- Will begin updating the Resource link on the web site
- Will begin updating the IMAS link on the web site

2. The NCAFC will no longer support NC Chiefs Yahoo Group after August 1st. NCAFC membership list serve will now be on the page for members of the NCAFC.

3. Completed 56th Fire Prevention School at Ft. Fisher March 23rd - 27th. We had 154 attendees, which is the largest attendance in the history of the school.

4. 2015 Chief Officer Executive Development Program registration opened online April 20th. The 2015 class is limited to 50 students. The Charlotte FD will once again host the class at the Charlotte Fire Training Center
   - September 21st – 25th
   - October 26th – 30th

5. 2016 NCAFC Career and Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year nominations accepted August 31, 2015 – December 31, 2015

6. Deadline for 2015 NCAFC Life Time Membership applications December 31, 2015

7. 2016 NCAFC Mid-Winter Fire Chiefs Joint Conference with the North Carolina Society of Fire/Rescue Instructors February 3-7, 2016 - Embassy Suites Concord, NC

8. May 5, 2015 – Legislative Reception - 5:30PM – 8:00PM Fire Service Hosted Legislative Reception, Raleigh, North Carolina


   Birmingham, Alabama

