

**Fire and Rescue Commission
Kernersville Fire Department
October 8, 2019**

Attendees:

Harley Cook	Phil Welch
Paul Padgett	Ryan Cole
Robert Poe	Walter Gardner
Vernon Massengill	Cloyce Anders
Scott Mullins	Kevin Gordon
Freddy Johnson	Gary Whitman
Ken Andrews	Brian Taylor

Welcome, Call to Order, Invocation

Chair Harley Cook called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
Phil Welch gave the invocation.

Ethics Statement

Harley Cook read the Ethics statement.

Approval of Agenda

Kevin Gordon asked that the Ethics item on the agenda be removed. Walter Gardner motioned to approve the Agenda as amended. Ryan Cole seconded. Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes

Kevin made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 Commission Meeting. Paul Padgett seconded. Motion approved.

Appointments and Elections

Commission Reappointments by Commissioner Causey:

- Harley Cook NCSFI
- Phil Welch NCSFA

Elections

Harley Cook was elected Chair by acclamation.
Phil Welch elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

Appointments

Commission Appointments:

- Vernon Massengill President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- Kevin Gordon Speaker of the House of Representatives

Vice Chair Phil Welch appointed Deputy Chief of Gastonia Mark Rutherford to the Certification Board as his appointee.

NCAFC Appointment – Phil Welch nominated Kevin Gordon to replace Ben Smith who submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2019. The appointment will begin 1/1/2020 and expire 12/31/2021. Cloyce Anders seconded. Appointment approved.

NCSFA - Tim Bradley asked to go ahead with the NCSFA's nomination process. The NCSFA nominated Chris Davis or A.C. Rich be appointed to the Certification Board in the NCSFA position. With Chris Davis being the first choice. Kevin Gordon made a motion to accept the NCSFA's request pending the official letter and resumes be sent to OSFM. Cloyce Anders seconded. Appointment approved.

Board Reports

Certification Board

Chairman Kevin Gordon presented plaques to Ben Smith for his service on the Certification Board. Jimmy Hensley was not able to attend. Staff will mail his plaque to him.

Chairman Gordon made a motion to accept the Certification Board report except for the Firefighter Program and Instructor Disciplinary items. Motion seconded by Freddy Johnson.

The changes to the Firefighter program were presented.

Option #1 was reviewed. Letters from ADR Fire and Rescue and the Columbus County Firefighters Association were passed out and discussed.

Kevin Gordon motioned to accept the report. Walter Gardner seconded.

Gary Whitman addressed concerns regarding retention of material and impact on volunteer firefighters. The 1403 standard was discussed. Phil Welch mentioned that 1403 standards were designed for participation in training fires, not as a complete training program for firefighter certification. Ryan Cole stated that the 1403 standard is often mistaken as a certification program. Kevin Gordon presented a second option for Firefighter Certification delivery.

Kevin Gordon rescinded his original motion. Walter Gardner rescinded his second.

Freddy Johnson made a motion to accept the second option. Ryan Cole seconded.

Kevin Gordon recommended sending it to the Certification Board for final adjustments. Motion approved.

The Certification Board went into closed-session to discuss instructor disciplinary items.

Burns – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Gary Whitman seconded.
Motion approved.

Hinkle – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Ryan Cole seconded.
Motion approved.

Stenerson – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Ryan Cole seconded.
Motion approved

Wayland – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Gary Whitman seconded.
Motion approved.

Hinkle – School Director - Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Walter Gardner seconded.
Motion approved.

Kevin Gordon motioned to accept September Certification Board Report. Paul Padgett seconded. Motion approved.

The Certification Board went into closed-session to discuss instructor disciplinary items.

Burris – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Gary Whitman seconded.
Motion approved.

Pendergrass – Kevin Gordon motioned to approve recommendation. Freddy Johnson seconded.
Motion approved.

Volunteer Safety Worker's Compensation Board

Cloyce Anders presented the report. Assets are up 8 million dollars and retained earnings are up 13 million. Total payouts since 1996 net approximately 144 million. The largest claim paid out was 3.9 million.

CFI Board

Freddy Johnson delivered the CFI Board report. The October CFI Board meeting this month has been postponed. The CFI Board is in the process of streamlining the certification process.

Old Business

Tom Felling – Rules Update

The Commission now has statutory authority to make and approve rules. Tom has been working with existing policies and procedures and is now in the process of writing rules and updating by-laws that pertain to all three Boards.

Chairman Harley Cook appointed a Rules Review Committee. Members are Kevin Gordon, Cloyce Anders, Freddy Johnson, Josh Smith, and Phil Welch.

New Business

Kevin Gordon

There were very little changes to the by-laws. Kevin Gordon made a motion to accept the updated by-laws. Freddy Johnson seconded. Motion approved.

Agency Reports

NC Department of Insurance – Brian Taylor

The NCDOI/OSFM quarterly report is available on our website.

NFA weekend is November 22-24 and there will be approximately 250 attendees.

Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12.

Stanley County Emergency Training Center/Airport just completed its first civilian training for TR Trench, Confined Space, and FIT.

NC State Firefighters' Association – Tim Bradley

Relief Fund Reports are due for the 3rd quarter. Certification Rosters must be in by January 15th including Board of Trustees Report.

The NCSFA Conference in Raleigh had 5,219 attendees and was the biggest turnout ever. Next year's conference will be held August 12-16, 2020.

Kevin Gordon and Ryan Cole serve on the Legislative Committee. HB 18 passed. HB 81 did not pass. SB 553 passed but was vetoed by Governor Cooper. HB 159 was put into SB 429. HB 278 passed. HB 466 was vetoed. HB 675 passed.

Thank You to all Hurricane Dorian responders.

NC Association of Rescue and EMS – Joel Faircloth

High Angle Rescue School is November 1-3. Applications are still open. Rosters are due January 15, 2020.

NC Association of Fire Chiefs – Ryan Cole

The Association is working on NC license plates and will be presenting by-law reviews.

NC Department of Community Colleges – Kenny Weatherington

They are currently waiting on budget issues to be resolved.

NC Division of Emergency Management - Justin Grainey

The Hurricane Dorian packet is going out this week. Thank You to all who rostered for Dorian. The one-million-dollar appropriation has been received. USAR Technical Committee meets Thursday at 9:00 am in Raleigh.

NC Society of Fire/Rescue Instructors

Joe Littleton represented the NCSFRI.

Professional Firefighters and Paramedics of North Carolina

No report. Josh Smith is currently in New Hampshire.

NC Department of Labor

San Juan Timmons presented the report. The proposed rule changes have been postponed. The pre-background screening program can now submit to pre-screen to be sure credentialing will happen.

Department of Forestry - Randy Kearney

Fire activity has elevated in the last 2 weeks. Aircraft, tankers and helicopters have been pre-positioned for activity. Burn bans may be imposed if necessary. Campfire restrictions have been imposed in some areas.

NC Department of Justice

This month is Domestic Violence Awareness month. A lethality amendment is pending implementation. An ALERT: Active Assailant Response Training course will be held May 27-28 free of charge for Fire, Law Enforcement, and EMS.

Freddy Johnson recommended moving the Commission meetings to varied locations throughout North Carolina to better serve the entire state. Phil Welch motioned to explore the options available to hold meetings in different regions. Freddy Johnson seconded. Motion approved. The January 14th meeting will be held in Kernersville.

With no further business to be addressed, meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Lashbrook