

North Carolina Fire Marshal's Association

Committee Reports

<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative
<input type="checkbox"/> Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Code revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Investigations
<input type="checkbox"/> Nominating	<input type="checkbox"/> Audit	<input type="checkbox"/> By-Law

The NCFMA Educational Committee met virtually for the second quarter on April 18, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Tony Smart, Chair at 0900 AM. Those in virtual attendance were, Shandy Padgett, Jeff Johnson, Charles Johnson, Charles Eldridge, Robert McSorley, Robert Carmon, Justin McLaurin, Amy Flieg, Wesley Graham, Blake Holloman and Eric Wiseman (check in).

Charles Johnson with OSFM provided an update(s) on Senate Bill 463 and its potential impacts. There is a remarkable amount of concern with his proposed Bill from many of the State organizations and how it may impact those attending continuing education classes from a financial perspective in the future. More information to come.

Charlie advised that he will continue to modify the Hot Topic and Emerging Issues Continuing Education class to stay up to date, and abreast of current code changes and the associated impacts. More information on this "Version 2" class in the future.

A discussion was held regarding the Spring NCFMA Association Con. Ed. Emergency Radio Responder Radio 510 Classes and three of the classes having a lower registration number as of today's date. The West of New Bern FD has 6 registered and the Weaverville class has 6 registered. The majority of the education committee members felt that if we didn't get at least 25 seated for the con ed. classes that we offer, that we cancel and/or reschedule the classes. There was feeling that one week prior to the class(es) would be the cut off to registration. So, for the West New Bern Class that would be May 3rd, and for the Weaverville class May 17th. If we didn't get the minimum seated for the classes, then refund the registration and regroup. Virtual registrations would not count in the numbers. There is a significant effort to get the video equipment and the instructors from one place to the other, along with vendors that have agreed to participate in this class, so therefore the need to rethink the numbers for the classes. Those education committee members in attendance stated that they would attempt to publicize the classes prior to the proposed cutoff date for the registrations. The other classes are good as they are for now, albeit some of those registered are virtual. We took this action, for now, as we will not have a Board Meeting of the NCFMA until June 14th and after the first three classes. There may also be the need to rethink the class for June 14th in Fayetteville, as it may impact the number(s) for our general meeting.

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The BDA Class dates and registration numbers thus far:

- April 26th Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center 32
- May 10th West of New Bern FD 6
- May 24th Weaverville FD 6
- June 14th Fayetteville FD Training Center 14
- June 27th Conover FD 25

There was a feeling among those in attendance that we may need to revisit the number of con. ed. classes that the NCFMA offers, and limit the repeat occurrences, and focus on more specialized classes in the Fall of 2023. We have many opportunities for specialized Fall con. ed., and this recommendation will be utilized as guidance for any upcoming classes this Fall.

The ICC High Piled Combustible Storage Class is still scheduled for Sept. 20th, at the Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center from 9AM to 4 PM. Scott Adams will be the instructor. (There are 19 registered as of today for this class). It was felt that the registrations will increase as the time gets closer and that we should hold this class as scheduled.

Amy Flieg offered the recommendation of an additional class focused on the NC Existing Building Code, and Blake Holloman offered to lead the research of a potential instructor for this type of continuing education class.

Jeff Johnson provided an update on the work regarding the "Inspector 101" class which will entail an overview of significant information for fire inspectors/fire marshals statewide. The hope is that the pilot class(es), will be ready for a July 1, 2023 "roll out" of the Train the Trainer Classes. There will be 24 hours involved in the class, with a broad perspective on the subject matter covered. More information to follow on this future class and the offerings.

The second quarter meeting of the NCFMA Educational Committee will be held on July 10, 2023 at 0900 virtually via Microsoft Teams. More information will be forthcoming regarding classes and our efforts to offer quality education to the membership.

Meeting was adjourned at 1000 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Smart, Chair

Education Committee NCFMA