



MJC / Regional Fire Training Center

RFTC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2022

Meeting began at 3:10 PM via Zoom

I. Welcome – Introductions

RFTC Director, Ron Cripe, welcomed members in attendance: Chief Erik Klevmyr, Chief Rick Mello, Neil Gamez, & EMS Instructor, Dan Cummins.

II. RFTC Business, Building, and Grounds Report:

- a. **COVID-19 safety guidelines:** Director Cripe informed everyone that although the COVID-19 testing requirements for our district have been removed, testing is still available this semester for our students & staff if they should require it. He also reminded everyone that as of this semester, face masks are still required indoors in all YCCD district facilities. Masks are available for those that require them when visiting our campuses.
- b. **Building/New roof:** Director Cripe reported on the completion of the RFTC roof project. The internal tiles are now being worked on. He also reported on funds that have been appropriated for new foldable desks and chairs for our classrooms.
- c. **Grounds:** Our partnership with Stanislaus County Fire Training Officer's Association academy and Chief Chris Parnell continues. They have been hosting their new hire Academy at the RFTC as well as working with their certificate program. They had several graduates recently. Director Cripe informed the Committee that we are working on acquiring a new container for the grounds to hold new equipment & tools for the burn room.
- d. **Curriculum review:** Director Cripe informed the committee that the FTECH & EMS courses and pre-requisites were reviewed at the last meeting. They made sure that they were in line with State Fire Training and EMS requirements. They reviewed material fees and costs. The Paramedic program is still being worked on. An Emergency Management program is also still being worked on. Current pre-requisites and needs are being looked at for courses. There are some courses that only have an advised course prior to taking it, that Director Cripe mentioned would prefer to have some other basic pre-requisites, in order to see students succeed in them.
- e. **SFT FF1 Testing:** Director Cripe reported on the current Spring '22 Fire Academy testing. He reminded the committee that we are currently following the 2019 curriculum and testing process, as the 2013 curriculum has been retired. We are still following the protocol for former MJC Fire Academy graduates to assist them with their FF1 certification examinations. We are an ARTP, but we are not an open-testing site. There are however several open-testing sites throughout California, 3 in Northern CA, and 3 in Southern CA.
- f. **Committee:** Director Cripe expressed some disappointment in the amount of people that attended the meeting today. He would appreciate participation by all as much as possible. Director Cripe also mentioned that he would like some input as to whether the committee should continue as one (1) single advisory committee for the Regional Fire Training Center (RFTC), or if the committee should be broken down into two (2) separate committees representing the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) category & Regional Fire Training Center (RFTC)? He will send this inquiry to all on the committee for feedback.



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III. RFTC EMS Report:

- a. **Spring 22 courses:** Director Cripe reported on the current EMR, EMT & ECG courses and how well they are going this semester. He mentioned that there is still a large portion of EMT students in the course this semester and attributes this to the improved curriculum.
- b. **Fall 22 plan:** The plan is to potentially do the same number of courses for the Fall semester plus add the Paramedic program.
- c. **Paramedic plan:** Director Cripe reported that we are currently working on completing an application process for the program. He reviewed the potential application and acceptance process for the Paramedic program with the committee. He also reviewed the potential plans for the program in the future.

IV. RFTC Fire Report:

- a. **Spring 22 courses:** Director Cripe reported on the current FTECH courses and how they're going well.
- b. **Fall 22 plan:** The plan is to potentially do the same number of courses for the Fall semester. Director Cripe mentioned that he is possibly looking to add a Summer FTECH 301 course as well.

V. RFTC Fire Academy Report:

- a. **The Spring 22 Fire Academy:** Director Cripe informed the committee that we currently have our Spring Academy going thru their Advanced training and have recently completed a couple of portions of their FF1 testing and will be completing another portion next week.
- b. **Fall 22 plan:** Director Cripe informed everyone that our application period will open in May for the Fall '22 Academy.

VI. Open Discussion

- a. **What do you need/ what would you like to see?**
 - Chief Neil Gamez mentioned that they need interns in Tuolumne County. Director Cripe asked if he could send us a flyer and we would be happy to forward it to our former Academy graduates.
 - Chief Neil Gamez also mentioned that they have contracted with a company to become an NREMT testing site
 - Chief Rick Mello inquired about process for excess Fire Academy applicants and applicants that are with Fire Agencies and are being sponsored. Director Cripe reviewed the process with the committee.
 - Chief Erik Klevmyr inquired about financial aid, tuition assistance or reduction in fees for current firefighters that were looking to pursue courses at MJC. Director Cripe reviewed the current, different financial aid services that are available at MJC for students. He did mention that it does require paperwork and forms to be filled out and at times this is what many students either neglect to do or don't follow thru on, but if they do, there may be assistance provided. Director Cripe also mentioned that he was open to looking at other resources as well, such as possible grant options for firefighters, to which Chief Klevmyr was open to as well. Director Cripe also mentioned that MJC does offer other potential opportunities to give college credit for those that may have earned training/experience in a subject area, which a firefighter could apply for- subject to verification.

VII. Next Meeting Date:

Fall semester (TBD)

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM