

Fire Technology Advisory
Committee Meeting Notes
December 10, 2009

TE 7, Room 103

Meeting called to order by Robert Falb at 3:00 P.M.

Members Present:

Fred Castro, Glendale Fire Department, AVC Instructor
Robert Falb, Instructor Antelope Valley College
Tom Hutchison, Instructor Antelope Valley College
Deputy Chief Mike Garcia, California State Fire Training, AVC Instructor
Richard Fauble, Base Manager PhosChek Inc., Sand Canyon Fire Dept.
Tracy McGuff, United States Forest Service
Mike Ryan, United States Forest Service
Bruce Schmidt, United States Forest Service, retired, AVC Instructor
Karl Smith, Instructor Antelope Valley College

1. Robert Falb welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were conducted.

2. Program Review:

Tom Hutchison gave an update on the just completed Fire Technology program review process. Tom discussed new programs implemented since the last report was submitted such as the Municipal FireFighter I Academy, Engine and Truck Company Operations courses and preparing to Become a Firefighter course. One new full-time instructor was hired along with five new adjunct instructors to support the Fire Fighter I Academy. Tom stated that FTEC 214 and 213 were archived.

3. AVC Budget and future course cuts:

Tom Hutchison stated the Antelope Valley College budget is currently fairly stable. The Fire Technology Program has cut one course in 2010 Intersession and two courses in the spring 2010 semester. There are indicators that course cuts in the future may be limited or end altogether. This would allow for the courses that have been cut to be reinstated.

4. Wildland and Municipal Academies:

- Tom stated that Wildland Academy # 6 graduated 34 students. Several students were offered jobs with the USFS.
- Robert stated that the Class 2 Municipal Academy graduated 24 cadets. 7 cadets were hired as reserve firefighters with the California City Fire Department.

5. 2010 State Accreditation:

- Robert Falb stated that the California State Community College Accreditation Team will visit the campus in October 2010 to complete their accreditation report. This is an important process for AVC to maintain full accreditation to continue to operate in good standing with the state.

Fire Technology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 12-10-09 continued:

6. Equivalencies:

- Tom Hutchison stated that the Equivalencies Committee for the State Chancellor's Office is reviewing the current policy on hiring instructors. The concern is that the state may require a two year degree for vocational instructors. The CFTDA is currently lobbying against this proposal.

7. Roundtable discussion:

- Tracy McGuff:
 - stated that the NWCG is requiring that instructors that teach their courses must be current with all certifications and approved by NWCG.
 - stated that the USFS has turnouts they would like to donate to a fire technology program.
- Mike Ryan:
 - stated that Kern County Fire Department will be testing after the first of the year. A Firefighter I and EMT Certification is required to be eligible to take the test.
 - stated that the USFS Kern County District will be hiring seasonal personnel on April 29th on the first round and then again on May 10th.
- Mike Garcia :
 - stated that fire departments in Los Angeles County are forming a new training officer's association.
 - stated that SFT has a new instructor's training program that includes Instructor I, II & III to complete the series.
 - stated that Fire Control III A & B have been updated.
 - stated that the Rescue Systems I & II courses have been updated. The Confined Space Rescue course is being updated at the present time.
 - stated that SFT will be sending out training officers to do spot checking of state certified instructors. Training officers will sit in on state courses and evaluate the instructor.
- Karl Smith stated that the State University programs are not accepting the 2 plus 2 fire technology students. Tom Hutchison stated that he would look into this issue.

- Tom Hutchison asked committee members how we could improve the fire technology program at AVC.

- Tracy McGuff stated to continue both the wildland and municipal fire academies.

- Mike Garcia said SFT would like to see AVC offer more of their courses like Fire Prevention I, II, & III, etc.

- Rich Fauble requested that an engine be purchased for the various course to use for hands-on training.

* Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 27, 2010.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Falb

Fire Technology Advisory
Committee Meeting Notes
May 27, 2010

TE 2, Room 120

Meeting called to order by Robert Falb at 3:00 P.M.

Members Present:

Fred Castro, Glendale Fire Department, AVC Instructor
Robert Falb, Instructor Antelope Valley College
Tom Hutchison, Instructor Antelope Valley College
Bill Bailey, Glendale Fire Department, AVC Instructor
Dick McCombs, USFS, AVC Instructor
Kathleen Hunn, AVHSD ROP
Bruce Schmidt, USFS, AVC Instructor
Karl Smith, Instructor Antelope Valley College
Debbie Penny, AVHSD ROP
Betsy McKinstry, AVHSD ROP

1. Robert Falb welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were conducted.
2. Fire Technology Program Update:

Tom Hutchison stated that the spring Fire Technology Courses are running at full capacity. We are looking at the possibility of running FTEC 295A as a co-hort class with FTEC 125. Robert Falb stated that several more instructors are being requested for the live fire training days in FTEC 295BL. Tom stated that a request has been made to offer FTEC 117 in the fall and spring and move it to a night class to better serve our students. A Perkin's Grant has been submitted for the fall 2010 and spring 2011 semesters to purchase SCBA's and portable radios for the Wildland and Municipal Fire Academies.

3. AVC 2010 - 2011 Budget:

Tom Hutchison stated the Antelope Valley College budget is currently fairly stable. The hope is that the courses dropped in 2009 will be added in future budget cycles.

4. Future Course Planning:

State Fire Training has mandated a new fire safety course, FTEC 116 be added to our Fire Technology basic set of core classes. The process to add this course to the curriculum will begin in fall 2010.

5. 2010 State Accreditation:

Robert Falb stated that the California State Community College Accreditation Team will visit the campus in October 2010 to complete their accreditation report. This is an important process for AVC to maintain full accreditation to continue to operate in good standing with the State.

Fire Technology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 5-27-10 continued:

6. Grants and Scholarships:

The AVC Foundation Grant request for an engine as a teaching aid for the Fire Technology Program was denied on the grounds of fear of liability. Several scholarships for \$1,000 and \$500 are available for Fire Technology students. Applications for scholarships should be made in the fall semester.

7. Roundtable discussion:

- Tom Hutchison stated he would like to move the computer display monitor to the podium in room 120.
- Bill Bailey stated that efforts to purchase an engine as a teaching aid should still be pursued as the State Fire Training recertification team is due in October 2010.
- Kathleen Hunn requested information on the AVC Fire Technology scholarship program.
- Betsy McKinistry requested information on job placement numbers for AVC municipal and wildland academy students.
- Bill Bailey stated that U-of AV has a paramedic program and wondered why AVC does not offer one.
- Debbie Penny stated that AVHS ROP offers EMT National Registry testing.
- Dick McComb stated that we should work towards being able to outfit another wildland crew during fire season.

* Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 2, 2010.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Falb

**Fire Technology Program
Advisory meeting
December 2, 2010
Minutes**

Welcome and Introductions 3:30 P.M.

Those present: Debbie Penny, AVUHSD ROP, Fred Castro, ROP
Karl Smith, AVC, Tom Hutchison AVC

Discussion: High School ROP, College relationship:

Debbie Penny lead a group discussion reviewing the agreement with AVC and the ROP program. We also discussed the relationship of students flowing from ROP to AVC in the Fire Technology program. It was discussed and decided that the ROP program and AVC Fire Technology programs do a joint advisory committee meeting once a year in the fall. This will reduce the overall number of meetings involving the same people as well as improve the conduits between the two programs. This will be implemented in the Fall meeting 2011 and we will need to expand the meeting time by at least ½ hour.

Course updates: Tom Hutchison provided the group an update on curriculum at AVC and changes since our last meeting. All course outlines of record are currently up to date and SLOs are identified. Also discussed was the ongoing process for identifying courses which will be the "capstone" course for specific Program Learning Objectives. The group was also brought up to date on changes to the State curriculum which is adding to the minimum graduation requirements for a Associates Degree. This consists of one course dealing with Municipal Firefighter Safety and Survival.

Current and Future Budget status and outlooks: Tom provided a quick update on the current budget situation with AVC for the 2010-2011 school year. That basic class offerings are stable at the present time depending on the current State fiscal crises and the new administrations desires for out years.

Perkins funding: Tom provided an update on Perkins funding for 2010-2011 and what happened to the proposal for the 2009-2010 academic year. The committee was updated on completed and planned purchases of new state of the art technology in safety gear and the pending procurements of addition capability with power saws and the critical important radio communications hardware.

Anticipated changes for 2011; No major projected changes for 2011-2012 pending what occurs with the state budget and new administration.

Open forum: Fred ask the question about possibly getting some cast off Turnout clothing from the college for the ROP program as theirs are in serious need of replacement. Both programs have been seriously hurt in that area due to the legal requirement to destroy unserviceable, contaminated, or outdated Personal Protective equipment. Tom suggested that the AVUHSD/ROP look into the possible use of Perkins funds if they are available to the High School district for upgrading the technology used in training.

The question about the status of a pumping apparatus for the college program was again raised. Tom updated that the FTEC program had applied for a AVC Foundation Grant to purchase a fully equipped Office of Emergency Services engine for \$2000.00 that was being taken out of service due to age. The committee was informed the Grant was denied because of "Liability" reasons by the President. The committee has asked Tom to pursue a clarification as to the Liability concerns that resulted in the denial of the grant and report back at the next meeting. It is felt that this piece of instructional equipment is much more critical to the Fire Technology program than anything else at the present time.

Adjournment 5:15 P.M.