

OC Public Safety
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Present: Steven Hall (Dean, Oxnard College Public Safety), William Lynch (OC Public Safety / Fire Technology Department Chair), , Carl Schwab (OC Public Safety/ EMT Coordinator), David Endaya (Ventury City FD), Alexander Hamilton (Oxnard FD), Nathan LaRusso (Oxnard FD), Karsten Guthrie (Oxnard FD), Keith Gurrola (Fillmore FD), Jeramy Guercio (Cal Fire), Jeremy Brant (Cal Fire), Rosa Soliz (Oxnard Union), Hunter Taylor (Oxnard Union), Sami Barakat (Fire Technology Student)

Absent: Rebecca Martinez (Oxnard College/ Counselor, Curtis Tolmie (Oxnard FD), John Colamarino (Oxnard FD), Dustin Lazenby (Ventura County FD), Douglas Miser (Ventura City FD), Luis Manzano (Ventura City FD) Chris Rosa (VC EMS), Jason Johnson (City of Port Hueneme), Dave Updike (USFS Risk Management), Joseph Dullam (EMS), Joey Williams (GMR)

Meeting Date: March 7, 2024

Recorded By: Samantha Agreda

AN = Action Needed

AT = Action Taken

D = Discussion

I = Information Only

	TOPIC		DISCUSSION
I.	Welcome/Call to Order	I	W. Lynch calls the meeting to order at 1:32 pm
II.	Introductions	I	W. Lynch introduces the agenda for the meeting and invites the attendees to introduce themselves.
III.	Follow – Up from Previous Meeting	AT	<p>1. Approval of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W. Lynch motioned to approve the minutes from October 17, 2023. • Minutes were approved without objection. <p>2. 1st Responder Summer Academy</p> <p>W. Lynch provides flyer of Summer 2024 First Responder Public Safety Academy. C. Schwab is invited to share more details regarding the academy since he is an active participant along with Capt. Crudo in leading the First Responder Public Safety Academy. He shares that last year, they had twelve students that had a great time and positive learning experience. Currently, the department is working with difference counselors at the local High Schools, and H. Taylor from Rio Mesa High School to help expand the program and encourage students to enroll in the summer academy. C. Schwab invites advisory committee members who are interested in helping in the academy to contact him.</p>
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		AN	N. LaRusso (Oxnard FD) asks what the academy focuses on. C. Schwab explains that it includes Fire, Wildland, Lifeguard, and EMT since the goal is to give students a broad exposure to EMS careers. N. LaRusso would like to provide information regarding Summer 2024 First Responder Public Safety Academy to

		<p>AN</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>	<p>the high school students visiting Oxnard FD in the next three weekends. W. Lynch offers to provide that information to the students when they visit Oxnard College Public Safety on March 24, 2024. W. Lynch also mentions that he plans to contact Oxnard FD for the Lifeguard portion of the Academy. N. LaRusso asks W. Lynch to provide the dates when he reaches out.</p> <p>J. Guercio (Cal Fire) offered to bring a hand crew to provide a tool out 20-minute demonstration for the Wildland portion. C. Schwab will reach out to provide more details.</p> <p>Additionally, C. Schwab informs attendees that there is no-cost to the program, and that we have an active counselor, Rebecca Martinez, that can help with the enrollment process. S. Hall adds that the age range is 16 and above and explains that the QR code in the flyer is an Interest Form. The counselor will reach to the students that complete the form. S. Hall is aware that the challenge is getting students through the dual-enrollment process.</p> <p>R. Soliz shares that she had two students that participated last year. They absolutely loved the academy and continued taking Fire Technology courses.</p>
IV.	College Updates	<p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>	<p><u>Fire Technology</u> (W. Lynch)</p> <p>Curriculum: Summer 2024 scheduled is out. W. Lynch expects classes will be full. S. Hall adds that the majority of the Fire Technology classes have been moved to in-person. He mentions that faculty have noticed that students that took the prerequisite courses for the Fire Academy online struggled using the equipment when they are accepted into the Fire Academy.</p> <p>Equipment: W. Lynch shares that Santa Monica Fire Department donated 10 x 20ft. extension ladders which are in fantastic shape. The program is also in the process of acquiring breathing apparatus and 180 bottles from Burbank Fire Department. W. Lynch also hopes to received a type 3 engine if everything works out.</p> <p><u>Wildland Academy</u> (W. Lynch)</p> <p>The academy currently has 5 cadets that have already been hired. Three just got hired with Kern County and others were hired by USFS.</p> <p>S. Hall adds that the Wildland Academy was full this Spring. It started with 29 cadets, and it still has the 29.</p> <p><u>Fire Related Training Courses</u> (W. Lynch)</p> <p>Oxnard College Public Safety is now able to offer courses such as Instructor 2 and other State Fire training courses. We now have the approval to offer the course, find the instructor, fund the training and charge the student directly. W. Lynch informs that Instructor 2 will be the first course offered. Then he will reach out to agencies for guidance on course needs.</p>

		<p><u>Lifeguard Academy</u> (W. Lynch) It is scheduled for Fall 2024 – August 23 to October 5, 2024. It was previously offered in the Spring, but due to the rain, it was decided to be moved to the Fall semester.</p> <p><u>Fire Academy</u> (S. Hall) Last year, T. Crudo applied for a sabbatical for Fall 2024 which has been approved by the VCCCD Governing Board. She will be working in a training manual of the Fire Academy. Therefore, Oxnard College is currently advertising a one-semester sabbatical leave replacement. S. Hall asks if anyone is interested for the temporary position to refer to the job announcement.</p> <p>Currently, the academy has 21 students, and graduation is in May. W. Lynch invites all agencies to the Fire Academy graduation May 10, 2024 at 10am. S. Hall reminds everyone that the first 2 rows of the PAB are reserved for them. S. Agreda will send a calendar invite.</p> <p><u>EMT</u> (C. Schwab) EMT and EMR programs have received re-approval from VCEMS through 2028. In addition, C. Schwab shares that Chris Rosa and Tom O'Connor have restarted the EMS education committee. This committee is currently working on a list of psychomotor skills testing to be used in Ventura County.</p> <p>OC EMT program nationally registered 160 students last year, and C. Schwab expects that number to grow as Fall EMT students complete their NREMT.</p>
V.	Employer Updates	<p><u>Oxnard Fire Department</u> (OFD)</p> <p>A. Hamilton informs that they are working on recruiting an academy for the beginning of '26. OFD is increasing their involvement in workforce development. Their department recently received an EMS co-grant that pays young adults, who were never destined for college and perhaps had negative interactions with the justice system growing up, to go to EMT school. A. Hamilton suggests to bring those students to Oxnard College EMT program and provide twice as many contact hours. A. Hamilton adds that the grant is small and will only fund three cohorts of students. If the cohorts are successful, OFD will consider building something similar for a longer term. The idea is for these students to complete EMT school and later become paramedics. A. Hamilton believes this is a great opportunity for the young adult and possible partnership with Oxnard College.</p> <p>Regarding OFD, N. LaRusso informs that they hiring two separate academies in January 26. They have 9 months to do all the work for recruitment. Some of the challenges that OFD is encountering is finding a location for people to take the CPAT. OFD application process consists of a prerecord written test and a physical ability test. The closest CPAT testing training is in El Monte, but many of people cannot get to the location. OFD is</p>

			<p>considering an alternative option to the physical ability test for the people that cannot access a CPAT after they have gone through the application process.</p> <p>I W. Lynch asks if the Biddle has been considered. N. LaRusso is aware of the Biddle test and its testing schedule flexibility. However, it falls to the administration and logistics. W. Lynch adds that the Biddle is very accurate regarding the determination of the fitness. N. LaRusso says that it will be consider; however, some of the feedback that they have received is that the Biddle test doesn't test the upper body strength while CPAT provides some information on that. Regarding the written exam, they are leaning toward FCTC because it is convenient. Cal-JAC is willing to partner with anyone who is willing to support the program. N. LaRusso shares that if Oxnard College has an interest to offer the CPAT again, OFD would be interested.</p> <p>AN Regarding internships, N. LaRusso asks if Oxnard College is still planning in sending interns. He mentioned that the last two interns did not seem to show interest in the internship. K. Guthrie (OFD) suggests adding a credit component that could make the internship more challenging. S. Hall offers to look into the Cooperative Work Experience classes that can be used as part of the internship. It could help motivate the students since there would be a faculty guiding the students through the internship. S. Hall offers to investigate more about it with the help of W. Lynch.</p> <p>I Regarding Company officer series, OFD is working on a professional development program internally that will offer chief officer classes. If Oxnard College offers those courses, OFD would gladly send their people to take those courses at Oxnard College. OFD goal is to make their classes a requirement to prepare people for the captain test.</p> <p>AN Regarding Accredited Local Academy and Accredited Regional Training Program (ALA /ARTP), N. LaRusso asks who should they contact to received information regarding Firefighter 1 testing. He has between 15 to 20 cadets that would need to take the test. W. Lynch suggest to do a separate testing outside the Fire Academy due to the number of people that N. LaRusso would bring. S. Hall reminds them that T. Crudo will be back in April; therefore, they can also meet with her to discuss the testing. K. Gurrola (Fillmore FD) adds that his department would also have a handful of cadets that will need to be tested. K. Gurrola suggests to provide the test in Fall 2024. N. LaRusso would need the test Summer 2024, but Oxnard FD can coordinate with Fillmore FD to set a day that works for both Departments.</p> <p>AN K. Guthrie adds that there is a need for a Fire Paramedic Program. He believes Oxnard College would be a fantastic place for it. He also shares that he would like to resume his work on an ISA curriculum for the College. He was previously working with Matt Jewett on an ISA curriculum which stop during the covid-19 pandemic. Most of the curriculum aspects have been completed, and they were pending writing the MOU agreement. He would like to revise it and complete it. W. Lynch asks S. Hall if he has any of the documents. S. Hall confirms he has some of the documents; however, he is unsure if they are the revised or last updated version of the documents. S. Hall is willing to discuss and meet with K. Guthrie to go over the documentation needed. K. Guthrie will search for all the documents and set a meeting with S. Hall.</p>
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Ventura City Fire Department (VFD)

Industry Updates:

- D. Endaya shares that VFD is a couple of months away from launching a full-time medical rescue engine - 40-hour engine and 40-hour rescue engine.
- They are doing good on the SAVER grant. They are still hiring.
- New Academy is scheduled to start the first week of May. It should be a 14-week academy.

Employer Skill gaps

- VFD has noticed that the market is less requiring paramedic license. The recent people coming to their department have very minimum paramedic background.

Trends in occupation & Labor Market

- XGames come back to Ventura. Last year, it was a learning experience since they only had 4-weeks to prepare. This year, they have more time. It will happen in June, and it should be another fun weekend.

Fillmore Fire Department (FFD)

K. Gurrola shares FFD is finishing hiring 20 reserve firefighters who will start working at the end of march for 14-15 weeks. The schedule for the new reserve firefighters is of 28 hours a week – 12 hours Saturday and Sunday and 4-6 hours Wednesday night. FFD anticipates the reserves firefighters will be done by July 3. K. Gurrola points out that of the 20 reserve firefighters, 8 are paramedic and 6 of the 8 are level 2 in the county which will help increase the paramedic pool.

Regarding training, he appreciates the notification of every departments training schedule. Even though FFD does not have hazmat, they have a couple of people that will be attending tomorrow's hazmat training.

AN

FFD is looking at creating a Battalion Chief curriculum even though they don't have the positions. They want to be able to start the curriculum and the training, and hopefully in a couple of years, they will be able to fund their battalion chief positions. K. Guthrie (OFD) asks how the chief training would look like. K. Gurrola shares that it will focus on leadership and follow the SFT curriculum. They already have some people that have received SFT training. K. Gurrola requests any mentorship or resources that the other departments may have used to develop their battalion chief curriculum. K. Guthrie shares that OFD developed a task book for battalion chief based on the task book created by Ventura City and could share the copy they have from Ventura's with FFD. K. Gurrola accepts to receive a copy.

CAL FIRE

J. Guercio shares that Cal Fire is hiring right now. They have split up everybody in two different qualifications – hand crew qualified or engine qualified. Anyone who has instructor 1A training will lean toward the engine qualified.

Cal Fire was in the EMS conference in southern California few weeks ago. Cal Fire just put through their first paramedics, so company officer with a certain criterion are send to paramedic school. They just finished their first group. The people going to paramedic’s school are not required to stay with Cal Fire, but Cal Fire hopes they would stay.

Regarding Ventura Fire Training, they are still taking parolees out of the streets and teaching them how to be firefighters. They have a graduation March 15, 2024 with 38 students.

Next week, J. Guercio will be driving to Fresno to take an Instructor course. He looks forward to the day the instructor course can be taken at Oxnard College.

Oxnard Union (OUHSD)

R. Soliz shares that OUH is always working on creating a bridge to Oxnard College. R. Soliz informs Rio Mesa High School is the only school that has a prehospital. H. Taylor explains that the prehospital is very similar to an EMR course. It is meant to be an introductory course in careers in EMS and medicine. H. Taylor is looking for opportunities for the students to get experience in the field. He understands that it is challenging because many of the students are minors. Students are interested to see how EMS looks like. H. Taylor asks if there are any days that the agencies or OC is interested in providing apparatus opportunities for the high schoolers to step into the station to contact him.

R. Soliz adds that a few years ago, Oxnard College used to offer an EMR class in Hueneme High School. They had about 30 students taking the course through dual-enrollment. Two years ago, they also offered the lifeguard course on their site, but enrollment was not successful since they had students that were interested but didn’t know how to swim.

R. Soliz shares that one of the challenges that they encounter this year was getting students to sign up for the OC EMR course because it fills up quickly. They were able to get two students in this Spring 2024 who are also interested in continuing their medical pathway. Another reason for not being able to have student sign up to take EMR at OC is transportation. Student don’t have the transportation to make it to the Camarillo Airport campus. Therefore, R. Soliz is interested in providing EMR course through Oxnard College at Hueneme High School as it was done before.

AN S. Hall shares that OC Public Safety is trying to have an EMR course be taught at Hueneme High School. Due to the shortage of Faculty instructors for EMT and EMR, it wasn’t possible to offer a second EMR course, but that has changed. S. Hall and C. Schwab are planning to add a second EMR class Fall 2024, and that second course can possibly be offered at Hueneme Spring 2025. S. Hall will set a separate meeting with R. Soliz to talk about it. He believes OC now has the instructors to be able to offer this second course. R. Soliz shares

			they have the facility to offer the course at Port Hueneme. S. Hall suggests that in a couple of months, he and C. Schwab visit Hueneme High School to see the classroom. S. Hall informs that OC EMT still has the equipment that was used when the class was offered at Port Hueneme.
VI.	Next Meeting	AN	The next meeting will be scheduled for October 10, 2024. S. Agreda will send the calendar invite.
VII.	Adjournment	I	The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm