

Fire Science Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC)
3:00 p.m. – 4:30
Via Zoom

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Attendees:

Brad Deeds, Dean of Workforce Development and Instruction/LTCC, Tony Sears, Board of Trustee/LTCC, Amber Goligoski, Program Coordinator Work-Based Learning/LTCC, Sarah Williams Academic Counselor/LTCC, Carlie Murphy, Director of Forestry, Fire & Public Safety/LTCC, Patrick Hughes, Fire Academy Academic Director/Instructor/LTCC, Anika Schneider, Fire Academy Academic Coordinator/Instructor/LTCC, Battalion Chief (BC), Tyler Jack/South Lake Tahoe Fire Rescue, Chief Paul Washam, Eastern Alpine Fire Rescue and Jamie Rhone, Career & Technical Education Program Specialist I/LTCC

- Brad welcomed all for attending our annual Fire Science Advisory Committee meeting.
- Tyler is sitting in for Chief Drennan.

General Discussions/Feedback from Industry Partnership:

- Brad provided an overview of the history of the four LTCC Fire Science programs to include Fire Academy, Fire Officer, and Fire In-service Training programs. The in-service training programs help us, to help agencies.
- A brief history of the LTCC Board of Trustees service years and retirees. Roberta Mason was one of the original founders and members since the inception of the college (1974 – 2014). We honored her by naming a building after her. The Roberta Mason Library. Dr. Frederick “Fritz” Wenck was a Board of Trustee member since the inception of the college, now retired (1974 to 2016). We honored him by naming the Board Room after him and placed a dedication photo plaque in the room.
- Tony is in his fourth year serving on the Board of Trustees and appreciates the agency partnerships.
- Carli announced Alondra Gomez is our new Student Support Coordinator for Forestry and Fire with the specific focus of supporting students in getting jobs in the field. We invested funds to increase job placements for forestry and fire academy students.
- Brad the purchases of apparatuses and equipment is helping us to make a stronger program.

Fire Academy & Public Training Center Complex Update:

- Brad the general goal is to have a general ribbon cutting ceremony/celebration during spring 2025 for the Public Safety Training Center Complex.
- The target is to schedule the groundbreaking during spring 2026 and by winter 2027 operational.
- Patrick shared the current graphic of the Public Safety Training Complex, to include a 7,000 square footage building, permanent very tall training tower, fire behavior props, tarmac, parking spaces, fire hydrant and explained slight modifications of placement of building and no-burn tower to accommodate high-rise and rope rescue training, etc. It will be on 2.2 acres. Plus, he shared the first rendering of classroom modules at the same site. He shared a quick example of a tower at Fresno City College.
- Brad shared that the college is pursuing more funding for options for classroom modules/offices and restrooms, pending next steps.

-Patrick the LTCC Fire Academy curriculum was updated to meet the State and National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) standards and objectives to build a resilient workforce with our cooperators. By requiring Emergency Medical Training (EMT), Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) and Incident Command Systems (ICS) training, prior to enrolling in the fall quarter class (FIR-170L) which resulted in lower enrollments for Class (18) and (19). The spring 2025 spring offering of the Fire Academy Orientation Class (FIR-170K) is full and includes a waitlist. The next offering of the orientation class is summer 2025. We expect that Class (20) will be full and in high demand. Also added Fire Control (3) certification training (live fire) in partnership with El Dorado County Fire Protection District.

-Brad students are better prepared and sooner for hiring season.

Annual Program Review (APR) & Updates – 2023-2024:

-Brad provided an overview of the four APRs with the data serving as a snapshot of full-time equivalent students (FTES) demographics, course success rates and individual course offerings:

- Fire Science is one of the original programs of the college and we continue to offer degrees and certificates. The core fire courses are FIR-101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 153, 167 and EMT: HEA140E.
- Fire Academy is graduating Class (19), next week.
- Fire In-service Training Programs courses are offered in a year-long format (July to June), developed in partnership to serve local area training needs for South Lake Tahoe Fire Rescue, Lake Valley Fire Protection District, Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District, later added CAL FIRE and more recently Industrial Emergency Council.
- South Regional Public Safety Training Consortium (aka JPA) our out-of-area mega in-service training partners for criminal justice, health classes and fire. We share our curriculum with them.

-The in-service training reports show clear data differences between the current workforce vs students. Plus, the outreach efforts are paying off for students and staff. The full-time equivalent for students (FTES) in these programs is 25% of the campus-wide (FTES). The college simply would not be the same college without our partners.

-Brad reviewed the general college requirements to teach in the fire science discipline at LTCC, associate's degree in anything, plus six years of related experience or bachelor's degree in anything, plus two years of related experience.

Perkins Funding:

-No report

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respective