

OC Public Safety
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Present: Steven Hall (Dean, Oxnard College Public Safety), Bill Lynch (OC Public Safety / Fire Technology Department Chair), Carl Schwab (OC Public Safety/ EMT Coordinator), Tamara Crudo (OC Public Safety/ Fire Academy Coordinator), Curtis Tolmie (Oxnard FD), Dustin Lazenby (Ventura County FD), Jeremy Henderson (Ventura City FD), Chad Cook (Ventura County FD), Hunter Taylor (Rio Mesa HS) Thomas Hoffman (Fire Technology Student) Dough Stuart (Oxnard Fire Training) Chris Walls (Channel Harbor), Jeremy Brant (Cal Fire)

Absent: Jeramy Guercio (Cal Fire), Merrit Eaton (Buena HS), Claire Hartley (VCMC), David Endaya (Ventura City FD), Chris Rosa (VC EMS), Keith Gurrola (Fillmore FD), Dave Updike (USFS Risk Management), Karsten Guthrie (Oxnard FD), Scott Guirarte (Ventura County FD), Dustin Gardner (Ventura County FD), Caryn Petty (State Fire Training), Nathan LaRusso (Oxnard FD), Alexander Hamilton (Oxnard FD), John Colamarino (Oxnard FD), Rosa Soliz (Oxnard union),

Meeting Date: March 13, 2025

Recorded By: Samantha Agreda

AN = Action Needed AT = Action Taken D = Discussion I = Information Only

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION
I.I.	Welcome/Call to Order	The meeting was call to order at 1:36 pm
II.II.	Introduction	B. Lynch invites committee to introduce themselves.
III.III.	Follow-Up form Previous Meetings	<u>Approval of October 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes</u> Motion: Tami Crudo Second: Jeremy Brant Passed unanimously
IV.	College Updates	<u>Fire Technology</u> Equipment updates/needs/donations B. Lynch shares that the Fire Technology classroom have been improved due to funds that the program received. The Fire Technology classroom will be now equipped with nozzles, hose, and chainsaws. Feedback on program graduates and those who have been employed

B. Lynch shares that some of the Fire Technology students are getting jobs within six months to a year since being students at Oxnard College. They are being hired by Cal Fire, Forest Service, Stockton, San Jose, Sundowners.

Fire Related Training Courses

- Ethics course will be offered at Oxnard College as requested by agencies which are sending 19-20 people to take the course. T. Crudo shares that Chief Caren Petty recommended an instructor for the course. Chief Lazenby states that he can send ten more people to take the course. The course will be offered April 14, 2025. The course fee is \$200 and instructor is has made arrangements for payment. S. Hall confirms with T. Crudo that Oxnard College will not be charged for the course. T. Crudo states that the instructor will pay the invoice to State Fire directly and will order the course four weeks in advance. The registration for the course is completed electronically, and T. Crudo will send the registration link. There are only 32 spots available for the class.

- Fire Control 4 (Tami)
T. Crudo shares that this course came out of the SFT Reaccreditation process. T. Crudo explains that the course material for Fire Control 4 is already taught in the academy; however, the course is not certified. Chief Petty has recommended a high-quality instructor to teach the course and provide the certification. T. Crudo will reach out to the instructor.

B. Lynch asks if the Fire Control 4 is going to be added to the Fire Academy curriculum or would be a separate class. T. Crudo says that the course material is already taught in the academy, they just need to order the course and increase the material fees

T. Crudo adds that Chief Petty also recommended adding a rope training course because the entry level firefighters do not have enough rope training experience. Therefore, Chief Petty asks that after graduation, the college offers a rope training course.

IFSAC reaccreditation (Steve)

S. Hall shares that the reaccreditation is completed every five years. The accreditors visited the Oxnard College Public Safety site in February and congratulated the work completed in the self-study report. They were impressed with the facility, the people, the program, the department, and the advisory committee. The site team recommended full reaccreditation, which will be made official in the next IFSAC meeting in April.

Fire Academy/Wildland Academy

Action item for curriculum

- Wildland Fire Academy, Certificate of Achievement (COA)

S. Hall shares the proposal (see attached) to package the existing curriculum (FT R180 and EMT R1609 or 109) into a certificate of achievement which is a certificate that the college awards to students that take a cluster of courses in a specific area.

If students pass the Wildland Academy and either EMT or the responder course (EMR), they will receive the Wildland COA.

S. Hall clarifies that there is no change in the curriculum itself; however, as part of the requirement to offer this certificate, the advisory committee needs to review and approve it.

B. Lynch asks if student will be able to get financial aid for the EMT and EMR classes. S. Hall confirms that students can already receive financial aid or waivers for those courses since they are part of other programs.

B. Lynch adds the Wildland Academy has become very popular. The last three academies have been full. B. Lynch thanks the committee and forest services for all their help since almost 100% of the wildland graduates leave with job offers. T. Crudo adds that this certificate would also allow GI Bill, so veteran students could also use their GI Bill to help them pay for the Wildland Academy.

Approval of Wildland Fire Academy, Certificate of Achievement (see attached)

Motion: Jeremy Henderson
Second: Dustin Lazenby
Passed unanimously

- Active Programs

No changes were recommended to the following active programs.

- Associate in Science: Fire Technology
- Certificate of Achievement: Fire Technology

- Certificate of Achievement: Fire Fighter I/II Academy
- Associate in Science: Fire Company Officer
- Certificate of Achievement: Fire Company Officer
- Certificate of Achievement: Emergency Medical Technician
- Proficiency Award: Wildland Fire Academy
- Proficiency Award: Emergency Medical Technology
- Proficiency Award: USLA Lifeguard Academy I

Fire Academy - T. Crudo shares that the Fire Academy has 31 students in the current academy, and so far, they have received 21 applicants for the Fall 2025 academy. T. Crudo adds that now there is a tower component that happens during orientation. Applicants will do a tower run which has to be completed in 9 minutes or less to be considered for entrance into the fire academy.

In addition, T. Crudo explains that the ICS training is going to be revisited because it is a solid piece of Firefighter 2 for the Fire Academy. T. Crudo will revisit the calendar and reevaluate with Captain Jack Twitchell to see how they can infuse more ICS training, so the cadets have a better understanding of the material and prepare them better for the certification exam.

The Fire Academy has also hosted a lot of high school tours.

T. Crudo invites the committee to the Spring 2025 Fire Academy graduation which is scheduled for May 9, 2025. The ceremony starts at 10:00 am at the Oxnard College Performance Art Building (PAB). B. Lynch will make sure that a calendar invite is sent to the committee.

Equipment updates/needs/donations

T. Crudo thanks Ventura County for the donation of Engine 34, and she shares that the academy is now apparatus heavy. T. Crudo asks J. Brant if he would consider taking engine 38. J. Brant confirms that Cal Fire is interested in the engine.

Fire Academy Reaccreditation

T. Crudo shares that S. Hall, S. Agreda and she worked on the self-assessment, and SFT were impressed with the assessment. Chief Petty visited the academy in February and was pleased with everything the academy is doing. She asked to follow up with some goals for academy logs such

as how many times an apparatus has been used, oil change, services, etc. Chief Petty added that once the Fire Academy gets reaccredited, they will renew the satellite at the Cal Fire training center.

ISA Update

B. Lynch and Steve met with Oxnard Fire department about developing an ISA. B. Lynch and S. Hall are working on draft at Oxnard College to work with Oxnard. The implementation date would be approximately Fall 2026.

S. Hall asks that an ISA update is added to the next Advisory Committee scheduled for Fall 2025, so they can provide more information and details about the ISA process.

B. Lynch asks D. Stuart if he can get a copy of their ISA with Allan Hancock. D. Stuart will send it.

Agency Stand Alone Testing

T. Crudo shares that the OC Fire Academy is actively working with the agency to provide testing to their firefighters. T. Crudo informs D. Stuart that the academy has received independent requests for testing from his fire department. Recently, the academy was discussing with Oxnard to have an agency exam; however, due to weather and the recent fires, it was moved out. T. Crudo informs D. Stuart if he would like her to come over and sit with Curtis to discuss who is eligible for the exam and ready, she will certainly do it to have their firefighters certified. D. Stuart agrees. T. Crudo will reach out to Curtis to schedule the meeting.

EMT

C. Schwab informs the committee that the passing rate has increased from the last advisory committee. EMT had their highest pass rates in the Fall, and he hopes they can continue that. Passing rates on the NREMT exam have increased from 68% to 76%.

Regarding new equipment, the EMT lab has been restocked with new equipment such as skeletons, CPR dolls, babies and manikins. The program is continuing to be strong.

C. Schwab thanks the partnership with Oxnard Fire Department, and he is excited to work with their EMS program.

		<p>B. Lynch congratulates C. Schwab for his NREMT review session which he offers in his own time every semester to help the students review for the NREMT exam.</p> <p>B. Lynch informs Ventura City or the County that if they are ever interested on having EMT students on their ride along, they can contact C. Schwab. The college is always looking for ride along opportunities for the EMT students.</p>
V.	Employer Updates	<p>VCFD, OFD, VFD, FFD, NBVCFD, USFS, Cal Fire, VC EMS, GMR, VCMC, Oxnard Union, Buena High School)</p> <p>Ventura county Fire Department (VCFD)</p> <p>D. Lazenby agrees to offer more State Fire Training courses through the college. He says that students that come through an academy don't have to be rostered with the Fire Department for SFT testing which gives them flexibility to meet the student-instructor ratio. Therefore, any entry-level courses that the college can offer will be helpful for the agencies. T. Crudo agrees with D. Lazenby and believes that the state recognizes that too, and that's why they suggest that the community college offers some of those courses.</p> <p>D. Lazenby states that VCFD is interested in the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ethics o Instructors' courses o RIO & CEET <p>D. Lazenby adds if these courses could be offered every year, it would be helpful. T. Crudo asks if VCFD has any awareness or rope instructors. D. Lazenby says that they do.</p> <p>RIO Mesa Highschool</p> <p>H. Taylor shares student enrollment has decreased about 10% since covid in the high school level. The class of 2029 will be the smallest graduating class. He is unsure how that will affect the college level. Regarding needs, Oxnard College donated a gurney which the students are using and enjoying. The high school has created a cognitive health care competition for students enrolled in the Health Care pathway. They will be competing in six different skills, and they are looking for judges that are willing to volunteer. The competition will take place on April 1, 2025.</p> <p>T. Crudo asks if academy skills coaches qualify, and H. Taylor confirms that they would as long as they are comfortable in the skills and are willing to grade. They are looking for people that work in the health care industry.</p>

S. Hall asks H. Taylor if his program/pathway has been affected by the decrease of student enrollment, and H. Taylor explains that his class is a popular class on their campus, and although they are undergoing layoffs, health care seems to be maxed out every year. The Pathway is still popular.

Ventura City (VFD)

J. Henderson states that they have an academy of eight as of this morning, but it will be seven in the afternoon. VFD has a couple of academies starting soon. They are also building Station 7 with the hope of opening in December.

J. Henderson thanks OC and VCFD for all their help. J. Henderson shares that they have a big pool of people eager to train, and he asks T. Crudo if there are any openings. T. Crudo explains that the OCRFA is willing to sign any instructor 1 task book that VFD sends to the academy because it helps the academy screen the instructor, sign their task book, and then hire them as professional experts.

Student Representative

B. Lynch shares that student Hoffman has been a fantastic student, and he hopes he can work for one of the agencies in the committee someday.

Channel Harbor

C. Walls shares that hiring a seasonal lifeguard is opening. B. Lynch will share the information with the students as soon as he received the flyer from C. Walls.

Cal Fire

J. Brant shares that they are currently hiring, and now they hire all year round. They went to a 66-hour work week schedule, and potentially going into 58-hour a week in the next few years. They are still adjusting to the new schedule.

The first FFI academy was completed in October 2024. The second academy is happening right now, and its graduation is next Friday. They are graduating 34 students.

J. Brant shares that in 2018, it was mandated by the Governor's Office to change their program from a fire camp which was working with inmates to a parole lead program

		<p>working with previously incarcerated. Therefore, Cal Fire continues to run hand crews, and they are turning their facility into a training center. Their current facility was a prison that was built around 1990, and over the last five years, they have converted it into a fire training learning facility.</p> <p>J. Brant also shares that he was asked to write a concept paper on how a year-long training will look like. If it gets funded, they will have an assistant chief, four battalion chiefs, and 35 captains running two battalions.</p> <p>J. Brant has talked to D. Latham regarding the curriculum which is helping new cadets become new firefighters. He is working with D. Latham to provide certification for the Wildland Academy cadets to support the cadets when they are applying to Cal Fire. T. Crudo asks how many hours would be needed for the certification. J. Brant says that he will need to break it down, but it is about 5 courses. T. Crudo would like to follow up with J. Brant to get the hours of the course.</p> <p>J. Brant invites OC faculty to the graduation which is this coming Friday (March 21, 2025). He will send invitations.</p> <p>Oxnard Fire Training</p> <p>D. Stuart will send a copy of the ISA They have a current academy</p>
VI.	Partnership Opportunities	No item
VII.	Roundtable & Next Steps	Assignment for the next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISA Updates
VIII.	Next Meeting	Fall 2025 October 9, 2025 at 1:30 pm A calendar invite will be sent
IX.	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 pm