

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP: To Allow the State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Fire
Standards and Training to Review and Discuss Standards/Requirements
For Firefighters in the State of Florida
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010

The Board of County Commissioners in and for Wakulla County met for a Workshop on Thursday, February 4, 2010 with Chairman Howard Kessler presiding. Present were Commissioners Mike Stewart, Lynn Artz, Alan Brock, and George Green. Also, present were County Administrator Ben Pingree, County Attorney Heather Encinosa and Deputy Clerk Evelyn Evans.

6:55 p.m. The purpose of the workshop is to allow the State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Fire Standards and Training to review and discuss the standards/requirements for Firefighters in the State of Florida.

State requirements changed in 2003 and now mandate that Volunteer Firefighters obtain 240 hours of training in order to be licensed by the State as a Firefighter 1, which represents the Volunteer level Firefighter. The Career Firefighters are required to be educated beyond the Firefighter 1 level and become licensed as a Firefighter 2. Both licenses are issued by the State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Fire Standards and Training.

The majority of Volunteer Firefighters in Wakulla County are not certified. The Fire Department offers training at various times, but the Volunteer Firefighters are overwhelmed by the time commitment required. It was determined that there is a need to have trained instructors with certification from each station and then training would be available on a continual basis. On line training from the State should be available on line by the end of this year and computers are available in every fire station in the County.

There is a corrective action plan that is in a process of being developed.

Cost analysis for budgetary purposes to come back at a future date.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.