**Continuation of the Fire and EMT Advisory Committee Meeting minutes of Friday Dec 2, 2022.**

**Section 5 CORE INDICATION DISCUSSION:**

1. **Strengthen academic and technical skills through integration.**

A discussion regarding this core included the needed skills for the Wildland

Fire Academy. Advisory members feel that what CMC is currently providing is adequate.

1. **Link secondary and post-secondary CTE Programs (At least one program of study)**

A concern was expressed about the lack of fire technology prep courses withing our local high schools to help prepare students for a career in the California Fire Service. I advised our Fire Advisory committee members that both college and MUSD administrators are working diligently to setup a dual enrollment curriculum, but the lack of qualified instructors have hampered the development of a program like other community colleges. Members asked for a progress update at our next meeting. This was a rollover from the April 2022 meeting.

1. **Provide students with a strong experience and understanding of all aspects of industry.**

All committee members expressed an interest in this core indicator. 29 Palms Marine Corp Combat Center FD has immediate needs in hiring. Cal Fire just extended their application period due to not enough apps being received and the US Forest is hiring again right after the first of the year. There was a comment we are in a “hiring frenzy” currently in the fire service.

1. **Develop, improve, expand, and modernize quality programs.**

All members agree we have done an outstanding job with our wildland fire training academy and were thrilled our college overwhelmingly supports this program. Our members are happy to hear about the addition of State Fire Training Company Officer classes, and Wildland Fire courses to be offered in the future. They are desiring CMC to develop a State Accredited Structural Fire Academy with the goal of making CMC a regional training center for fire and emergency services personnel.

1. **Professional Development**

Members are appreciative that CMC has began to offer State Fire Training classes which are designed specifically for professional development and career advancement for in-service fire personnel. A recommendation to CMC would increase the level of State Fire Training Courses to include company and chief officer classes, incident command classes, complete fire instructor series, and specialized equipment training within both structural and wildland fire programs.

1. **Evaluate programs with emphasis in meeting needs of special populations.**

Members were impressed with the different modalities of learning that were offered at CMC. Our Fire Technology classes that are offered online meet the OEI rubric. The online courses have offered public safety personnel the flexibility to attend classes while working a non-traditional work schedule. Cal Fire would like to see some face to face, hands on courses as well.

1. **Initiate, improve, expand, and modernize quality programs.**

Members felt based upon the information and observation of new equipment that we satisfy this core indicator. However, the discussion ensued about needed resources to establish a FF1 academy. Will CMC have funding needed to do so? Contracts and agreements with other fire agencies were discussed.

1. **Provide services and activities of sufficient size, scope, and quality.**

Members all agreed that our wildland and EMT programs has been very successful with training that prepares the students for immediate employment upon and in many instances before graduation. A discussion on what it would take to start-up a CMC Type II hand crew wildland firefighter and contract with Federal Agencies was noted. The Need temporary student housing for out of area students. Those of grants and other funding opportunities were explored.

Dr. Trace Rickman

Adjunct Instructor

1. **Provide activities to prepare special populations for high skill, high wage, or high demand occupations leading to self-sufficiency.**

Members strongly agree CMC meets this core indicator with our Wildland Fire and EMT programs. Both programs are short term training that makes students eligible and very competitive for the fire service job market. Comments were made regarding we need more programs like our wildland program to take special populations, train them and put them to work in a career with good pay and benefits. This is of particular importance for students who come from underserved communities and from families that can’t afford to send their children for a post-secondary education. A strong recommendation was made for temporary housing for our students to live on or near campus while attending this type of training. Members felt this would significantly increase our enrollment especially as our fuel prices and inflation continues to rise.