

**Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission Meeting
July Special Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2021**

Commission Members Present:

Chad Major	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Louis Romero	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Bryan Adams	Governor’s Appointee
Ken Himel	Louisiana Fire Chief’s Association
Russell Di Salvo	Louisiana Fire Chief’s Association
William Parker	Louisiana State Firemen’s Association

Commission Members Absent:

Matt Lee	Chancellor’s Designee from LSU
Brandon Davis	Governor’s Appointee
Karen St. Germain	Governor’s Appointee
Brian Lindberg	Louisiana State Firemen’s Association
Butch Browning	State Fire Marshal

In Attendance:

Russell Shultz	OSFM
Dan Wallis	OSFM
Erin St. Pierre	OSFM
Curt Monte	BRFD

QUORUM PRESENT

The Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission was called to order by Mr. Chad Major. Invocation was performed. Pledge was performed as well. Mr. Major called the roll and announced that a quorum was present. The meeting began.

New Business

Mr. Major stated that the transition would be the focus for discussion today. They had called this special meeting to present all the new information obtained and answer any questions. He turned the floor over to Mr. Greg Trahan with the Office of Research and Economic Development. He stated that they had had the opportunity to meet and talk about putting together a plan. He and Mr. Wallis had been working on the plan together. It was still very much a work in progress so what was presented was definitely not the finalized. Mr. Wallis agreed with Mr. Trahan. He stated that they were very cognizant of keeping an open line of communication with the commission, their customers, and the staff at FETI. He felt that they had put together a plan that was organized and understandable to everyone. Mr. Trahan stated that everyone who had been involved did realize what the end goal was even if initially there was not clarity on how to get there. They did have a presentation to make but he wanted to assure everyone that there was an actual living document with guidelines now that they were following to move forward with the transition.

In a recent meeting with Mr. Wallis, Mr. Browning and LSU, they had discussed exactly what they were trying to accomplish not just about the transition itself. They had discussed the future goals and how to

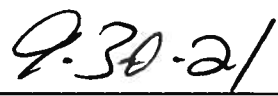
advance the fire service. Mr. Wallis did reiterate that yes there was a pause in the process, but it was well-timed, and they had been working very hard to resolve confusion and issues. He had received emails now stating that they were clear to come back and work on site again. Mr. Trahan wanted to add that at that meeting they had cleared up that they were not just handing the department over but moving toward a partnership and they would be discovering what that looked like in the future as more research and discussion was conducted. Ms. Thackaberry added that when they arrived closer in the timeline Mr. Wallis would have a management office on site and Mr. Donahue would be assisting them on some special projects from afar. December 31 was their target date for the transition to be completed, official and legal. The reason for choosing this time period was because it was in the middle of the fiscal year and also the effect on students in training was minimized. Mr. Major felt that they had really jumped ahead with their excitement and ambition and just really didn't think about all the little details that went into making the complete project smoothly transition.

Mr. Trahan stated that the goal was for Mr. Wallis to be on site every day beginning August 1. He touched on the IFSAC/ ProBoard transfer. The organizations in question had been notified of the intent for transition and partnership. Even without the legislation in place, all they would need to do was send a letter. The transfer date needed to be simultaneous with the official transition time period so the goal for that was in December as well. There were still Human Resources items that needed to be resolved. The contract would also need to outline who would be paying utilities, insurance, etc. They were conducting an environmental review on the land. Mr. Trahan then reviewed the handoff plan. He stated that the target date was November 1, and Mr. Wallis and his team would need to be ready. Websites would need to start mirroring schedules. They wanted this to be as seamless of a transition as possible. Mr. Major asked if they had discussed doing an audit of financials. Ms. Thackaberry stated that she didn't see why they would not just to find out where LSU began and where FETI ended. Mr. Major asked if there were any questions from the commission members. Several voiced concern about how much time it was taking and how complicated it was. Ms. Thackaberry and Mr. Wallis stated that the timeframe was actually not that long and the working, living document that was being formed was coming along. It was important that they have a set timeline for every piece and each piece be reviewed and resolved properly. They did ask that if there were questions among the outlying departments and various customers not to hesitate to ask and they would get accurate communication and information to everyone. Mr. Major asked if there were any other questions. None were voiced.

Meeting was adjourned.



Approved by: Chad Major



Date: