

**Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission Meeting
Meeting Minutes
August 3rd, 2018**

Commission Members Present:

Chad Major	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Charlie Metcalf	Louisiana State Firemen's Association
Michael Donahue	Chancellor's Designee from LSU
Louis Romero	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Martin Latino	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association

Commission Members Absent:

Karen St. Germain	Governor's Appointee
Ken Himel	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association
Butch Browning	State Fire Marshal
Brian Castille	Louisiana State Firemen's Association

In Attendance:

Loree Ramezan	FETI
Carey King	FETI
Kathe Jones	FETI
Nick Palmer	FETI
Eddie Tessmer	FETI
Eddie Pyle	FETI

QUORUM PRESENT

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

Mr. Major entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on July 12, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Latino seconded the motion. No discussion was made. No opposition was noted.

MOTION PASSED.

Director's / Financial Report

Mr. Donahue presented his report. He stated that the financial document which was in front of them was the final document from fiscal year closing which occurred on June 30, 2018. The only difference from the final document and the two previous preliminary ones the commission had received was the accounts were now all zeroed out. In addition to their grant accounts, there were only two accounts that were allowed to keep a balance throughout the year. Everything else had to be moved off. It had been a strong successful year and improvements had been made. They were however going to back off on the improvements this year since so much was done last year. The medical building upgrade and repair and the completion of the water system in the loop were the improvement items they were focusing on. He did want to let everyone know that they had again received an AFG award. It had been

received about three weeks ago. The awarded monies allowed them to purchase much needed training equipment.

He did update them on the administrative reorganization approved by LSU. They were now able to advertise for an associate director for service units and an assistant director for industrial programs. The hope was that adding these positions would enable them to provide a higher level of service to their customers and direction in these areas. They were also advertising for the position of manager of certification. Mr. Major asked if there were any other questions regarding the financial report. None were voiced.

This concluded the presentation of the director/financial report.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Major presented his report. He stated that after their last meeting, he and Mr. Donahue had met with Mr. Jeff Moulton and spoken about the chief municipal training position and the job qualifications. HR had required the candidate to have a degree and area specific certifications but would not consider any non-degreed candidates. They did meet, and Mr. Moulton agreed to present the request to HR for allowing non-degreed individuals to apply for the position in question with one stipulation. The non-degreed candidate would have to agree if employed by FETI to complete a 2-year degree program in fire science within a 3-year period of time. It was presented by Mr. Moulton to HR and it was not approved. So, currently, the final job requirements for the candidates were a 4-year degree in certain fields, as well as a 2-year degree in fire science to be able to apply for the position of assistant chief of municipal training.

At this point, they had done due diligence to attempt to move this in the direction they felt was appropriate, but HR was not granting the change to the job requirements for applicants. Ms. St. Germain currently had a meeting tentatively scheduled with the president of the university to discuss the position and the consideration that they were asking for. If the desired result was not achieved at that meeting, then they would not pursue this any further. They would definitely be able to return to their constituents and say that they had done due diligence to see this through. Mr. Major stated that since they had met recently, he did not have anything else to add to his report. No other comments were made.

This concluded the presentation of the chairman's report.

Old Business

No old business was addressed.

New Business

Mr. Donahue stated that he had a question for the commission. He wanted their advice on the aerial apparatus used for the recruit academy. When purchased new, the aerial was around \$620,000 and he did not feel right about spending that kind of money. They were not allowed to spend grant money on used equipment either. The current one was requiring repairs each year which had come to about \$110,000 over the last three years. He suggested that they may be able to lease one just for the class when needed. Mr. Major suggested that they may be able to request the use of the Baton Rouge Fire Department's equipment. They may could work out an arrangement.

Some suggestions were made, and ideas were discussed. Currently, because of the issues with the aerial, they were not able to give certifications in this area and most individuals were taking the class here, but then they had to go back home and try to find a nearby aerial that they could use to complete the certification. There were only three times a year that they would be offering the certification class. It made more sense to borrow or lease one or take the individuals in the class to a nearby location who had an aerial to use. The commission agreed.

Mr. Donahue also discussed the acquisition of a new three-story prop and the future building of flashovers. Also, bringing a demo of a flashover to the next meeting was discussed.

This concluded the presentation of new business.

Mr. Major did inform the commission members present that Brian Castille would no longer be sitting on the commission and Brian Lindberg would be taking his place.

After some discussion, the next meeting was scheduled for September 12th at 10 am.

No other business was addressed.

Motion to adjourn was entertained by Mr. Major. Motion was made by Mr. Latino and Mr. Romero seconded the motion. No objections were voiced. Meeting was adjourned.



Approved by: Chad Major



Date: