

October 15, 2020

Life Safety & Property Protection Education Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes
OSFM, 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Erin St. Pierre- Chairman & Deputy Chief, Office of the State Fire Marshal
David Allen - Security
Richard Booth - Fire Sprinkler
Daniel Brown – Fire Suppression
Francois Camenzuli - Elevator Industry
Kirk Caron - Elevator Industry
Blaine Champagne - Locksmith
Kevin Chauvin - Door Hardware
Dera DeRoche Jolet - Associate Industry
Lee Gillen – Security

ABSENT MEMBERS:

Mace Bourgeois - Fire Extinguishers
Jeffrey Okun - Fire Alarm

Visitors:

Marlene Aucoin – OSFM
George Bezou – Bezou’s Security Specialist Academy
Paeton Burkett – DPS/SFM Attorney
Nicole Smith – FED Learning Center
Ricky Robique - OSFM

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CALL TO ORDER

Erin St. Pierre called meeting to order at 10:02a.m. at the Office of the Fire Marshal headquarters. The meeting was held via teleconference. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. There was a roll call of the Board members present on the Teleconference and it was established that there was a quorum.

AGENDA:

- ❖ **Pledge of Allegiance**
- ❖ **Review/ acceptance of minutes from the July 16, 2020 meeting.** Board members reviewed the minutes. A motion was made by Francois Camenzuli. to accept the minutes from July 16, 2020. The motion was seconded by Kevin Chauvin. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ **Erin** acknowledged that there indeed was a quorum for the meeting.
- ❖ **Review and Vote on Elite CEU Electronic Access Control Installation certification** as an initial certification for Special Locking technician. The Board has been in touch with Elite CEU representatives that the course was not reviewed and the vote was tabled until the next scheduled Board meeting. Board members Kevin Chauvin and Blaine Champagne were unable to review the course. Kevin Chauvin and Blaine Champagne have agreed to review the course and present their findings to the Board.
- ❖ **Review Bezou's Bank Locking & Security Specialist Academy** (previously named Bezou and Kogel Securities LLC Bank Locking Specialist Course) George Bezou will present sent Bank Locking Specialist as an Initial, Qualifier, and CEU certification course for a name change. Erin St. Pierre explained that the course substance remained the same just the name of the course was changed. There was no vote required for the name change.
- ❖ **Nicole Smith of FED Learning Center** to presented several courses that will be presented to the student Virtually. The course being presented have been previously accepted by the LSPP Education Board as Continuing Education Courses for Fire Alarm, Fire Extinguishers, and Kitchen Suppression.
 - The courses being considered are as followed:
 - 1) Fire Alarm Systems Virtual courses as initial certifications for Fire Alarm are as followed:
 - a) Foundational Basics Virtual Training
 - b) Testing, Maintenance and Inspection
 - c) Communications, Circuits & Pathways, Understanding Design & Placement
 - 2) Portable Fire Extinguishers Virtual course as initial certifications for Fire Extinguishers are as followed:
 - a) Foundational Basics
 - b) Installation, Inspection & Maintenance
 - c) Occupancy Hazards, Selecting and Calculating Coverage

- 3) Kitchen Suppression Systems Virtual courses as initial certifications for Kitchen Suppression are as followed:
 - a) Foundational Basics Segment 1
 - b) Specifications, Requirements, & Controls Segment 2
 - c) Maintenance, Testing, & Recharging Segment 3

Erin St. Pierre questioned Nicole Smith if the course substance was the same for the initial courses as the CEU courses. Ms. Smith assured the course content was the same. Ms. Smith states the only difference between the two courses was the initial course would be presented via Zoom. Dera DeRoche Jolet asked Ms. Smith what happens if student fails the course? Nicole Smith states “if the student fails the course FED reaches out to the student and allows them to take the course or quiz individually”. The student must reschedule to take the course within five days. Erin asked “how does FED Learning Center verify the identity of the person who is attending the course?” Nicole’s responded by saying that at the end of the course and attendee report is pulled. The emails are check against the name of the person signed up to take the course. FED does not require the student to show their face. The student is not allowed to use their voice to speak they are required to use the chat, Q/A, or raise your hand features during the FED Zoom Webinar course. Erin St. Pierre questioned whether or not sufficient proctoring is being provided. The chairman asked the Board if they had any issues with the way the courses were given and the failure to properly identify the individuals taking the courses. The Board as a whole had issues with the FED’s method of administering the courses being presented for initial courses. The question was asked by the Board of “who was grading the test?” Nicole Smith responded by saying “the moderator graded the test”. George Bezou questioned “how often the test is changed?” Nicole responded that the test was changed yearly. FED uses the polling feature to pull random questions for each individual’s course quiz.

- Erin St. Pierre called for a vote to accept the FED Learning Center’s Virtual Certification courses as follows: Fire Alarm-Foundational Basics Virtual Training; Testing, Maintenance and Inspection Virtual Training; and Communications, Circuits & Pathways, Understanding Design & Placement Virtual Training course as an initial certifications for Fire Alarm; Portable Fire Extinguishers - Foundational Basics Virtual Training; Installation, Inspection & Maintenance Virtual Training; Occupancy Hazards, Selecting and Calculating Coverage Virtual Training as initial certifications for Fire Extinguishers and Hoses; Kitchen Suppression Systems - Foundational Basics Virtual Training Segment 1; Specifications, Requirements, & Controls Virtual Training Segment 2; Maintenance, Testing, & Recharging Virtual training Segment 3 as an initial certifications for Kitchen Fixed Fire Suppression. Fire Alarm Systems-Testing, Maintenance and Inspection Virtual Training course as a CEU course for Fire Alarm. Marlene Aucoin, called role to get each present Board members vote for the record. Lee Gillen called a motion to reject the FED Learning Center’s Virtual courses. Erin St. Pierre explained to Nicole Smith, if she could return to the Board with a better solution of identifying the students registered for the course the Board could vote on this motion again.
- A motion was made by Lee Gillen to rejected the FED Learning Center Virtual Certification courses as follows: Fire Alarm-Foundational Basics Virtual Training; Testing, Maintenance and Inspection Virtual Training; and Communications, Circuits & Pathways, Understanding Design & Placement Virtual Training course as an initial certifications for Fire Alarm; Portable Fire Extinguishers - Foundational Basics Virtual Training; Installation, Inspection & Maintenance Virtual Training; Occupancy Hazards, Selecting and Calculating Coverage Virtual Training as

initial certifications for Fire Extinguishers and Hoses; Kitchen Suppression Systems - Foundational Basics Virtual Training Segment 1; Specifications, Requirements, & Controls Virtual Training Segment 2; Maintenance, Testing, & Recharging Virtual training Segment 3 as an initial certifications for Kitchen Fixed Fire Suppression. The motion was seconded by Kevin Chauvin. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

- Removing from the record the request to vote on FED Learning Center Course Fire Alarm Systems-Testing, Maintenance, and Inspection Virtual Training course to be considered as a CEU course for Fire Alarm. This was mistakenly added to the agenda for the October 15, 2020 LSPP Education Board meeting.

❖ **New Business-Erin St. Pierre** asked the Board to discuss a time extension to obtain CEU's due to the pandemic and hurricanes that have impacted the licensees in various portions of the state. Danny Brown said he is in favor of the extension in lieu of the pandemic and hurricanes the indus. Kevin Chauvin, disagreed because CEU's are easy to obtain. Kevin states that they can be obtained virtually and from manufacturers. Dera DeRoche Jolet suggest that if the licensees are in the lower lying part of the state they should be given an extension for three months into March 2020. David Allen agrees with Dera DeRoche Jolet, and states the extension should be clearly defined. The extension of time given would only apply to 2020 CEUs. Dera stated that regardless of how easy the CEU's are to obtain the licensees are working hard to get people back online after the hurricane damage. The last thing the licensees wish to do when they get home late is work on obtaining CEU's. George Bezou asked if you need 16 CEU's a year, Erin responded that you need 8 CEU's a year and the Qualifier is required to take the Plan Review, and Administrative Rules courses every three years. Ricky pointed out that only some parts of the state was effected by the hurricanes but all the state was impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic. Danny Brown agreed that the extension on obtaining the CEU's and put a deadline for March 31, 2021. Blaine Champagne wanted to clarify that if the licensee takes a CEU course in 2021 for the year of 2020, those CEU's cannot be utilized for the 2021 year CEU requirements.

- **Danny Brown** made a motion to extend the time to obtain CEUs for the year 2020 with a deadline of March 31, 2021. Those 2020 CEUs cannot count towards the 2021 CEU requirements. The motion was seconded by David Allen. All were in favor, none were opposed. The motion passed unanimously.

The second item for new business: to discuss whether an initial or qualifier course that was previously accepted by the Board as an "in classroom" course, be required to submit a new course request for a virtual option of their course to the Board. Many licensees have reached out to the Office of the State Fire Marshal questioning whether taking the virtual course would be acceptable. Marlene Aucoin explained that after reviewing the original course request forms and course presentations submitted to the Board, NTS/ESA was a company that did not originally present a virtual option for their courses. Erin St. Pierre stated that she believes that these companies need to resubmit the request for virtual courses. Kevin Chauvin felt that the course was not an issue only the means in which the exams were administered and proctored for certification. Erin asked Marlene Aucoin to contact NTS/ESA to ask that they come before the Board to discuss the changes that NTS needs to make to comply. Lee Gillen and David Allen feel that NTS/ESA needs to come before the Board and present the virtual version of their courses that the Board has previously accepted.

The third item of new business: to discussion of the certification for construction/ temporary elevators. There were two attempts to have a subcommittee meeting but the hurricanes did not allow for these meetings to happen. Erin will attempt to get this meeting scheduled again so that we may add this item to the next LSPP Board meeting.

Forth item of new business: to discuss date schedules for 2021 LSPP Education Board meetings. The Board decided to schedule the meetings for the third Thursday of the month of the corresponding quarter.

- ❖ A motion was made by David Allen to adjourn the meeting at 10:58A.M. The motion was seconded by Kirk Caron. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed unanimously.