

Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission

Meeting Minutes

Location: FETA, 6868 Nicholson Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70820;
Classroom 1.

Date: Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Time: 10:00 am

1. Call to order @ 10:06am
2. Pledge and prayer
3. Roll Call see attached sheet
4. Adopt minutes from previous meeting(s)
 - a. Motion made by Bryan Adams. Seconded by Russell Di Salvo. Motion passed.
5. Chief's report
 - a. All the reports were just given a couple weeks ago but we will give an update on the Academy.
 - b. Chief Stone: We haven't had janitorial services since July 1st. A scope of work has been sent out to several janitorial service companies but we have yet to hear back from them. Believes the size is scaring them away. The staff has been handling the custodial work and doing a good job.
 - c. Chief Wallis spoke with the Colonel and got it approved to hire custodial staff out here. We won't have to contract with a company now. Chief Cooper is working on job descriptions for the positions.
 - d. Chief Stone: We have had several meetings with OTS on internet and computer problems on site. We now have DPS wireless internet for the staff, couple of servers are back up and running, OTS got the registration system back up and running, and they have backed up the certification server. Now we must clear the back log of registration and certifications. We have found a back log in invoicing for certifications from April that we are also working on.

- e. The recruit dorm floor is falling through again even though it was repaired a little over two years ago. All the moisture barrier was Visqueen so we removed all the skirting to allow for some air flow. It is being repaired by our own staff. There are several other soft spots in the floor being repaired as well.
- f. We are in the process of looking at a modular building at a high school in Livingston Parish. They are looking to lease it to us for \$8,000.00 a month plus a one-time fee of \$95,000. We will put it in the parking lot for the recruits to get it away from where all that water drains. This will increase the dorm space and allow the females to stay in the same dorm but be separated by rooms. Will have separate bathroom facilities. This will also allow us to add a lounge for the recruits to use in the evening to study or watch a little television.
 - i. Chad Major clarified the cost above.
 - ii. Chief Stone said that cost was for a 60-month lease, but Chief Wallis asked them to look into a 12-month lease.
 - iii. Chief Wallis said we are required for it to have fire alarms and sprinklers. So we would have to make some adjustments with that \$95,000. This would include raising it and adding handicap accessibility.
 - iv. Chad Major asked how big was it for a cost of roughly \$200,000?
 - v. Chief Wallis said 10,000 sq. ft. which comes to be about \$55 a sq. ft. You can't build it for that it would be almost \$1.3 million. We aren't looking to build anything on this site. Whatever we get will be modular and when we transition to the other site, we will have a two-year construction span that it will be used for. I want to lease it, not buy it.
 - vi. Chad Major asked if this included delivery and set up?
 - vii. Chief Wallis said yes. He asked Chief Stone how many buildings it was in total.
 - viii. Chief Stone: It is 11 modular buildings that make up the entire dormitory.

- ix. Louis Romero asked if we are maintaining it and if so if anything goes wrong it is at our expense?
- x. Chief Stone: Yes. We will fix it.
- xi. Chief Wallis we don't know any other options right now. The price of construction now is well over \$100 per sq. ft. and then you are constructing something on property we can't stay at. The only other option is we house it somewhere else, and I don't think that will be effective. We should look at the scope of what the new FETA will look like. It will include more weekend classes, and more specialty classes where we are soliciting people to come in. We have an opportunity to do things we haven't been able to do in the past. It sounds like a lot of money and when you do the research on leasing it as opposed to buying it. We don't have pictures; they are going tomorrow. It isn't like the metal buildings you see at plants; it's nicer and looks like a building.
- xii. Chief Stone: Dustin will take pictures on Thursday. It is still currently at the high school. It was classrooms and we will convert it into dorms. With the help of the company.
- g. The recruits graduate on Friday; Family Night is tomorrow. The next Academy orientation will be September 6th and start September 12th. We are looking for around 20 recruits to be in the academy. The graduation will be off site at a church on Highland so it will be nicer than building 5.
 - i. Bryan Adams asked for a date of the next graduation.
 - ii. Chief Stone said in December some time unsure the exact date right now.

6. Industrial report

- a. Chief Stone: Industrial classes will start August 29th and go through the holidays. Industrial and Hazmat scheduling is going through the rough and flying off the shelf. ED Traylor, retired Chief from Exxon Baton Rouge will be coming on board and just his name recognition should increase business for us.
 - i. Bryan Adams asked what is he going to be doing?

- ii. Chief Stone: An industrial WAE and helping with that. Keith Bennet and another Baton Rouge Haz Mat Tech will be helping with Hazmat. The Hazmat program is taking off. We are getting the Rescue program back up and running which is self-generating. We are looking at more funding coming in.

7. Certification report

- a. Chief Stone: already talked about the back log in certifications from sometime in June. July 1st to August 15th there was 423 certifications given. We had 24 test dates in July and currently as of today 19 in August. We have two new certifications awaiting approval from IFSAC and we will be submitting four more by the end of the year. Live Fire and Live Fire Instructor in charge is waiting for approval. Fire Officer IV and the three Rope Rescue Certifications will be submitted by the end of the year. We had our first certification advisory committee meeting in almost two years via zoom. We will have the first in person meeting September 12th. We are working on our test banks and the questions needing validation. One of the first certifications being looked at will be fire investigator.
- b. We are working on the job classifications for civil service and that is tougher than we thought. We are shooting for November to go before civil service for approval.
 - i. Chief Wallis said he believed we are shooting for October meeting.
 - ii. Chief Stone said we currently have 19 positions filled out of the 33 positions allocated. We have four that have candidates somewhere in the hiring process.
- c. Fire Officer III will be offered September 18th through the 24th. We will also start giving some night testing dates out here at FETA. We think we will be able to fill a lot of the seats.
- d. We are working on the ORG Chart, and it is a process with the positions and matching them up with help from DPS and Chief Cooper. As soon as we finish that we will bring that to the commission for approval.
- e. Working on the process unit to get it up and running for industrial. Also talked to US Fire Pumps again about moving the pump from Pine

Country down here and they are on board to move it for free. We are just waiting for it to dry up a bit.

- f. Louis Romero asked effective July 1st where do we stand on region 4 manager, lead instructor.
 - i. Chief Stone we are still working on it. We will get you someone. We are trying to find someone to fill it.
 - ii. We are still advertising the weekend fire school in Jennings.
 - iii. Chief Wallis: It is a little difficult to get people to take a temporary job appointment, which is what these jobs are till civil service classifies them. We know they will approve it, but it is scary to ask someone to leave a job for a temporary position. This is no fault to FETA; as soon as we get the positions approved I think you will see them getting filled. When you see the Org chart it will show you terms will be changing from what you are used to. We know there is a gap there and it will get filled. Every time we make a turn, we hit a wall; we just hit a wall with vehicle reimbursement. Currently FETA employs can't get reimbursement that travel over 99 miles due to a rule saying you must either rent a car or take a state vehicle. Everyone is working hard but I don't think you will see a lot of hiring till the end of the year.
 - iv. Louis Romero: I don't want to be a broken record but every time we have a chief's meeting or a district meeting this opening gets brought up.
 - v. Chief Wallis: Here is the deal. We own it now as of August 1st and I assure you it will be filled as soon as possible.
 - vi. Chief Stone: I can tell you it's only Tuesday and we have already had two meetings on that position.
- g. Butch Browning: Question for Dan, the biggest problem is finding people and it is everywhere. The hardest thing is finding qualified trained people and giving them a good salary. We got one piece and got them in a similar retirement system to FRS. The next piece is getting with civil service and have discussions now on the classification. Instructors here need to make what they make locally plus a little more to get them here. If we don't have those discussions

now, they will compare them to teachers also that will make it hard for the salaries to line up.

- i. Chief Wallis we did a salary survey, and we aren't far behind the nation average for instructors, but we are behind when you compare us to the fire service. That is where we need to be lined up with as that is our pool of candidates. We need to have a sub-committee engage in these talks in the coming weeks and tell them about the unique situation we have now. With the current salary level, we will have to use the fire marshal fund to make up the difference. We are currently at about 80 percent of the stat debt monies for salaries and benefits and that is higher than most.
 - ii. Butch Browning: Where do you think we will be at the end of the year with Industry Revenue?
 - iii. Chief Wallis: The current budget was prepared with salaries benefits and capital expenditures generating 3 million dollars to give us a 7 million dollar a year budget. We were at 1.75 million last year for industrial.
- h. Butch Browning: Have they told you what the increase in stat debt monies will be this year?
- i. Chief Wallis: No, I don't have that number. It was 3.2 last year but it will be more this year.
 - ii. Chad Major: with the schedule being filled for the rest of the year what is the projected revenue for industry?
 1. Chief Stone: We are booked for the calendar year not the physical year and I think we will meet our 4 million goal with Industry, medical, and hazmat.
 - iii. Chief Wallis: I think we will meet that than we will have the difficult questions of bonding out monies for capital improvements and how to move the place. We must get a year of data to see. I have heard nothing but good about the place. We have had some bad, but it happens.
 - iv. Chief Wallis: I think our staff is doing a wonderful job. I would like this commission to start selling this because where we are not where we will be in 10 years. We have started by

educating our staff and we must pay the people. 7 million is our minimal and anything over is what we will use for improvements.

- i. Brian Lindberg: How many Instructors are you down right now?
 - i. Chief Stone: Seven, we are down 3 regional spots and a few WAE spots. We are waiting on 2 full time instructors to transition from WAE that is not included in the seven.
- j. Brian Lindberg: What Regions?
 - i. Chief Fowler: Region 1, Region 4 and short one in Region 2.
- k. Louis Romero: What is the cost for the Recruits?
 - i. Chief Stone: \$3800 and we will now have a prorated dismissal rate based off the amount of class attended. We are also working with Workforce development to get scholarships to the academy to help the fire service by paying for recruits.
 - ii. Chad Major: The paperwork is difficult and it's just a matter of figuring out how they want it. It's just a lot of paperwork and documentation. There's normally funding on the Federal side and this year they got some money from the state side.
 - iii. Chief Stone: The scary part about the program is if the recruit doesn't pass the academy, you receive 0 funding. That will be difficult because we lose about 25% of the recruits every academy on average.
- l. Chad Major: What about grant funding right now?
 - i. Chief Stone, in 33 years at Delgado, they always had a person in grants, and they were always receiving them. We just need someone savvy in grants to go after them.
 - ii. Bryan Adams: So Erin can we do that?
 - 1. Erin: DPS has someone that they predominantly do. Last week when we spoke to the Colonel, he offered that person up to assist.
 - iii. Chief Stone: Delgado's 10,000 sq. ft. classroom building and simulators was paid for, by an Incumbent workers grant.
 - 1. Chad Major: That person can pay for themselves in time. I recently learned about a Brig Grant. A lot of money goes back every year because no one puts in for it. I

haven't researched it yet. A lot of money goes back year after year. We need to look at all that grant money out there and go after it. What if we look at the services through LEXIPRO?

2. Chief Stone: I believe we already are working with LEXIPRO.
 3. Erin: Yes, the State Fire Marshal uses LEXIPRO including FETA now.
 4. Chad Major: I know they offer those services so we might want to look into that.
 5. Erin: We are making a committee and I'm assuming we will add someone from FETA on it to be included in the discussions.
 6. Bryan Adams: Is there a position on the ORG Chart now we can add a grant writer right now?
 - a. Chief Stone: No sir, but there is positions from before that aren't on the org chart because at the time DPS took over they only looked at the positions that were currently filled. There's positions that were vacant that never got filled due to this.
- iv. Brian Lindberg: What is currently lacking on the ORG Chart? I know you have to fill spots.
1. Chief Stone: It's matching up titles with position numbers. We have some charts we are working on but the problem is civil service only approved 33 position numbers. We were told if we tried to push everything at the same time we would be set us back.
 2. Russell Di Salvo: With this new ORG Chart and the New FETA Chief Wallis mentioned; will we see that anytime soon?
 - a. Chief Stone: You will get the new ORG Chart to approve but this is currently the New FETA and I guess Chief I'm not clear on exactly what you are asking?

- b. Well, we heard New ORG Chart and New FETA, different positions, civil service and moving this operation, so where are we at right now?
- c. Chief Wallis: So, we must continue to plan on a daily basis on where we will be tomorrow. As we look at that vision, we look at moving to tomorrow we will try to keep the commission apprised through these meetings. It may look like we are operating in a slight vacuum because none of it is solidified. If we come to you every time a thought crosses our mind about changing something we will keep you in the thoughts of continuous change. We got our arms around it now; how do we fund it? How do we support it? What does the future look like? When I say future, I mean 20- 30 years down the road. Once we get a final ORG chart, we will bring it to you for approval. At whatever schedule we have these meetings; it should be an update to you as the fire service. Day to day Operations change regularly due to uncontrollable situations. Such as lack of manpower, lack of funding, flooding, and no internet, no power. We have allocated monies from the 1.3 million from LSU for generators. I will tell you we talk every day; I talk to FETA more than any other section because there is so many moving pieces. Just think about where we were last year; we had props that weren't certified. We had an instructor staff not certified. We had money issues. We had no idea where the extra money was and that has all been solved. I think we are getting there. I think a monthly report is in line and we don't have to wait for a meeting for it.

- d. Chief Stone: We can email that just like last time. Look at where we are going. Rescue equipment, we had Petzl come in and donate to us \$15,000 worth of rescue equipment. Akron came out and we just got our first shipment of 9 nozzles and we have more coming. Getting the pump down from Pine Country to supplement the water system and we still need some type of bathroom facility for the field that has been harder than I would have ever thought.
- e. Chief Wallis: That is the new FETA. Qualified and Certified Instructors and props. We have new staff vehicles ordered.
- f. Chief Stone: We got our SCBA's tested and up to date. We were told we couldn't use them. We are trying to get internet to continue the updates.
- v. Louis Romero: When you talk about restrooms if we aren't planning on staying here; I don't see any good in building restrooms. Maybe mobile restrooms so we can yank it and move with us.
 - 1. Chief Stone: We looked at mobile restrooms and getting two so they can deploy with USAR also but they are not cheap. Used ones were \$60,000.
- vi. Russell Di Salvo: I made the statement when we were transition that we as a commission put our trust in the transition team and I'm being asked to do the same here. Where my frustration is and Chief Himel if you will' is hearing about things going on and being a member of the commission hearing from them is a little embarrassing.
 - 1. Chief Stone: I don't what you are hearing but we will be transitioning for another two to three years. You know the rumor mill with the fire departments will run rampaged. I hear things too and wonder where it comes from.

2. Chief Wallis: I think that will be fixed with the report but when you run an operation like this; there is someone currently representing me doing something I have no idea. We must have trust. I don't know how we stop it because I don't think you can.
3. Chad Major: What I think Russ is talking about is monthly reports just so we are aware what is going on. That way we aren't caught off guard and can represent our associations.
4. Chief Wallis: I encourage you Chief and Chiefs that if you hear something don't wait till the meeting; call us. Chances are it isn't exactly like you heard it. Just call us.
5. Chief Stone: This reminds me of council meeting with the Parish President and the council telling the Parish President the same thing. They are running a daily operation and the legislative body is meeting twice a month. We are trying to keep you abreast of what is going on but on somethings we don't want to bother you.
6. Russell Di Salvo: I think we have all been in this service long enough that we know what is important. Ordering a case of paper isn't important but building a warehouse to put it is different. Where are we going is the direction we are heading?
7. Ken Himel: I think it has gotten better, yeah it has in the past few months.
8. Chief Stone: It might get worse before it gets better, but it will get better. We have a new problem: we need more classroom space because there are days, we are turning down business because we don't have any space. It is embarrassing to female students that need to use the restroom. We must cart them to the building, wait for them and cart them back.

- m. Chief Wallis: We had a conversation with Mississippi and see what the secret was and they pay them similar to the rank of District Chief and have them make a four day work week.
- i. Bryan Adams: It is hard to ask someone to give up a job with overtime to go to a job at a lower salary and no overtime. We have to get with civil service and do this right. Tommy you mentioned being behind on invoices are we caught up with that yet?
 - ii. Chief Stone: No sir we're not. We made a dent in the invoices we just realized it, we are also waiting on a check from LSU that one of the industrial clients wrote to them instead of us.
 - iii. Bryan Adams: Is there anything we can do to help?
 1. Traci Roberts: No, I can't find support staff anywhere and it isn't fast.
 2. Chief Stone: No, hiring isn't a quick process takes months.
 - iv. Bryan Adams: Where do we stand with the certification of our props? Where are we?
 1. Up to date with the exception of the processing prop. We are doing a class for our staff to learn how to do inspections on the scaffolding on the rescue prop.
 - v. Bryan Adams: Who is currently over certification?
 1. Chief Stone: Steve Billman. Doing a really good job. He got with OTS to back up the records. The head of OTS came here and committed to helping us moving forward.
 - vi. Bryan Adams: Can we do a contract with an accounting service to help with the invoices?
 - vii. Brian Lindberg: How much of the invoices aren't completed and what caused the backlog?
 1. Traci Roberts: Our problem is we are converting to a new system and currently using sage business program which isn't putting money in the bank. It is just a program that creates the invoices and because we didn't have the administrative rights we got behind. I have

ladies willing to work over and on Saturdays to catch us up.

- viii. Butch Browning: How far back is the back log?
 1. Chief Stone: Not that far, certifications was the worst, and we are moving forward now that we have the administrative rights.
- ix. Ken Himel: Does FETA or the Fire Marshal use something called bills.com? That is how we pay all our bills and it's awesome. We will send you an invite and you can join. When you sign up and bill us and I see it I click pay and it automatically drafts it.
 1. The new registration system will handle our billing and what's great is, it will send you and the instructor notices on upcoming classes. We met with DBS and Nitin last week.
 2. Butch Browning: You will be able to pay with a credit card or a routing number, or Purchase Order. What will be the policy with class? Will you have to have payment before attending class?
 3. Chief Stone: You will either have to pay or have a purchase order. At A&M before they give them their certificates you have to give them a credit card or PO to pay for consumables.
- x. Brian Lindberg: When can we obtain a Line-Item budget or something you are operating off?
 1. Chief Stone: That's a good question.
 2. Chief Wallis: I'm still trying to get my hands around this budgeting process. It is such a complex system. I will get with Erin I'm sure we can do internal line-item budget.
 3. Brain Lindberg: Just for FETA. I would like to look at it from a region standpoint. What they do?
 4. Chief Stone: I would too. I think as we get things together and we will be able to see that.
 5. Butch Browning: I don't think you will see it from a regional standpoint. The good is the leftover is now protected and they can't spend it. The comfort for the

budget will be when Dan tells you we took in 7 million but only spent 6 million. FETI was paying for a lot prior to the transition they won't pay for now.

6. Chief Wallis: We can easily do Industrial, Municipal but will be hard to do regionally. We will live in our means and be good stewards of the monies. All props repairs and all, should be paid out of revenues coming in rather than municipal paying it.

xi. Chief Stone: We have adjusted the consumable prices as they were too low. We weren't making as much as we could. We just had a meeting on including other things such as the fuel on the water pumps wasn't included but will be now. We lowered the prices on municipal side.

8. Financial/budget report

a. N/A from three weeks ago.

9. Chairman report

a. The state supplemental pay one time \$1200 payment, the board just met. The bill passed and was put in the budget with no guidance. There currently isn't a way in the system to do the payment. They are in the middle of updating the system. Everyone that will be eligible on July 1st will get the payment around the 1st week of December. It will not count as income in the FRS system. They have been working really hard to figure this out.

10. Old Business:

a. New Organizational Chart

i. See above as discussed already.

b. Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

i. See above as discussed earlier.

c. Co-Chairperson

i. Chief Wallis nominated by Bryan Adams and seconded by Ken Himel. Unanimously approved.

d. Updated job description and qualifications for Superintendent

i. Bryan Adams: Chairperson of Committee. Talked about adjusting the qualifications for time served. Rusty stated no other state does that but doesn't mean we can't. I think we

should just authorize the Fire Marshal to advertise the position.

- ii. Chief Wallis: Was sent a list of qualifications from LSU. I just wrote that last night. We took different qualifications from other positions across the country. I just married it all together. We didn't put any certifications in there but we put educational and time in job requirements in there. Some of it includes Pass medical examination, show good health, Driver's license, pass DPS background check, minimal 10 years in Fire Service or military emergency response, 5 years in emergency response operation leadership, experience in developing classroom courses to fire standards, developing fire certification training, utilizing management systems, mentoring programs, excellence communication skills oral and written, operating in a fast-paced environment and handling more than one task at a time and rapidly adapt to changing priorities and schedules, abilities to prepare and operate in a budget. This is just highlighting some points. We also added some educational parts. Bachelor's degree in business administration or Fire related or an Associate's degree and 10 years' experience or high school diploma with 15 years of fire service experience as a chief officer.
 1. Bryan Adams: So this has to go to civil services even though it's not a civil service position.
 - a. Chief Wallis: Even though it's not classified it must be allocated by civil service and approved. No vote or anything on it.
 2. Chad Major: They have no say, so they just must approve it.
 3. Chief Wallis: Butch how long do you think that will take?
 - a. Butch Browning: Shouldn't take any time. It's in the law the correct way so civil service shouldn't take long.
 4. Chief Wallis: We haven't set the salary yet, but we need to. Would be between 100 and 125. It won't be 140.

e. Advertise for New Superintendent

11. New business:

a. Chad Major: We had an answer about Zoom meetings if there is a proclamation, we can have a zoom meeting. You can zoom meetings but must be in person to vote and count towards the quorum.

i. Discussion held about if they can meet on zoom unofficially as a briefing. Does zoom violate the open meeting laws? Can we do zoom every other month just to give information? Erin will get an update. Then every other month in person. We have too much business to move to quarterly meetings.

b. Bryan Adams: Made a motion that the next quarterly meeting will be October 18th. Motion seconded by Brian Lindberg. Motion passed.

c. Bryan Adams made a motion to set other meeting dates of September 20th, November 15th, and December 20th. Motion seconded by Butch Browning. Motion passed.

d. Bryan Adams: Erin how do we go about creating a position for a grant writer for us?

i. Erin: You would have two ways. One creates the position for a grant writer, and I don't know if you have enough work to do that. The other is to do a contract for services and you can create a contract and do it that way.

1. Ken Himel: Isn't that service available through LEXIPRO?

a. Erin: I'm not aware of those services or familiar with that contract but I can investigate it.

2. Chief Wallis: It's a lot easier to hire a company and get what we want by doing the contract route. It is easier to get achievable goals that route. We can investigate LEXIPRO and get more information.

3. Bryan Adams: I will say it because I don't work for them but if we allow State Police to do this for us, they will take their cut.

4. Butch Browning: We need someone that knows and does the fire service.

e. Bryan Adams makes a motion we authorize the Fire Marshal in his capacity and the Deputy Superintendent of the Training Center to

look into hiring a grant writer. Seconded by Louis Romero. Motion Passed.

f. Bryan Adams: We have had the conversations about the regional training centers. I would like to start in to how we start to make that happen between this commission and Jefferson Parish to make that a regional training center. We got the money in place to start building more props out there and buying more property. We are ready to make a move and become region 1's training facility. I want to begin that process because I know it will be long and a lot of conversations between a bunch of people. We could be hosting classes for you in Region 1. I'm telling you we will do it now for free. If you want to use our facility to house an instructor, you can. I don't know how we do that.

i. Brain Lindberg: Was that already in play prior to the transition?

1. Bryan Adams: No, we had talked about it never made any leeway.

ii. Chief Wallis: We talked about it and how we can supplement it and obviously there is some benchmarks. There is a lot of moving pieces but I think once we approve it we can start that processes rather it is a CEA, MOU, whatever it is.

1. Erin: Technically we can enter in Cooperative Endeavor Agreement but till I understand the substance of the agreement I can't tell you if that is the appropriate venue.

iii. Brain Lindberg: Is the plan to do this throughout the state in multiple departments?

1. Chief Wallis: Yes, what we would have to do is strategically look at how we do that. I don't know if it is done geographically like the Fire Marshal's Office where we are broken down into 2 Zones, 4 Areas, 9 Regions. Obviously to have one in each region would be the goal but I don't know if that is achievable. I think we would start off with one in each of the 4 areas. That would include the Greater New Orleans/Jefferson Area, This one (Baton Rouge), Lafayette/Lake Charles Area, and

then the Shreveport/Monroe Area. That would be phase one and start it then make your adjustments. Probably need a sub-committee to work on that. Have to have Erin and reach out to Risk Management. It could just be mutual aid type thing.

- a. Butch Browning: If I could add to that I think we need to look at what we are trying to do and that is doing regional centers to do the rescue, hazmat, and industrial side. We aren't looking at using burn buildings to teach municipal firefighter. We need more mobile props for that. I think you have that in every region. I believed you needed one to two full time instructors in each region. To me the industrial and hazmat piece is needed regionalized. Look when Pine Country was built it was the only thing outside Shreveport. Now the people using it is for the specialized classes. When we look at it is more about the specialty stuff.
- b. Chief Wallis: When you look at that you will see some of the problems we ran into with the LIFT Conferences and some others when a fee is charged by a non-governmental entity. Erin correct me if I'm wrong you can give away state assets to support a non-governmental thing.
 - i. Erin: You can't give it away, donate it, anything like that.
- c. Chief Wallis: There can be a way but we have to work that out on the front end.
- d. Butch Browning: You not looking at doing it with anything outside of local government.
 - i. Erin: Even with local government you can't give assets away to a local government. We must have something in place. Example is the dog. We didn't have a need for it but we couldn't just give it away because it has a

value. We have to receive in exchange for the asset.

- e. Chief Wallis: We will work through all that and we want to make sure it is done on the front end so it's like signing the paper.
 - f. Bryan Adams: Also take into consideration that the Region 1 managers and instructor can have office space in exchange. That way they don't have to drive to Baton Rouge or work from home they can work from the Jefferson Parish Fire Training Center.
 - g. Butch Browning: I think this needs a committee as each parish will be different based off of what the different parishes needs to make this happen.
- iv. Bryan Adams makes a motion to put together a committee appointed by the chairman to look into regionalization of the training center. Seconded by Butch Browning. Motion Passed.
- 1. Committee is Brian Lindberg, Butch Browning, and Bryan Adams.
 - 2. Chief Wallis: Once they get to the point of needing legal advice we will offer legal support.
- v. Ken Himel: Do we have a map of how the regions are currently and can you get that out?
- 1. Chief Wallis: Yes we do. It may change but will get that out.
- vi. Bryan Adams: I'm assuming our new site will be JESTEC.
- 1. Chief Wallis: That is an option. I briefed the Colonel, and he didn't say no. There is infrastructure there, but we know that we have had some people here tell us that might be a little far out. We will look at some other military sites and state lands.
 - 2. Bryan Adams: The only reason I ask is while we have a favorable Legislative and Administrator that we need to get something into HB2 next year. Even if we get something locked into HB-2 or P5 next year.

3. Butch Browning: I would say now that the Fire Marshal Account is protected, I would get it put into there or create a trust fund that way it gives you time to spend the money.
- vii. Bryan Adams: How much money do we need?
1. Chief Wallis: We met with a company that builds it and you lease from them.
 2. Butch Browning: You do a bond with them that the bond commission still approves. The way it works is they build it and you lease it from them till it's paid for. During that lease they maintain it. We ran some numbers of 18 to 20 million but with them it's more than that it's like \$54 million. You won't pay 54 million upfront you may pay 2 million a year that's why it cost more. One of the things I learned going to Mississippi is you can put Mississippi Fire Academy in downtown Baton Rouge because it operates on propane. No off set no massive water system. Now the industrial stuff would be different but there is no off set.
 3. Chief Wallis: We have many Industrial clients that like this site and want to use this place. LSU said we can keep this place. Phase one would be to build our municipal class room, dormitories, auditorium, warehouse at JESTEC and leave industrial here.
 4. Butch Browning: You can look at the old stuff bulldoze it down and build it higher.
 5. Chief Stone: We have been attending a lot of the (industrial) mutual aid meetings in the area and they tell us JESTEC is too far. I don't know how far away it is. They also like what we have to offer here.
 6. Bryan Adams: It's 20 minutes further.
 7. Chief Wallis: We did a voice of the customer and 75% of them come here out of convenience. Now when we bring in the Ed Traylor we will be bringing people in because we have the best not just out of convenience

and we will change it. In that 54 million included fuel separates and all we had to do.

8. Butch Browning: They were basing that off Diesel. I don't know E-3 what kind of environmental impact it has?

9. Chief Stone: It does have a little smoke but not like Diesel, but the cost is outrageously higher.

viii. Chief Wallis: I agree with Bryan I think we have a year and half to throw the anchor out there.

ix. Butch Browning: I think if you do this bond thing, and they give you 5 or 6 million to float the note till you move industrial and bring that money in to pay for it.

g. Bryan Adams: We need to decide on where we are going to move because you can't go ask for money saying we don't know where the land is.

h. Butch Browning: If we move to JESTEC plan on building your own because not sure if what they have will be big enough.

i. Chief Wallis: We need to think about dual purposes so buildings can be used as a staging area for natural disasters and such. Might be some grant funding available.

j. Butch Browning: I believe this place is over 80 acres and LSU only gave us access to the front 34 acres. So, the back could be a place you build up and use that. You keep what you got.

k. Brian Lindberg: How much does LSU charge us?

i. Chief Wallis: They don't.

ii. Butch Browning: It's the Ag Centers so they are nice and work with us.

l. Chief Fowler: The back 40 is already built thanks to the National Guard. The center area is a retention area. Even in 2016 it didn't flood. There is low area but overall didn't flood.

m. Brian Lindberg: Wasn't there a road back there.

i. Butch Browning: It comes in off Ben Hurr. Might be better to figure out how to get that right.

12. Next meeting date is September 20th, 2022.

13. Adjourn

- a. Motion made by Bryan Adams and seconded by Butch Browning.
Motion passed.