

**Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2017**

**Commission Members Present:**

Chad Major	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Butch Browning	State Fire Marshal
Martino Latino	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association
Michael Donahue	Chancellor's Designee from LSU
Louis Romero	Professional Firefighters Association of Louisiana
Brian Castille	Louisiana State Fireman's Association

**Commission Members Absent:**

James Wood	Louisiana Fire Chief's Association
Karen St. Germain	Governor's Appointee
Charlie Metcalf	Louisiana State Fireman's Association

**In Attendance:**

Christine Melancon	FETI
Carey King	FETI
Eddie Pyle	FETI
Kathe Jones	FETI
Loree Ramezan	FETI
Byron Johnson	FETI
Todd Viator	Crowley

**QUORUM PRESENT**

The Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission was called to order by Mr. Major. No pledge of allegiance or invocation performed. Mr. Major called the roll and announced that a quorum was present. The meeting began.

Motion was entertained by Mr. Major to accept the minutes as presented from the last meeting held on March 6, 2017. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. No objections were voiced.

**MOTION PASSED.**

**Chairman's Report**

Mr. Major updated the board on the cancer legislation that was passed. It was a bit of a struggle but at the end of the day, they came out with a good well-rounded law that was going to help many people. In addition, legislation was passed in regards to the working test period starting upon completion of the academy instead of when an individual obtained the Firefighter I. He did note that it had been awhile since they had last met and there had been some changes since that time. He stated that Mr. Donahue would update them on that in the Senior Director's report. Mr. Major added that the Fall Symposium was coming up and would be held in Shreveport this year. AFG would be opening up soon and PPE and air packs were top priority this year. This concluded the presentation of the chairman's report.

### **Senior Director's Report**

Mr. Donahue presented his report. He began by welcoming Mr. Byron Johnson to the team. They had chosen him by way of selection committee as the new assistant director for certification. The goal was to have him fully staffed very soon. Loree and Christine had been running the certification department and had been doing an efficient job. There was a Municipal Director's position that needed to be filled. He had met with all the managers and at their request, the position would not be filled until the first quarter of 2018 so that current open projects could be concluded before someone new came to the department.

Mr. Major asked if there were any questions regarding the senior director's report. None were voiced. This concluded the presentation of the senior director's report.

### **Financial Report**

Mr. Donahue presented his report. He commented that even though it had been awhile since they had met, all of the financial details were available to them. In a nutshell, they had finished the year \$30,000 upside down, but fortunately Pine Country had an extremely successful year and the loss had been offset. Nothing was taken away from the plant fund so he did feel that he had an IOU out there to Nick. The industrial side finished pretty strong, even though the year was rough.

Some issues were slowing down. Training props on trailers would be a thing of the past because of some new vehicle laws in the state. They would be soliciting ideas in regards to this in the future. They were okay on air packs but as far as bunker gear, they would have to see what they could do for non-trailer training assets.

Some discussion ensued regarding the insurance coverage for fire events and damage in the state. Mr. Major wanted to add that the Joint Legislative Committee on the budget would meet in November. It was a normal annual meeting but currently there were some items of interest that pertained to the fire service which included the emergency medical technician fund, the firemen training fund, the municipal fire and police civil service operating fund, and the fire insurance fund. He commented that if they were ever going to try to tackle and increase to offset some of the losses, then there would have to be an automatic increase when the fund reached what it was

supposed to. There was more discussion in regards to building their profits and increasing the revenue.

Mr. Major asked if there were any questions regarding the financial report. None were voiced. This ended the presentation of the financial report.

**Certification Report**

Mr. Johnson presented his report. He stated that there had been a lot of things happening. He expressed his gratefulness to Loree and Christine for all their hard work. They were in the process of updating some test banks they had bought from Jones and Bartlett. The present program that had been used for quite some time was no longer being supported. There would be a transition in the test and curriculum process. It was a large undertaking but they would get it accomplished.

Mr. Major asked if there were any questions regarding the certification report. None were voiced. This concluded the presentation of the certification report.

**Old Business**

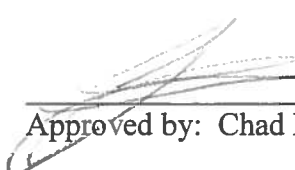
No old business addressed.

**New Business**

No new business addressed.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. It was decided that there would be no meeting in December and the next scheduled would be in January 2018.

Motion to adjourn entertained by Mr. Major. Motion made and seconded to adjourn. No objections were voiced. Meeting adjourned.

  
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Approved by: Chad Major

11-29-17  
Date: