

Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy

Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: January 30, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, 201 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** 10:09 AM

<u>COMMISSION MEMBER</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>REMOTE</u>
Bryan Adams	✓		
Brandon Davis		✓	
Russell Di Salvo		✓	
Stephen Guidroz	✓		
Ken Himel		✓	
Michael Kimble	✓		
Matt Lee		✓	
Chad Major	✓		
Cassidy Martin	✓		
Tracey Normand	✓		
Louis Romero	✓		

2. **Meeting Prayer and Pledge**

3. **Minutes:** The minutes from the December 19, 2024, meeting were adopted with no objections.

4. **Administrative Report:**

- a. **Superintendent:** Chief Woody gave the report, opening with FETA's mission statement. The 2025 schedule, including Pine Country courses are all listed and open for registration on ACADIS. The goal is to reduce the need for local delivery of certification courses. All required documentation was submitted to IFSAC for review before the March site visit. The initial phase was completed, and 38 levels were submitted. Our goal for the coming curriculum in the next few years is to touch five annually to allow us to stay current with NFPA standards. This year, both levels of Inspector, Fire Investigator, and Driver Operator. We are finalizing the schedule for Mobile Prop movement in 2025. A temporary process for additional lead evaluators is in place, and training will commence in March 2025. The FETA website has been updated and is live. The leadership conference will be held in Crowley in May. The laptops are here, and some are receiving the standard imaging from the state to be used on campus in Baton Rouge and in Pine Country for testing. The additional 175 will be used around the state and other locations for testing. Mini-schools are being brought back in 2025, with the first at Pine Country this weekend, Jefferson Parish in March, and St. Tammany in June. We had a meeting this week for the grant-approved burn building, which should be out for bid early next week. The AFG submission for this year is a Class A burn trailer as well as another

flashover prop. The standpipe prop is in, and the Mobile Vent prop and auto extrication prop will be here soon.

- b. **Municipal/Regional Training:** Chief Kleinpeter reported that the Northern region had 43 classes with 514 students, and the Southern region had 36 classes with 381 students for December. FETA had 18 NFA classes with 373 students. The division supervisor class was cancelled due to the snow in Baton Rouge and is now being rescheduled, and the dates will be out soon. FETA is putting on a large area search class through Taskforce 1 on April 23rd and 24th at FETA BR campus.
- c. **Recruit Academy:** Chief Kleinpeter shared that for 2024, FETA had three recruit classes: 185, 186, and 187. Class 185 had 15 students and graduated 12. Class 186 had 13 students and graduated 10. Class 187 had 18 students and graduated 13. This allowed us to graduate 35 total professional firefighters and put them into the Louisiana Fire Service for 2024. Right now, Feta has a class of 15 in week 2 of EMT. Chief Kleinpeter talked about Firefighter 101.
- d. **Technical Training:** Thomas Townsend has been visiting fire departments and training sites, conducting assessments of the facilities as training sites for rope rescue. Chief Kleinpeter stated that FETA Baton Rouge and Pine Country conducted rope awareness and operations courses, and these are continuing to grow in number.
- e. **EMS Training:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. Emergency Medical Responder courses had 14 classes with 102 students and 11 Refreshers with 138 students. EMT classes (186-hour course with 36 hours of ride time) had 20 students, and the EMT refreshers had 18 students. The Advanced EMT class had seven students. Paramedic refreshers (national content/30-hour course) had 31 students. Paramedic refreshers (local content/15-hour course) had 14 students. EMS had 24 CPR classes with 232 students, one Heartsaver course with eight students, and one AHA Instructor class with six students. FETA EMS trained 584 students in 2024 with one full-time instructor and eight part-time instructors. In 2025, FETA will have two EMT classes embedded in the recruit academies, three open enrollment EMT classes, one field delivery EMT class in Kenner, and refresher classes for EMR/EMT/AMT and paramedic and six or more CPR courses.
- f. **Industrial Training:** Chief Stone reported that, in 2024, they had 134 Industrial Fire Brigade Refresher classes with 2,227 students. Fourteen initial fire schools with 220 total students, which he stated is a 24-hour school for new hires for industry. 5 leadership classes and 38 hazmat classes. 28 Hazmat Tech refreshers and 10 hazmat tech 40-hour classes 377 students. The total students for 2024 was 2,848. Chief Stone stated FETA has a full schedule for 2025. The classes that were cancelled from the snowstorm were all just about rescheduled and we are waiting to hear from a couple on dates. Chief Stone also stated that he agreed that the Technical Rescue is taking off, and Valero is going to hold their corporate rescue school at FETA in June.
- g. **Pine Country:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. He announced that FETA had received the new flashover prop and has put all of the instructors through it. That prop immediately went up North to remain there until March. Pine Country hosted a rope rescue awareness and operations class on December 16-20, 2024. There were great numbers and a lot of excitement on the technical rescue side. Alexandria Fire trained at Pine Country with their recruits. They do a recruit night with FETA

where they burn multiple props and different scenarios throughout the night. 3 Flashover burns were conducted at Ruston Fire Department in December. All of the necessary repairs to the three-story burn prop have been completed. Chief Kleinpeter spoke on the signage for Pine Country campus. He stated that Chief Ogden has been collaborating with Region 7 GOHSEP crew. They will be hosting several classes at the Pine Country facility. The mini-school is on January 31, with several different classes and skills. Chief Woody interjected with notes on signage for the FETA Baton Rouge Campus.

- h. **Certification and Testing:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. As of December, there are 9,040 active users in ACADIS. This is 90% of what was projected. 6,596 written exams were administered in 2024, with 61 exam sessions in December, and a total of 784 sessions for the year. Regarding curriculum, Hazmat Awareness and Operations and Fire I and II, are all entered into ACADIS with the new standards. You will be able to test the old and the new standard per your choice for one year. Skills are being entered into ACADIS for skills evaluators. Virtual training continues for skills evaluators and training coordinators. Reciprocity requests are still being processed and worked on. It was noted that as of this morning, all Firefighter I reciprocities have been completed.
- i. **Financial Report:** Katie Elliott gave the financial report.

Total Revenue for December: \$426,009

- Municipal Income: \$11,325 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$110,771
- Certification Income: \$11,450 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$76,865
- Industrial Income: \$403,233 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$1,744,959

Total Fiscal Year Income: \$1.9 million

5. **Commission Chairman Report:** Nothing was reported
6. **Old Business:** Nothing was reported
7. **New Business:** Chief Adams discussed investing the \$700,000 from July 1 towards Mobile Props. Everyone agreed with Chief Adams with discussion to also include infrastructure needs (foundation and internet). The board requested a priority list – wants and needs. Regarding the dorm, Chief Woody confirmed that it has been repaired and is currently in service. However, he emphasized that this is not a long-term solution. Chief Stone noted the European Training company H2K will come down December 15-17, 2025 with officers from the Amsterdam Airport to do 3 days of Live Fire Training. They also want to come in December of 2026.
8. **Next Meeting:** February 27, 2025, at FETA Baton Rouge for 10 A.M.
9. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made with no opposition at 10:51 AM

Approved on: 2.27.25

Signature: 