

Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: February 27, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: FETA, 6868 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70820

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: 10:02 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 January 30, 2025, meeting were adopted with no objections.

4. Administrative Report:

- a. **Superintendent:** Chief Woody gave the report, opening with FETA's mission statement. Exxon Mobil will be at FETA in a couple of weeks, and FETA will be working to get the pipeline training here. The 2025 schedule has been posted, including Pine Country courses, and are all listed and open for registration on ACADIS through June. Chief Woody spoke about the goal of reducing the need for local delivery of certification courses. Three hundred thirty-eight certification classes were offered that were local area-managed classes last year. A goal is to get that reduced. IFSAC visit is coming up in the week of March 11. Several curriculum updates will be due in 2025. The investigator curriculum requires CEUs and will be a certification that expires. The question was raised on what those hours would look like, to which Chief Woody responded that it would be 40 hours and 5 years. The Lead Evaluator Training will resume in March. The website is updated and live. The leadership conference will be held in Crowley on May 6-8. The laptops are here; there will be a lab at FETA Baton Rouge and Pine Country. Mini-schools are back, with the first success being at Pine Country; Jefferson Parish has one coming in March. This one has a great lineup of classes, including lead evaluator training. He stated that the burn building is out for bid. He talked about the completed draft of new industrial client pricing to go over with Chief Adams, as well as the municipal price list. The AFG submission for

this year is a Class A burn trailer and another flashover prop. The Mobile Vent prop is in. The Annual Report was passed out, and an overview was given.

- b. **Municipal/Regional Training:** Chief Kleinpeter reported that the Northern region had 39 classes with 671 students, and the Southern region had 55 classes with 638 students for January. He went over some of the Southern Region training events, including the Inspector I course and the Officer I course. The Inspector I course in Jefferson Parish had 14 students as well as the one hosted at FETA. The Officer I course at FETA had eight students. In the Northern Region, the Flashover has been extremely busy every week with multiple sessions including the flag prop, the multi-story training prop, and search and rescue training prop. Chief Kleinpeter talked about the two NFA courses and the ARFF class. He spoke about the mini-school coming up in Jefferson Parish.
- c. **Recruit Academy:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. He shared the current recruit academy is the first one on the new schedule as far as EMT. He stated that this is their last week of EMT. Chief Woody interjected that they have been receiving multiple calls of people signing up for the recruit academy.
- d. **Technical Training:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. He reported that the technical division has been very busy. He stated some of the key activities, including how they conducted a vehicle rescue and extrication course with 13 students at FETA BR. They also performed instructor development training for FETA staff that included nine instructors. Some of that training with the new extrication equipment. Eighteen new rescue harnesses were received and put into service. Looking ahead, Chief Kleinpeter shared how there have been a lot of requests for industrial rescue training. With that said, there will be industrial rope and confined space refreshers for Valero Houston with 15 students so far. Chief Woody advised that we have the first trench rescue awareness, ops, and tech class at FETA the week of March 17. IMT class was rescheduled for May 6 – 8.
- e. **EMS Training:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. The Recruit EMT class has 13 students total. Open Enrollment EMT is making great progress and has 15 students. A paramedic refresher was completed with 7 students. EMT refresher was completed with 13 students. Morgan City Fire had EMT and EMR refreshers with 9 EMT students and 11 EMR students. The EMS division went to Pine Country for the mini-school. Coming up, we will have Exxon Mobil BRPO coming for 2 EMR/CPR classes, and an EMR refresher class at Bayou L'Ourse. The recruits will complete EMT class with National Registry practical testing on Feb 22.
- f. **Industrial Training:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. The industrial division had 16 classes in January, with 15 being Industrial Fire Brigade training and Hazmat Tech, totaling 259 students. Chief Kleinpeter stated that all of the agencies that canceled due to the weather were rescheduled. Industrial had two off-site meetings and two companies toured the industrial training props. Classes are continuing to be scheduled for 2025, with available dates running out.
- g. **Pine Country:** Chief Ogden gave the report. He announced a steady increase in requests for training. He reported that they had a successful Instructor I Class in January with three students. A Driver Operator Aerial course was held for Minden Fire Department with 10 students. The mini-school in January had 20 students and was successful. Pine Country had an Instructor II course with eight students. Chief Ogden stated that March will be a busy month for Pine Country with an Inspector I and

II course in Alexandria and a Live Fire Instructor and Live Fire Instructor in Charge course at Rapides District 7. There will be an Instructor III, and LFI and LFIIC course at Pine Country. An Aerial class is on the books for Winnfield Fire Department and a Mobile Water Supply class for Winn District 3. He stated that the Flashover has been a hit and that it is being run a minimum of two times a week with multiple burns. Chief Ogden shared that business has really picked up and how he has visited the Natchitoches Fire Department recently to talk about training. He stated that the demand in the flashover prop was so high that they could not get it to everyone. Chief Adams shared that they are working on another prop.

- h. **Certification and Testing:** Chief Kleinpeter gave the report. Stating that currently there are 9,464 active users which is 90% of the initial projection. Fifteen virtual training coordinator sessions have been completed with 214 in attendance. We are currently at 204 local agency-managed programs. Forty-one exam sessions were completed for January, with 223 exams sessions so far for 2025 with an average passing score of 80%. Chief Kleinpeter shared how certification has been busy and have done a great job. There are no more challenge tests, however, he stated there were some remaining that started in 2024. The challenge exams had an average passing score of 35.7 % vs managed training at 82%. Chief Woody stated that students were not penalized for wrapping up training they had started.

- i. **Financial Report:** Brooklynn Ray

Total Revenue for January: \$351,000.37

- Municipal Income: \$35,390.68 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$146,162.28
- Certification Income: \$21,365.00 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$98,230.80
- Industrial Income: \$294,244.69 | Fiscal Year-to-Date: \$2,039,203.98

Total Fiscal Year Income: \$2,283,597.06

5. **Commission Chairman Report:** Nothing was reported
6. **Old Business:** Nothing was reported
7. **New Business:** Chief Adams reported that in October of 2024, he signed an agreement with the International Association of Marine Investigators to provide marine fire investigation training here. He stated there will probably be a class before the summer. Once it is kicked off, their goal is to do a quarterly training here. Chief Normand brought up the Fire Chief's Association' Conference April 29 in Gonzales.
8. **Next Meeting:** March 27, 2025, at FETA Pine Country Campus at 10 AM
9. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made with no opposition at 11:18 AM

Approved on: _____

Signature: _____