

Louisiana Fire & Emergency Training Academy Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: August 5, 2026

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Crowne Plaza Executive Center | 4728 Constitution Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808

1. **Call to Order / Roll Call:** 2:00 PM

<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	✓		
Hampton Grunewald	✓		
Chad Major		✓	
Cassidy Martin	✓		
Bobby Moore	✓		
Louis Romero	✓		

2. **Meeting Prayer and Pledge**

3. **Minutes:** The minutes from the April 30, 2026, and July 16, 2026, meetings were approved as presented.

4. **Administrative Report:**

- a. **Superintendent:** Chief Charles Hudson proceeded with the division reports.
- b. **Pine Country / Northern Region:** Chief Hudson reported that the Northern Region maintained strong training activity throughout July, delivering 52 classes to 608 students. Pine Country Campus continued field operations and roadway repair activities in coordination with the Webster Educational Board. The region is also working with Ouachita Parish Fire on a joint recruit academy.
- c. **Region 1:** Chief Hudson reported that Region 1 had a GOHSEP Plans Manager class, one NFA class, one certification class, and other regional training, for a total of 23 classes with 253 students in attendance. Region 1 departments also began submitting training requests for 2027.
- d. **Baton Rouge / Southern Region:** Chief Hudson reported that the Southern Region conducted 89 classes with 956 students in attendance. Four training props were utilized, and two certification classes were conducted.

- e. **Recruit Academy:** Chief Hudson reported the incoming recruit class started July 27-28, 2026. All recruits successfully completed the required run. As of August 3, 2026, one student dropped the class.
 - f. **Technical Training:** Chief Hudson reported that the Technical Rescue Division continued delivering specialized rescue training throughout July, including two Rope Rescue Operations classes in Marksville and Bayou Cane and a Rope Rescue Technician class in Bayou Cane.
 - g. **EMS Training:** Chief Hudson reported that the EMS Training Division conducted six classes with 104 students in attendance. The division also continued supporting campus activities.
 - h. **Certification and Testing:** Chief Hudson reported that the Certification and Testing Division remained busy throughout July. Acadis active users increased to 12,279, with 439 Local Area Managed classes scheduled in 2026. ProBoard accreditation efforts remain ongoing following the site visit conducted on July 30-31st 2026. A total of 630 certification exams were administered, with a 70% pass rate and 30% fail rate.
 - i. **Industrial Training:** Chief Normand reported that the Industrial Training Division is preparing for the upcoming burn season through facility cleanup, prop maintenance, and repairs. Upcoming activities include mutual aid training for BASF and Shell at FETA, as well as an Industrial Foam Training School conducted by US Fire Pump in September. Chief Stone announced plans to host additional corporate training schools in the coming months. Modifications were made to the new LPG prop, including changes to leak points to provide additional training scenarios for the upcoming season.
 - j. **Financial Report:** Not Reported
- 5. **Commission Chairman Report:** Newly appointed Fire Marshal Chad Sonnier introduced himself to the Commission and spoke about his commitment to serving and supporting the Louisiana's fire service.
 - 6. **Old Business:** Nothing reported.
 - 7. **New Business:** Chief Adams announced the decision to provide training at no cost to Louisiana firefighters beginning in January 2027. Chief Romero made a motion in support of providing firefighter training at no cost to Louisiana firefighters. Chief Kimble seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 8. **Next Meeting:** September 17, 2026, at FETA Baton Rouge
 - 9. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:28 PM without opposition.

Approved on: _____

Signature: _____

9/17/26

