

**STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

June 27, 2018

Sheraton Arlington Hotel, World Series I

I. **Meeting called to order at :** 1:30 p.m.

By President: M. Richardson

Board Members present on site:

President Mike Richardson

1st Vice President Tim Smith

2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle

3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson

4th Vice President Donny Boggs

Immediate Past President Harvie Cheshire

Secretary Brent Allen

Assistant Secretary Jim White

Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Non - Voting Board Members present: Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson, Mascot Kylie Maples

Board Members NOT present: 0

Non - Voting Board Members NOT present: 0

Office Staff present: Executive Director Chris Barron, Staff Member Gabi Glass

Guest present:

Mrs. Richardson, Kyle Stephens, Henry Perry, Rusty Kattner, Matt Connell, Cary Roccaforte, Frank Marcinkiewitz, Chris Hester, Keith Tate, Andy Dexter

II. **Invocation given by:** Chaplain Ben Kennedy

III. **Roll Call of Board Members:** All present and we have a quorum, Brent Allen

IV. **Old Business:** No old business.

V. **New Business:**

Item A: 2018 Conference Review

- **Gabi Glass spoke on items of the conference**, Friday & Saturday mainly with Vendors, got some good feedback
- Haven't sent survey out yet, will get it out Thursday morning and let you of their feedback was.
- Bryan Bucknell apologized for not being there for a class he was supposed to present, he was not aware he was presenting a class as there was some miscommunication of some type, he stated that he would get back with Gabi on that problem. But he was the only no show. Have not heard from training yet.
- **IPP Cheshire**, stated that the classes were well attended and had only two classes cancelled.
- **Cary Roccaforte, Class Selection Committee** spoke on the stats of the training class; He stated the following: 36 Sessions or tracks, the highest class attended was the Firefighter Safety at AT-T Stadium 94 in attendance, 2nd to that was the SFFMA Online Class with 89 in attendance, next was Keeping Them Safe Without Breaking Their Spirit with 73 in attendance. All in all the classes where well attended. Your small classes of course which were hands on skills, which I am proud to tell you today, of those, there was 3 in there in the class, We got to get information out to them about bringing their bunker gear, trying to provide more hands on training for them. They did 5 skills, tested skills and I signed off on them, along with skill examiner in the room with them. they have taken back that information to their departments. We have their names, and want post on our website and info fire, we proud of them being the first examine class to be done for skills, and hopefully continue that on. We had 267 students for 2,270 hours worth of training.
- **Response from President Richardson**, he stated that the classes were outstanding, classes seemed to work smooth, some of us where in and out, it was great to look in a room and see seventy some people in a lot of those classrooms. Several classes had near that numbers, there some small ones, but actually worked out being nice thing is they ended up being roundtable of discussions.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson**, stated the EMS Committee work with the Class Selection Committee, and offered 11.2 C.E. hours for certain classes. they asked that if we can get all the information to all

classes that we may be able to increase that. Also Karen Pickard is also wanting to work on a C.E. number for the SFFMA, so they don't have to use someone else's number.

- **Cary Roccaforte, Class Selection Committee**, responded, by thanking 3rd Vice President Richardson for bring that subject up, he apologized for dropping the ball on that, he stated he didn't get to talk to her much, but we did accept one of their rosters. He stated the Ms. Pickard had some paperwork going around, I'm very proud of that, since we have been trying to provide EMS classes. On the Haz-mat class, that Ms. Gabi that talked to y'all about, I also was aware to, until the last minute. I will take the blame for it. We did ask 2 weeks out in advance ask for conformation attendance. They drop the ball on that, and I talked with Executive Director Chris Barron, I was going to draw up a nice letter, just saying, hey sincerely hope everything is alright, sorry we missed y'all, with them being another state agency, doesn't look good on their part, but we didn't lose anything, all those student went to others classes.
- **1st Vice President Tim Smith asked** , How does 264 compared to previous years, total students. Anybody remember, It was up from last year. Excellent training tracks, Speaker Selection Committee did an excellent job.
- **Cary Roccaforte stated**, We already planning for Longview, we might be offering a lot more hands on up there.
- **2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle commented**, The Plaza on the Hill wasn't the best classroom it was very loud, Bill Gardner cut his class short. He was tired of hollering.
- **Gabi stated**, that was the only option we had, because they were already resetting the ballroom for dinner, unfortunately we already used all their meeting space at that time , what we had over would not accommodate his size of classroom.
- **Cary Roccaforte stated**, there was a few complaints, Health and Safety class was downstairs behind the table area. I didn't get confirmation but, construction was supposed to be kept to a minimum during their class. The Sergeant at Arms went talk to them.

- **Gabi stated**, she went to talk to the hotel twice about it.

- **President Richardson stated**, All in all, I thought it was great.

- **Gabi stated**, there was another thing I forgot to mention we had an issue with the scanners, I will be following up with Dave, not really sure what happened he tested everything before he sends stuff over, I don't if was the way they were printed, but some of them worked for me, and some didn't we will definitely look in to that. the other thing I just I just what mention that John Yovanovitch did a lot more behind the scenes than he got credit for, so I wanted you to know, he had a huge part of making this conference.

- **President Richardson stated**, John's a good guy, I known him quite awhile. Besides being a Captain in the Arlington Fire Dept. he is an active volunteer in Wise County. He's a great asset and based on talking to him John will be more involved with us in the future and other events outside of this area.

- **Cary Roccaforte stated**, On the scanning hiccup, TEEEX was prepared, they had sign in sheets ready to go. I'm thankful for that. Our goal is shoot for that day that we just scan them and be done with it. I'm glad they were there as a back-up.

- **President Richardson asked**, Anything else, Gabi, As usual Outstanding Job!

- **Executive Director Chris Barron stated**, I tell you what, it is really nice and covenant to have a conference within the hotel. Its save a lot of logistics for the SFFMA and TEEEX stuff.

- **Sergeant At Arms Report, Matt Cornell, Co-Chairman**, Conference pretty good, actually very good conference overall. One of the best I've in a few years. Enjoyed myself more than ever enjoyed myself in quite a few years. very please with that. Saturday went pretty good, he spoke registration packets, their thought was to come on Fridays for help with the packets to streamline some things, Vendor move out we, had a safety issue with trucks moving out, did not have all the attendees out of there. need to make sure that doesn't happen again. Memorial Service went real good again, we got a good process for the LODD families now.

Hospitality was good they all shut down perfect, which did good for our reputation. We weren't in the halls being rowdy, which was good. Baseball game was great. Trailer packing and loading having a key staff member is a tremendous.

- **Executive Director Chris Barron asked,** We getting to a point where we may to put in for a larger trailer, we have tumblers and the Past President items, we keep getting more stuff. So we may have to get a larger trailer.
- **Matt Cornell stated,** Next year is 30 years for Robert. we are planning for him to be stepping down. This should be it for him. and hopefully I may be able to take over as chairman.
- **Executive Director Chris Barron asked,** so in planning can we somehow, cause we been told he was stepping down this year we were scrambling as the last minute got here oh gosh Robert's stepping down the we got told he's not. but if y'all can get some kind of conformation, so we're not scrambling in the last minute to find an award.
- **President Richardson states,** Cause I didn't look to the right side of this sheet awhile ago, I jump into somebody else business, so IPP Cheshire do have anything to finish out the conference for you. And I apologize.
- **IPP Harvie Cheshire comments,** The only thing I'm going to say is I truly feel that we fulfilled one of my three things I always try to strive for, and that was some advice given to me by my first chief D.D. Day, and he always said this if you want to be a good officer or firefighter just leave it better than way you found it and we did. As a team, I can't tell you how much I appreciated everything everybody did to make this conference as great as it was, so thank you each and everyone of you for everything that you did.

Item B. Fire School Advisory Board Appointment

- **President Richardson states,** He has talked to Chris and the position open this year is Mike Montgomery's on that board. and I had Asked Chris and Mike finally got a hold of me. He knew that Mike had retire from Harris County. I needed to know if he was interested in continuing on. He and I

had a good conversation. He was very interested in continuing in that position. It my intent to present him back as a reappointment for the Advisory Board of Texas A&M. I think Mike, Bill and John have done a lot of good work last few years. I think got real good group of representatives on that board right now. in everything I've seen. So that would be my desire to reappoint Mike to that advisory board.

Motion is: To approve the appointment of Mike Montgomery to the fire school advisory board.

Motion By: Chaplain Ben Kennedy **2nd by:** IPP Harvie Cheshire

Motion Passed with 8 votes for the motion, 0 against the motion, and 0 abstaining

Item C. Vision, Mission and Priorities for the coming year.

- **President Richardson**, Setting agenda for this next year, as we all talk the last few years, especially during this conference we've had good discussions about the need for changing in some areas and looking at things we can change to better serve our membership and hopefully expand our numbers in our capabilities of this organization. That we need to look as we discuss changes that may be needed, that we always look to the mission statement of the association. Which is to

Promote: Is to promote the Volunteer Fire Service and the entire Fire Service of Texas

Unify: We sure be unifying all of Fire Service of Texas, we will always have arguments, we need to work through it and move forward.

Represent: Being an issue of diminishing relevance within the state it is imperative that keep focus on our association, the SFFMA once had the highest numbers of any organization, but now the other organization are catching up and we are equal is size, we have to become relative again. And new Membership will help make relevant again.

Educate: We as an organization have made education a priority for our membership, they are hungry for good quality classes and higher educational classes.

We have four words that should be our main focus: Promote, Unify, Represent and Educate!

Item D. Review Rules and Requirements for Committee and Boards

President Richardson states, Red River, Winter Garden, Gulf Coast, Rio Grande, North Texas, Northeast have turn in their committee members.

- Who's suppose to be on the committees.
- What does the Constitution and By Laws say, relative how many people. Where do they come from.
- Have people state that they don't know them or people aren't participating.
- We want to give people a chance that are eager to help us.

Item E. SFFMA Name, DBA Use and Display

- DBA Issue, Use & Display, Shirts, Hats
- Had a Pretty Good Discussion with Past Presidents
- Are we going to use the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas name as a Ceremonial use during meetings.
- Are the Past Presidents satisfied with the explanation of why we are using a DBA.
- As a whole, Past Presidents are supportive
- Don't change the name of the Parent Organization.

Item F. Legislative Year Strategy and Plan

- Discussion on some strategy on the upcoming legislative year.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson** stated that talking to Kevin Deiters, Executive Director of TESRS, that the Pension Board is looking to make some changes in the Pension System and they will be looking to us for help.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson** stated the Pension System staff would like to meet with our staff sometime in October.
- Dan Key is Stepping Down From T- Flag Committee and wouldn't be going to the legislative session.
- **Executive Director Chris Barron** stated that he will have a conference call with TEEX staff, I'm hoping on Tuesday, to get back on track with what derailed last time Legislative Day at fire school.

Item G. Organization Revenue Strategy

- **President Richardson** asked Chris to comment about organization revenue strategy based on us, knowing whether we had a change in our dues after this meeting, the impact that have and where do we go moving forward with our plan.
- **Executive Director Chris Barron** commented so, glad to see it pass, it brought a since of relief for our future to me, I don't about y'all, but it did to me, and our future that we're not going to be wondering if make payroll by the end of the year. Moving forward this won't take affect till the October, November time frame, because that's when our dues get ramped up for the next year. We won't start seeing revenue from that until November, December time frame. I'll have to figure out with the recommendation from y'all and bring it to you in July on how to pay for the Lobbyist, for those few months that will be four, because that's not in our yearly budget, so will have to get some creative ways to be able to afford that.
- **Chris continued**, I think moving forward the first year is going to more of reporting to y'all once we start seeing the effects of the revenue coming in from the change. I've heard numerous different things, I've heard were fire departments are just going to do fire department dues, or drop the fire departments and the individuals, I've heard all sorts of stuff, just like you have. So it's going to be kind of a test to see where those numbers come out at. And see what the impact going to be to our bottom line, and we won't know that till, I mean we will start seeing some effect coming in January, we won't really know the bottom line till March, April, and May of next year, because we will have 80 to 90 percent of our dues in at that time. **Rusty Kattner** suggested to get a letter out to all the departments about dues being passed, they in the process of developing their budget. that would hard news for them wait till November to find out about the due change. **Chris stated** we will get that out next week.

Item H. President Ad HOC Committee on Organization Business

- **President Richardson**, I put this in, one of the things I want to do, I'm kind of building this off of Rusty, Henry and Harvie, have all done. Is to put an Ad HOC Committee together, an appoint Ad HOC Committee that looks at the overall business model of the organization, the overall way in which we operate as compared to say, and this is where I ask y'all for input over the next, at least month. Looks at it in comparison to the business model IFC's VCOS, NVFC, the way they do their Constitution and By-Laws, how they actually operate, so they operate in a timely manner, base on what's going on in the economy, and what's going in the representative fire world. So, What I'm asking is, some people that you think are, like to have some names by the July, at least one from each of

you. People that would make good representation on that, that can look at what's going on in organization today, developing at least a vision of different business model in the future. and instead of each year we add one little piece of, say for voting or something like that for Constitution and By-Laws changes, that we look at, what is the whole model we need to look at what serves fire departments today verses what serves fire departments 142 years ago. So, that's what I'm asking each of you do, to consider that, talk to me about it, I know some of the people that were on the, and some came from out of Harvie, I don't know what you called it last year but you talk about utilizing Chiefs, and developing a committee for them. Then we also had the vision 2040 committee to develop ideas and we certainly struggle with anything getting off the ground with that. But out of all that when some of those discussion happen when some of those Chiefs were talking in the Chiefs meetings and out of discussions that came out of the 2040 vision people with each of you also participated. It seems were all that points to, it points numerous changes, but we haven't got some sort of consolidation of what those changes have to look like. Last couple years on both voting on Red Rivers and the Mid West. On the change on the way we do voting, one of the big issues has been what it does to the other areas of the Constitution and By-Laws, and we go though that, maybe trying to fix that little piece of the business model this isn't going to work with the rest of the business model. so we need to look out there at what's successful and see if we can't emulate some of that. I'm hoping we can look at that. Comments.

- **1st Vice President Tim Smith comments**, I completely like the thought as we talked about this a whole lot. They way we do business now, I mean it took a year to get the word around the state 140 years ago, and now we can have that information out in five minutes, you know, thru the internet, I think we have to upgrade the way we do business if we're going to continue to function in a manner that conducive to our technology right now so I just think it's a good idea, still keeping with tradition, I'm not saying we thrown tradition out the window, but we're defiantly going to have change the way we do business in order for the board to help make those decisions in a timely manner.

Item I. SFFMA Outreach

- **President Richardson**, spoke on SFFMA outreach to existing and potential members, for 4years I've said that, and saying that again today. We had data 5 years ago that showed at that time, approximately

30,000 Volunteer firefighters in the state that don't belong to this association. Now everybody sets that in a different way, in my head, I tie in so much with the legislative part, I see that 30,000 as being way, that our relevance again, to having Representatives and Senators go, oh we have to listen because the numbers to big for me to ignore. I know I'm no marketing guru or promotional guru by any means, but I think we need to have some strong focus on going after those people who aren't members of this association, that are ripe for being a member of this association, because their needs goes, everything aligns with us, and its just a shame their not here. So, I put that a couple weeks to have this discussion, but since then when I looking and talking to guys on the finance committee, then looking at the spending plan and the budget look ahead, especially after the due increase, that other position was outreach. I want to tell one story, we don't see district 16 North Central Texas. We worked so hard several years, I went to all of their meeting trying to stir them back up there's very few of them. But I discover something there's a gentleman, A Fire Chief out in Rising Star, Texas. Way out in the middle of nowhere out by itself. He works for a communications company, his real job. I started getting these inquiries in that area from a lot of little departments out there, that weren't part of the SFFMA. and this was recently, this was in the last four months I guess. I start trying to figure out where all of this is coming from. I went to their district meeting, it was kind of a last minute deal. Donny and Brent went, they kind of did it after the Panhandles meeting, which nobody does that. So, we go to the meeting, we start listening to Josh, and this guy, as he goes out for his company, he's been going to every single little volunteer fire department he drives by he stops, meets and talks about the SFFMA, asked if they are involved, he's one little man outreach, going on in this remote area of Texas, and start to looking like its bearing fruit. It's not a lot, but there's not whole out there. But this guys hitting every one of them all the way out to New Mexico. He was going almost all the way out to El Paso. So, I was really impressed with what he was doing. and no organized effort to do it. He's just got involved with his district, there's only a couple of them that's involved at all, but he's involved enough and taking the time as he travels all over to stop and talk, he said it brought some sort of a training and the never really had anybody out there, but they had 5 times the people they ever had and again he was preaching the SFFMA the whole time. that kind of brought me back when we had Alan Russell, and people like that going out and doing outreach work. We might not ever get to the point to pay somebody to hit all these places. We might dang sure, when see somebody like that out there, let's pullout the stops and bolster him up with all the support he needs to get out there and do that, cause he's doing it on his own.

- **4th Vice President Donny Boggs**, Technology has gotten us away from that personal touch. And a lot of times that's all it takes is somebody to sit you down and look you eye to eye, face to face and talk to them, and they see the passion you have, cause in technology you see no passion in these texts coming at you. And in my journey and Brent you might have done the same thing I find some of these smaller fire departments and I said my God, I didn't know they existed. If I'm ahead of schedule, I stop, talk to them, say hey, invite them, tell a little of what you can and be on the road. If I remember right at the Permian Basin, I think Wink had an extremely large convention. But again as board members we have to be more on a personal level, technology important I understand that, but I the personal touch is what we're going to have to get back to grass roots to get people back involved.
- **President Richardson**, I agree, especially in rural Texas, It's going to be important.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson**, Your bullet point talks about potential members, I wanted to take a minute to talk about potential members. The EMS committee has put together some training stuff, that's went to the certification board, they are working on a Field Training Officer certification, this stuff here is really geared straight to EMS. So if we can get the rest of this stuff put together, Tim was also in this meeting. Because there is not an FTO certification out there. I will be something new, that we can market strictly to non - fire base EMS and try to get more people involved. We want fire - based EMS of course, but we are not going to ignore that at all. But we got a potential customer, they don't have it out there and we are developing it. Keep that on your radar.
- **1st Vice President Tim Smith**, I think out there in the Wink and Kermit area. After their LODD, what last year or the year before, the SFFMA response to that LODD really impress them. How we were there and present with them the whole time. I think that personal touch,
- **Chaplain Ben Kennedy stated** Permian Basin and Panhandle at one time virtually run this association. Because if you could both of those two groups together, they elected a lot of officers. so we've got to get them back in the fold. and you know as well as I what happen with both of them. and we've got to do something to get that moving again.
- **President Richardson**, And both of those districts have really good District meetings and well attend generally. Permian is not as much as

Panhandle, but it's still significant. That pretty wide open country. Not whole lot of people out there. But they really good district meetings, really fruitful meetings.

- **Executive Director Chris Barron**, Don't forget we are putting in for a grant, and I think we've got a strong chance of getting it. Not that I wrote it or anything, but I also serve on peer review panel. It will have a new member for recruitment and retention of firefighters in Texas. Part of that is going out doing outreach services. Not only will the dues increase which take effect next year allow us to have somebody, potential for august time frame for awards on that grant. keep our fingers crossed, fully funded person.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson**, I like to present to the board a document that a few of us work on, to put together that helps the 4th Vice President get his feet on the ground and running in the right direction. This not something we need to act on today, so much as something we need everybody to review and bleed on it if you need to, but if they could review it, send me any comments or any changes or additions, whatever I've got the master copy in my pocket and I will change it up and send it back.
- **President Richardson**, I thought it was great, I wish that I would have had that.
- **2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle**, Couple years ago we did have a manual for every position President though Mascot.
- **Chaplain Ben Kennedy**, well the 4th Vice President Manual if you remember was nothing more than all the memorial services that had ever be done, and it was not a guide on how to do one, it was what everybody had done, it really was pretty useless. I think they quit passing it around . Something about Secretary or Asst Secretary, whatever you where. Its been a long time, My memory is just, But I do remember that, because I Looked at it one time and thought this doesn't help.
- **2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle**, At one time the Rio Grande Valley was supposed to send us a copy of what they used.
- **President Richardson**, So if anyone can add to that, just get it to 3rd Vice President Chuck Richard if you don't mind, I'm here as supporting role.

- **Chaplain Ben Kennedy**, We do have a checklist for the Memorial Service.
- **President Richardson**, Any other new business
- **1st Vice President Tim Smith**, Couple things out of the EMS Committee and Andy Dexter can help me out if we need to. We need to decide as an organization, y'all probably already know the answer, I think we do, Is the EMS a committee or a Board, on the side of the building it says Texas EMS Board and by-laws say committee. I think we've been here before is the name something we need to change, because Andy is writing a business model for our EMS Committee in order to keep progressing to that section of organization forward and that depends on what we're actually called as to how this business model progresses.
- **Executive Director Chris Barron**, A little history on that, was during the time that and the International Division came up was to Identify something in the EMS world as a organization, The Ems world could go to, I don't why the board got named Texas Emergency Medical Services Board was available we grabbed that DBA and then we put it in the By-Laws as a Committee. It was just something to Identify EMS world hey there is an existing organization out there that represents EMS and just so happens the thinking at the time, Richard or Ben, similar to our Industrial Board same type of thing but it just didn't morph into that, as far as the Constitution and By-Laws.
- **Andy Dexter EMS Committee Member**, Mind if I add to this there is a fundamental difference between what a committee can do within association and what a board can do with in an association, a board can issue certain certifications it can owns its meetings and reports back to the executive board. A Committee is a group of people doing certain tasks. An EMS Committee doesn't have any tasks to do for the associations. other than develop some stuff, and hopefully somebody else will do it for us. That becomes an issue. So, when I'm trying to work on a marketing campaign to get more membership into the SSFMA, and try to explain who we are. And we have a logo that says we are a board, and a by-law that says we are a committee. And, this is what are responsibilities are they are not going to match. And anybody who has any understanding of I want to be a part of this organization can see we already have conflict. They are not going to want to be a part of this. We have to be able to show, and we are talking about numbers in the association, we are talking about our last closing session, that we are open to career, combination, volunteer we want everybody. Well this a huge market, that has really no collective voice. To do really anything they have been fragment for so long, and they are all looking for somebody, who is stainable and has that power and authority of

actually surviving, and we have that. But we don't know who we are. And that became a fundamental issue. So we either need to figure out

- **1st Vice President Tim Smith**, I know, history wise, the EMS world is a tough nut to crack, they really are, the wax and wane back between one organization and another. And I think one of the good points you brought up is about issuing certifications. high and low you can't find an FTO (Field Training Officer) Certification and I don't know, I think there's some value to it. If there was a curriculum developed for it, which we're close, really close I like being able to issue certification. Right now you would have to go to the certification board get them to approve to issue that certification. We have no authority to issue those certifications.
- **President Richardson**, Recognizes Past President Henry Perry, What would it take, I know it would be a By-Laws Change, but to create a EMS Board just like the Certification Board and Industrial Board. If we want now is the time to start making that language, so we can get it present in January for a vote in Longview, If we present it correctly we could make it fly, just my two cents.
- **Past President Rusty Kattner**, I was just going say 10 plus years ago When we first started talking about Bringing in EMS, what Andy just said was a vision of the association and for whatever reason it become a Committee as opposed to a board, I think there was some fear at that time, and that EMS would come in overtake the fire service part of it and you wouldn't have a fire department organization we have the name but it wouldn't be there, and so, I was among those fearful of that the non fire paid private service come in and take it over, but I see now that didn't happen and it doesn't appear it's going to happen. But certainly that was a vision 10 years ago before I was even on the board. That we would be central location for EMS to go to and there wasn't any at that time, apparently there's not anything like that today. and the longer you wait the more fragmented it will get, the harder it going to get those folks on the EMS side Given our history, 142 years worth shows stability.
- **Asst Secretary Jim White**, So, Mr. President, just like original Certification Board was founded by each district representative and submitted to the President to serve on the Certification Board looks like we could follow the same model with the EMS Board.
- **President Richardson**, If a proposal came forward an went through

channels through the Constitution and By-Laws change and make that a board and it should be model for constancy inside the organization it should be model somewhat after TISB and the certification board. It seems like a relative easy change and I think what Henry said, I think the membership would like it.

- **1st Vice President Tim Smith**, I don't think see the AMR's and the Acadian's of the world, jumping through the windows to join. We hope they all join. Truly what I envisioned, however was some of the paid, combination, fire based EMS services that can't get those specialty certifications through anywhere, they are not available, there not out there. And if we can develop those and tap into a new market.
- **3rd Vice President chuck Richardson**, That's what is leading to awhile ago. And I'll echo what his said, once we get something that is developed and marketable has substance, then we got to get the word so they see it, they will start coming to look for it.
- **President Richardson**, Who's the Chair of the EMS Committee Andy, you are? then, how about I charge with bringing forward that by laws change, to change that into a Board, to move your committee that's in the Constitution and By-laws that was under that umbrella that existed somewhere in our organization.
- **Andy Dexter EMS Committee Chairman**, I guess one question I have, do I need to find a district to support this or will the executive board support this, we can, it has to be a district or executive board to present a Constitution and By-Laws change.
- **3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson**, They can bring It to us to present.
- **President Richardson**, And that charge is you bring it to us.
- **Ben Kennedy**, On behalf of the Emergency Responder of the Year Award. I'm going to solicit, and beg that EMS group to start pushing people to get folks nominated and the packets turn in. To get that Responder of the Year Award. And thing is, it is truly embarrassing, you got one person as a EMS Responder of the Year. I'm sure he was, I don't know. I would have be embarrassed if I was the only one and had to walk up there in front of God and everybody, that I was the only one nominated. He made the statement to us, I'm really not worthy of this award. So, folks, Barbara and the committee and I, have talked about it

and next year is the last for awhile if we don't to get folks to get packets in. because its really sad and it's not a waste of time, it's always good to honor our people. But the same is happening with the Firefighter of the Year. 9 out of 16 packets, the rules are in the book. But when you get one paragraph on a folded sheet of paper, Representing a District, that's sad. Cause somebody really didn't care. These are prestigious awards as far as I'm concern, not because I'm on the committee, because they are prestigious and we did have good entries. But probably out of the nine we had, only 4 or 5 were well present. The rest of them were I'm going to call it xxxxx it wasn't xxxxx it was about good people, but they put absolutely no effort into it. So to the EMS committee please work and try to get your folks in, there's a lot of good people out there. And It doesn't have to be what they did this year. It can be a body of work done over there years of service.so that being said, next year will our last EMS Responder of the year if we don't get more folks.

- **1st Vice President Tim Smith**, One other item of mention is, the EMS committee suggested, who in here has had the Stop the Bleed program. Now if you haven't, we want to make that a revolving or repeating program in the exhibit hall on Saturday of convention. It's only an hour, basically it to save your own life, Maybe doing that at the January Planning conference. Also if your ems certified it counts as one hour of c.e. From the Speaker Selection committee, that everyone that is teaching a class, they have 2 to 3 objectives, and a eval. And some sort of exam. Then, we can get c.e. for every class we offer. And that draws in people.11.25 hours is pretty good. Great Job for this event.

- **Andy Dexter EMS Committee Chair**, went well everyone got their CE certificate, roster were all done and evals were turned in, So it happened on its own and we didn't have any assistance form anybody. Should have our own CE number it should be done by May.

- **President Richardson**, Is there any other new business x3, all right then next item on the agenda is audience comments, limit 3 minutes each today with the numbers we have in here, lets just go around the room if someone has something they want to talk about. Start out with

VI. Audience Comments

- **Past President Rusty Kattner**, I just have a couple of things one is the Finance committee we start getting those dues in, that you will take, rather than the 3 year process to get that rainy day fund built, that you

bite the bullet and get it done. The work on your program till you reach that over the years continually put money in there. Secondly I attend grand lodge this year, and they gave each person and they gave each person entitled to vote a little contraption looks like a calculator and that was a voting device, and so whenever they had a for candidate for grand office, they would put those candidate up there and draw names out of hat and be assigned a number so if Myself, Harvie, Jim and Brent were running for office they would give me #1, Harvie #2, Jim #3 and Brent #4, and they would put those name up on the scene. They would tell everybody vote, you push just one number, and that all you are allowed to push, if you pushed the wrong you had a slight moment to cancel that and go to another number so punch a number and that count goes in a matter of minutes they the ballot results. There's a committee that overlooks that, make sure you don't have anything go wrong, so when the committee validates that they put the results up on the board. They did that with every single rules, by laws changes, it was very simple and quick.

- **Chris Hester, Secretary Mid West District**, I appreciate the time, Real quick, I have a procedural question part of it is my own ignorance, and not knowing all the Roberts Rules, just curious you don't have answer now, you can send me an email if you like, what is going appropriate or correct measures for agenda item if you have Constitution and By-Laws change
- **End of the Meeting Recording at 1 hour 28 minutes and 45 seconds missed several Audience comments.**

VII. **Executive Session**

VIII. **Board Member Comments** (Limit to 3 minutes each)

President Mike Richardson: First off, I want fix one thing I should have done when I gave my little speech today is, There's no way I could have done without Debbie, and I think all of y'all know that. So, her supporting has got me though this, most time, I get emotional, so I just what make sure I said that. Next is my friend, Kyle Stephens, we been friends for way to long. I've almost killed him 10 or 15 times, and not going to tell you I won't before it's over with, but then next I've got Rusty, got Henry and I got Harvie, as I came up behind these guys I got to see that different styles in development of leadership begin in here its starts bring forward ideas in my head. Andi couldn't have done that without you three guys. We all become real close, but Rusty and I had some of the strongest arguments and disagreements on this stuff, but I've learn so much from him and respect him.

1st Vice President Tim Smith: Hmm Boy, what a year, what a convention, It really seems like a cohesive group now, more cohesive every minute that goes by it gets more cohesive. I enjoy Henry Perry, all of you, but Henry's he makes it an interesting ride most the time. If I can keep up with him. Speaking of knowledge, he's got a lot of that. He's got a lot of that history that we cannot forget and so, don't go anywhere make sure you stay here. Thank you to everybody who worked to get this off the ground. The speaker selection committee I can't thank enough, this is a training conference, that should be the backbone of our organization is training. Leave it better than we found it. I look forward to the work we have to do before us. Some of the items you mention today, will really take a lot of work. More work than most of us have ever done. So, I'm looking forward to it, and I'll help in any way I can. Thank y'all.

2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle: Harvie Cheshire, we finally got rid, no Harvie I really past couple three years, got to know you a little bit, I really enjoy it. I think we got a good board, I think we can do some good things. The membership was kind enough today to grant our wish for the dues increase, I think we have an obligation to prove to them we know how to spend it. And that's what I'm looking forward to. If we ever get this software going I think the whole attitude of our organization is going to change. I'm ready for it, I'll be honest with you. I look forward to working with all you guys and gal, That's all I got.

3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson: If it's any consolation Joe Dan got my name wrong about two thirds of the time, but when he done the minutes he remember to correct them. Thanks a lot to all the board here that's help me, get to where I am now. And I'll tell you Donny there's so many resource around the table and out in the audience. Don't forget the Past President there's a plethora of knowledge there and they will help you. Of the staff y'all have done a jam up job this past week and past year. We will continue on next year, Thank so much for everything that you do.

4th Vice President Donny Boggs: I do whatever it takes to accomplish the objective that we have agreed on. I'm like Frankie, I feel like I'm a do'er, and actions are going to speak, so again I'm the new kid on the block, I got broad shoulders, not as broad as Big John's. I'll support what I can. Thank so much!

IX. Next Scheduled Meeting – July 20, 2018, 8 a.m.?

X. Adjournment.

Submitted by:

Brent Allen

Secretary

7/16/2018