

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

June 21,2019  
Lincoln Room, Holiday Inn-North  
Longview, Texas

**Meeting called to order at:** 1:00 p.m.

**by President:** Mike Richardson

**Invocation given by:** Chaplain Ben Kennedy

**Roll Call of Board Members Present:** Secretary Brent Allen

**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:**

**Non - Voting Board Members Not Present:**

**Office Staff Present:** Executive Director Chris Barron

**Approval of Minutes from Secretary Allen:**

A motion to approve the minutes from 3/18/2019, 4/11/2019, 5/10/2019 with corrections, as presented. Motion was made by Chuck Richardson and seconded by Harvie Cheshire. The motion passed with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

**Guest present:** William Crawford, Frank Marcinkiewicz, Brad Hardgrove, Kevin Creamer, Brandon Watson, Roxanne Dean, Dallas Renfrew, Paul Hamilton, Gary Williams, Stephen Donnelly, Eloy Salazar, Esela Salazar, Tom Dolan, Dan Bodin, Curtis Brown, Doug Henry, Clay Deatherage, Gene Maples, Pam Maples, Alexander Smith, Greg Redden, Jeff Bellew, Jennifer Anthony, Billy Tidwell, Dennis Gifford, Landon Flisowski, Kyle Stephens, Henry Perry, Frankie Joe Salinas, Steven Lopez, Richard Trevino, Keith Tate

**Executive Director Chris Barron's Report**

- Each Board Member should have your blue packet with all your information, ID's and other items and Conference Coin.
- Sales are increasing, our Haxi boots sales already met the annually income for the year.
- We are putting existing books and merchandise on Amazon marketplace try sell off some our stuff that is not moving as quickly than other items.
- Membership processing is up to date as of yesterday and membership cards sent out.
- International Training at Buda F.D. 25 Firefighters pre-register
- Certification process 2 to 3 weeks behind on processing certifications, all staff members are contributing to membership processing.
- Event Planning is well under way, Charles who is here, is at the exhibit hall, he is a contract event planner, doing an excellent job.

- Staff has pick up the rest of Gabi's tasks, Gabi is under contract to help with memorial program and the conference program.
- DHS Grant- had to repost the position and halt grant purchases and resubmit those in the form of amendments and purchase request. So, it is now back on track.
- Office Updates - 2 A/C units went out and we had them fixed.
- Our new tenants are working out fantastic, the pretty much keep to themselves and they are bringing additional income to the association to offset some of our costs.
- We do have a spot for additional staff person, but just now met the threshold of the 85% income, will talk with the board when can add that staff position.

### **President Mike Richardson**

Our lobbyist, J.P. Laney is unable to be here until later in the week. He will give a detailed report on the second business session. I will ask Chris to give a little summary of what we did get accomplish and what we didn't get done.

### **Executive Director Chris Baron**

As you know every other year the legislative body comes to Austin for a period of about 6 months and in 4 of those months work actually gets done. I will say with our lobbyist J.P. Laney, Chief Richardson and myself, did a bang-up job, being there when needed to be there attending meetings. It was a very active session, quiet bit time involved, had several bills we want to see get passed and for the most part we were successful.

- The Governor veto the Job Protection Bill for volunteer firefighters. It passed the House and Senate by a good margin.
- Inspector bill passed, but not in the format we wanted. But it passed.
- 2604 request to improve the funding level of 30 million a year, it didn't get slashed, but didn't get all the way up to 30 million, we're at 23 million.
- Emergency Funding though 2604 when a department loses equipment in a disaster, along with some cleaning equipment, they allow you to ask for an extractor for cleaning your PPE.
- Workman's Comp Bill was cleaned up and that bill passed.
- TDEM moved away from DPS to the Texas A & M System.

T-Flag Meeting on Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.

### **Old Business:**

#### **TISBE Testing**

#### **President Mike Richardson**

- Back in October with TISBE had proposal that would take NFPA 1081, NFPA 472 and 40 Hour Medical Training and develop a certification program create an Industrial Firefighter.
- Require us to do Validation and have a Test Bank
- Move up to January we approved the buying of a test bank. An move forward with it.
- Chief Moore of TEEX offer to use his staff to do the validation for us.
- Server is at Association office and gave remote access to TEEX to begin that validation process
- Things are in motion, taking a lot longer than anticipated.
- TISBE seems very pleased with the results.

#### **Safer Grant Update**

#### **Greg Redden - Grant Administrator**

- Much more restrictive with the grant
- To make sure that everybody knows that these departments are manned by Volunteer Firefighters.

- 70% of the Firefighters in Texas are Volunteers
- Recruit more volunteer firefighter in rural Texas. That's the main goal.
- What is working in their area.
- 117 Billboards are all around the state of Texas. Spent 175,000.00 on billboards

### **New Business:**

#### **Firefighter Health Initiative**

**Dan Bodin**

- Medical Evaluations for Departments and Firefighters
- Medical History and Family History
- Share with Individual FF to identify medical problems; PTSD
- Collect Medical Data for the Firefighter
- HIPPA?

A motion to table any action on P.M. & R. Foundation at the next board meeting as presented. Motion was made by Ben Kennedy and seconded by Chuck Richardson. The motion passed with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

#### **California Causality Report**

**Roxanne Dean & Brandon Watson**

- Making Sure we are competitive.
- 99.8% Stated they would recommend the company to a friend
- Claim Service Survey Results, 25.5 % Response Rate (excellent)
- Was our service acceptable did we meet your standard, 96.4% said yes

#### **Conference Survey**

**Vice Presidents Donny Boggs & Chuck Richardson**

- Capture the thoughts of the membership as to the format of the conference as of today.
- We came to the board, and got your thought process, and got the go ahead.
- Put together some questions that were pertinent, and some from the Austin office.
- We thank Chris for putting together the Survey Monkey
- Response was about 300 to 400, with good information
- Interesting points were brought up and as a board we may need to look at that.

#### **Mid-West District Complaint**

**President Mike Richardson**

- In August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 complaint I received the copy of the complaint at the planning conference.
- We had some discussion on the board, and I sent a response on May 15<sup>th</sup> to the Mid-West District
- Our issue is that to address the complaint of the board it certainly that we all want to look at.
- In my response we refute most all of what was in your complaint
- We want to see your evidence of those accusations, where do you want to go with this.
- Do you have formal accusations of any individual member on the board that they were trying intentionally, to slight you or cheat you during that conference.
- (Response from Mid-West) No sir, we did not.
- This matter is close

#### **Fire Chief's Division for the SFFMA**

**President Mike Richardson**

- A division for the Fire Chiefs of the SFFMA
- This would give our Chiefs a place to work on issues that affect in their role.
- There is interest out there, also Metro Chiefs would or might be interested.
- They believe that our organization look more at whole of the fire service

- Type of Membership, Advisory Council, or maybe a forum.
- That would be a great idea

The Executive Board enter executive session at 3:24 p.m.

The Executive Board came out of executive session at 4:33p.m.

With no action taken in executive session.

### **Audience Comments:**

Paul Hamilton: Glad to be here, y'all do a hell'va job. Call us if you need us.

Kyle Stephens: Ditto, I appreciate the hard work putting in y'all doing a good job, keep it up.

Dennis Gifford: No Comment

Frankie Jo Salinas: Past President for the Ro Grand Valley what to thank the board, doing one heck of job. President Mike outstanding job this year on representing the State.

Stephen Donnelly: Glad to be Here, sorry we didn't get enough for the pumper races, Tim assure us that we will have enough to run in Lubbock.

Landon Flisowski; I'm running for state mascot, Thank You.

Steven Lopez: Glad to be here appreciate work from the board\_I'm here to get a better understanding **of** the SFFMA

Casey Johnston: running for State mascot I would like to have your support

Buba: Y'all are doing a great job, Keep it up.

### **Board Comments:**

**President Mike Richardson:** Thank you all, I have enjoy it, sometimes I hated it. But anyway thank y'all having my last meeting here, each and everyone of you have been valued exceptionally, Anyway, each and everyone of you I think the world of. Again I'm going to sit way down at the end of the table, come Wednesday I'll keep my mouth shut unless I'm asked to do something. So thank you all. We'll have a good conference thru the rest of the week

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Tim Smith:** I get the final word. I'm looking forward to this year I'm still nervous, I don't if I'm ready for this position, but I know I've got you guys to help me. You been quiet an inspiration Mike. We really didn't know each other much before we started camping. By the way glad you won the lotto, because that got me out of legislative year it would have been very challenging. I thank you both for your legislative efforts truly changed the fire service with what you do. I'm very, very excited about the direction our association is headed. I felt like a couple years ago we had some really low points but I'm excited where we're going, what we're doing, with the people we have, very excited. So, Thank you, looking forward to this week.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Richard Van Winkle:** Mike, I really enjoyed this year with you, its been eye opening When I first started to run for this thing first go around, you withdrew your name because of me. I never forgot that and I haven't forgot Henry Perry, either. Naw, just kidding me and Henry never been any sour grape and he's a great guy, I look forward to following Tim and I'm interested in his thought processes.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Chuck Richardson:** Its kind of hard to follow up with something that emotional as that I have trouble talking, we had a lot of issues to deal with on association level, all of y'all did a great job at the state level. We just need to keep moving forward. Thanks for letting me be a part of it.

**4<sup>ht</sup> Vice President Donny Boggs:** This has been a whirlwind of year for me I respect each everyone of y'all on this board. I love Charles mentoring me to be where Mike is in five years. Chris thank for what you do on the state level, especially legislative, I just thought you, Mike and J.P. did a tremendous job this year. I just look forward for this coming year with excitement. I think Tim has some really good thought processes in mind. I'm here help him anyway I can. Mike I know you're going off that doesn't mean you're going away thank y'all for accepting me into the fold, let be the squeaky wheel put oil on it if know what I mean. Thank y'all.

**Immediate Past President Harvie Cheshire:** I'm just going say it like this, I love each and every one of y'all and I can't think of a better group of folks to be with and I'm so thankful and blessed being part of the fold or collective however you want to put it. I just want to thank each and every one of you for supporting me and guiding me especially this past year and God Bless each and everyone of you, I love ya.

**Secretary Brent Allen:** I'm enjoying conference I enjoy being with you guys, y'all are my mentor for sure. I appreciate all that y'all shown me weather think you have or you haven't, cause you have. Thank you.

**Assistant Secretary Jim White:** good to see everybody

**Chaplain Ben Kennedy:** Just sitting here my mind was thinking about what I was going to say

**Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson:** Just fabulous, glad to be here appreciate everybody do diligence to the association

**Mascot Kylie Maples:** Been a great year! Ready or Convention

**Executive Director Chris Barron:** nothing to say, good conference hopefully ahead of us. a lot of good activities.

The next scheduled meeting is June 26, 2019 Holiday Inn, 45 minutes after conference meeting

There being no more agenda items

A motion to adjourn was by Richard Van Winkle seconded by Harvie Cheshire the motion passed with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

President Richardson ended the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted by,  
Brent Allen  
SFFMA Secretary  
007/11/2019**