

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

June 27, 2021

Overton Hotel, Canton Room

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

by President: Richard Van Winkle

Invocation given by: Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Roll Call of Board Members Present: Brent Allen

Board Members present on site:

President Richard Van Winkle
1st Vice President Chuck Richardson
2nd Vice President Donny Boggs
3rd Vice President Curtis Brown
4th Vice President Billy Tidwell
Immediate Past President Tim Smith
Secretary Brent Allen
Assistant Secretary Mike Richter
Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Non-Voting Board Members Present: Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson, Mascot Hannah Brown

Board Members Not Present:

Non - Voting Board Members Not Present:

Office Staff Present: Executive Director Tim Rutland

Approval of Minutes from Secretary Allen:

A motion to approve the minutes from 1/30/2021 at the SFFMA Office as presented.
Motion was made by 1st Vice President Chuck Richardson and seconded by 2nd Vice President Donny Boggs. Any discussion, All, in favor, say Aye, all opposed same sign
The motion carries with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

A motion to approve the minutes from Zoom Meeting 3/24/2021 presented.
Motion was made by 1st Vice President Chuck Richardson and seconded by 2nd Vice President Donny Boggs. Any discussion, All, in favor, say Aye, all opposed same sign
The motion carries with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Guest Present: Terry Broome, Andy Dexter, Edwin Baker, Mike Montgomery, Steven Loving, Matt Cornell, Paul Bemis, Brad Hardgrove

Old Business: None

New Business:

President Richard Van Winkle: At this time Rayford would you be willing to serve another year as Parliamentarian.

Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson: Yes, Sir

President Richard Van Winkle: With y'all's permission and approval I'll appoint Rayford as Parliamentarian for the next year.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: Would like a motion.

President Richard Van Winkle: I would like that.

A motion to approve the appointment of Rayford Gibson as Parliamentarian as presented.
Motion was made by 2nd Vice President Donny and seconded by 1st Vice President Chuck Richardson
Any discussion, All, in favor, say Aye, all opposed same sign.
The motion carries with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

President Richard Van Winkle: It's time to make an appointment to the Texas A&M Advisory Board, It was an Industrial member's turn to come off, so I'm going to ask Chuck Richardson to accept
The appointment to the Texas A&M Advisory Board representing industry.

President Richard Van Winkle: Do you accept.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: I would be honored to accept.

A motion to approve the appointment Chuck Richardson to the Texas A&M Advisory Board as presented.
Motion was made by Immediate Past President Tim Smith
and seconded by Chaplain Ben Kennedy
Any discussion, All, in favor, say Aye, all opposed same sign.
The motion carries with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

President Richard Van Winkle: Okay, Director Rutland: you want to have anything to say about the conference, reviews and comments?

Director Rutland: Well, if I put it in terms of sporting events, perhaps maybe that would be the way to do it. I want to talk about how we had previous rounds. And then last minute scheduling and we had numerous key fumbles during the sessions. But I think that, you know, the rough edges that that occurred. Yeah, I think it was a combination of a couple of things. This was a completely different schedule than we've worked in the past. I think I think not the least of which was the fact that we had one evening business meeting followed by another one immediately the next morning. And so that definitely, creates potentially can create issues. You know, if you're at it, you're trying to take care of existence and that kind of thing. But it seemed we got the business done, which was really the reason for doing it and we had very moving memorial service. So, I think we accomplished it seems to me the association accomplished, what it needed to do, coming together. The logistical stuff and others it is interesting I mentioned to President that you know, we were certainly going to get together as a staff next week and go through it and talk about it. One of my staff members, in fact, the key person who handles events came to me this morning and asked if we could get together next week and talk about their, their wanting to there, they want to get this thing squared away and make sure that we can get some of the things that did create logistical problems for us, we can get those ironed out. So, we don't have to have that sort of thing going on.

President Richard Van Winkle: I think, personally, considering this was a first go around for some of our people. And I think we did pretty good. I hope that when you have your meeting, that we're not all criticized about them. I think they did a good job for what they would given. There were some things some of us that have been around a while should have done, that we

didn't to let them know what to expect, you know, the ballots that I blame for their that every year, you know, we have a meeting we decide, who or what is going to be on the ballot. They print them, they send them to us, we review it and we send it back, and say printed them. We didn't do that. They didn't know, let us look at it. So that's our fault.

Immediate Past President Tim Smith: I'll take some credit on that as well. Heather had talk to us Two or three days before. And she we knew the ballots would not be printed before Friday night. Because anything quirky like happened she would have reprint them anyway. (Richard) Yeah. You know, so there are some things that happened this year, that probably will never happen. So, I wouldn't be critical of anybody it did, I think, how to get everybody, busted their hump to get it done. And we're through it And everybody's survived.

2nd Vice President Donny Boggs: I echo that, Mr. President, I actually got speak to the staff ,they were in Hall, and I thank them for what they did. I commend them for what they did. It was so easy to criticize, yeah. But a lot of times, it's just take that little bit of pat on the back that you did a hell of a job on the circumstances that you face. them take, keep that pride, ground dry. And I did. It was Heather, Julie and Teresa, the one that I ran into. And I've said that to Kevin before as well, I just like to staff did a tremendous job, in spite of this wasn't brand new, it was step for us. (Richard) And you know, I would have never thought to do mentioned earlier the evening meeting. And we don't get through to seven 7:30 and then we start right back up at eight o'clock the next morning, that doesn't give them time to do much.(Tim) And I think that's one thing we would change. I don't think this format will be followed again. Not in the near future anyway cause it can't be. overall, Unless you suspend it again. (Richard)Over all, I don't really have any complaints. (Tim) If we had to do it all over again. I would make that Saturday morning a little later in the day.

Chaplain Ben Kennedy: Bottom line is, they're going to be problems. If we do this 50 years, the same way, there's going to be a problem. Yeah, these things have I put together conferences for years. And most of the time, we're the only ones that know it. when something does happen. It happens people are going to get very, very critical that have never ever, ever thought about doing this. And I learned over the year that you look at those comments. And you take the ones that are made by those people that have never done it. And you set them over here, you read them, you look at them, and you set them over here and say, okay, there's nothing constructive here. all they're doing is finding out what we did wrong. The ones over here, the ballots were not ready, what you might do next year is have your meeting and do this. If somebody gives you constructive criticism, I look at it if all it is criticism with nothing to help but over here on the side after you rate them and going to trash Don't let those body and I told Heather I said the things are going to happen. This is the first time this has been told you that overall it went fine in the stuff that did happen was fixable. And it did not create a problem, end the story.

Director Rutland: Well, yeah, I will tell you all I think I have a great staff. I love going to work and working with that group. They really are great. I can walk into any one of their offices and get with them on something I asked them to take care of something for me or ask them to solve an issue and they're on it. They are on it. So, and it Get enough time get to spend enough time down in that registration corner that they were in, which was another real logistical problem for this whole thing. I didn't get much time to spend down there. But I was getting snippets from them afterwards, you know about things that were going on. And I thought, Oh, my gosh, and they persevere through some very, very difficult technical, technological problems, and logistical problems down there. And they just did. They dealt with it, and they got it done. So I'll tell you, you've got a good staff there in Manchaca.

President Richard Van Winkle: And be sure to let them know, we feel so proud of all of them. I know some of them are going to think I messed this up. I messed that up. I don't think anything happened here. Any sort of reflection of their abilities may have been on their knowledge, not knowing what needed to be done. And let's say that's, that's more experienced people's fault. So, Matt, you want to give a little report targeted arms?

Matt Cornell, Sargent of Arms: But yeah, you've touched on a lot of things, you know, that we've talked about there, we were talking too. I broke the report down in good, bad, some things that need to be repaired. Things that we recognize as being good, the three foot spacing in the room, guys, that is okay, we have a facility to do that. I think that's here to stay and people like that, that gave us the ability to move around. They were cooler, they were less ANC, they're all carrying bags and stuff. So that was something that we have a building that really worked well, it actually worked through the portal. So, it was it made it easier for us to teach you guys. So that really helped a lot. Three day event, Fast and Furious. You know, hopefully, we'll have to do it again. But it brought out couple good things in the event that we got bogged down in our meetings with force back out those tabletops. And those sales got more time than they ever had. And they weren't very happy. There was a hitch there wasn't supposed to be any fire trucks. And you know, so we had a few vendors that got upset that we were bringing in friends and told that Well, some of these other folks, they showed up with a minihouse. So, once they're here, we accommodated them, you know. So, that's what we do there. But I do think that there's more tension, you know, that worked out very well. Having a business meeting that exit, give me that visiting exit out in the vendors reception. Again, they got more time in network. And that goes back to John, you know, John, speak out, you know, having somebody staged everything. He's ready to load the trailer, he's texting me, he's calling me email me that what I do about this, you know, his communication with me is outstanding. And that helps us keep forgetting things over the years, how many mistakes that we made forgetting things, you know, what I thought was kind of interesting is on my list that I sent Josh Johnson, he'll make sure we have the pink box with the with the armor. What's that? What do we do with that? And I still didn't have a company has, you know, so I had the opportunity to explain the history of that box and what those are for residents. And I think this because we have staff that is just show has been here short term, we need to be able to share that history. Sharing the history will help them better understand what you know, why things are the way they are sometimes? Or why something that's right for them to support. Right. That's john, john, Charles, he's been a great asset, he's really come to work with us very well. One of the things he did this year and apparently he shared with me, he was told not to share with me, but he shared his tactical worksheets with us this year. He sent me the contracts and all the documents with the hotel as he told me this confidential that I think need to have it. And so I shared it with my number two person and that was it. But what by sharing those documents with us, we knew what the contract was looked at what the hotel was supposed to do. So if we have four piles of drawings, so we were able to easily make sure we were able to take care of setup problems without you know a really don't there was a problem We knew what the hotel was supposed to provide. So prevented us from asking for more. So really, we knew what was required the limited to that. And we didn't incur additional costs by thinking in reaching out. So that was great. So for lack of a better term contracts, tactical worksheets, fire services, go back to Tim, go back, check the worksheets with your staff, share them, you know, you play at the conference or something like that, and provide them Sergeant arms so that we can better support, you know, and I think that's the whole thing with the staff and the staff had some, you know, we don't ask for right. You know, but we have a thumb drive with everything on it, you know, and I think there is some that existing, we just we just continue with that pretty much everything good. A couple of things for improvement was the registration. And again, we hadn't really had conference, we didn't have abbreviated attentions, you know, and I think all of us kind of missed that. Yeah. But, so four computers, minimum, two printers minimum for registration, the extra help in the past has come from the ladies auxiliary, or TFA. Okay, for registration. So

big enough place for that, at least four computers, at least two printers, and a printer that prints more than one sheet at a time we have been in office, we've had it before, to the printer setup. And we can run up to 300 sheets at a time, which helps us with the validation to get that last minute long hammer or something like that. (Tim Rutland) Actually, before you go on one, one thing I did for one of those snippets I did find out was occurring. And it goes back to that that GZ program that we have, you know, registration was occurring online through that. And what was happening was, an individual would register with a couple of guests or others. When we when we got to it, only the individual was showing up for printing. So now I had to scramble here in that little corner back there and put those other two people in so that I could print cards for that they were not picked up by the system. So once again, another huge headache for (Matt) exactly, that's what we did is I just kind of stopped everything, let them catch up. And you know, it's all we can do. (Tim Rutland)I appreciate that (Matt) the recommendation for things to do is have one fantastic week, I needed passports advice, let's get to the on site testing if we can, accuracy, of accuracy, because some things back and forth. As far as times that will change or things happen. It's all fluid. Just make sure we make those announcements from there. On the stage. I think this whole thing, we got to hurry to get out because things ran long. And we forgot some of our announcements and everything. So just made up for communication. I guess from the communication side to how you guys feel about it. I know where I'm at, on my city website, my name is there, my email my cell phone numbers there for anybody and Jimmy Butler gave me a call. So if that's possible to the board, what do you guys feel about that to have your phone number, your email address or leave your picture on that website really helped. I think everybody is a member. If they felt they needed to reach out to Mr. Van Winkle. I know he doesn't want to know what he called me, but just something to think about privacy issues. But last, but it just threw us because we had that reception open and we had to recess so they could have got food the bar was and they came back in about and of course you guys busy. So I'm like I grabbed Dallas. I said Dallas want do I do, you know I said there's no rules. It's all in the room. But I'm also seeing the replay crowd and I'm thinking okay, so we're beer bottle. I kind of live worst case scenario. Something to think about the future if there's potential for a meeting to be ending or why are we heading out call? What is the protocol? Think about that. When I grabbed Alice's Dallas's bouncer, the bouncer here, I said they're already upset to me, the best thing to do is let it go. Because we start pushing them out again for is low cause more trouble. And so we decided to let it go and just kind of keep an eye on that. So, something about if there's any reason to edit the protocol. So, with that, that's the end of my report are few things that need to be repaired. Okay with john about that. Y'all got any questions for me or anything beyond that as Well, you guys do when you walked out? We had your backs. you. (Richard)Appreciate it, Matt. Thank you, Matt

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: Hey, Chuck, you have something on here about a fundraiser for convention well, I had an idea of some way that we can raise funds to help offset travel cost for volunteers coming to convention for training. And I mentioned that in the Austin meeting we've had and Ben enlighten me that Jack King had that idea a long time ago. So I expanded on that. And I put together a spreadsheet with potential people, we could ask for donations. I had a meeting with Tim Rutland, and we got together to put our heads together. And what we've come up with so far, is we can do as I started with Texas, corporations like HEB and Whataburger, whatever. I put those on the list than your big chemical companies. And then pipeline companies. And then non Texas corporations. I've got well over 200 companies listed we can solicit funds. With the under the premise that you know that the spoke this would go into the JC Swartley on we can pull out of that it would cover hotel cost and cover of meals at a straight rate. what are \$35 a day or whatever, 50.00. I don't know what that number is. It would cover mileage and federal rate from their home station to the convention site. When I met with Tim, he bought some very valuable things. to it, I put in there that we could set aside 10% of this. For administrative costs to help Austin staff and staff offset what time they were going to be

investing in it Tim's that he thought that there'd be a better run knew we formed a committee with the third vice president as chairman of this committee, somebody else finance somebody off of past presidents, and maybe one or two other people. And we develop an application for these limited to five members per department. And under our current set, those members would have to be delegates to the convention. It would be reviewed by that panel. And they would improve it if they approved it. After the conference is over, they'd submit their paperwork in the Austin office would take into the committee would review that review the notes could cut a check, you could email it to. (Richard) so, it'll be basically a reimbursement. Yes. Okay. Yes. Just like 2604 if you spend the money, you turn in your receipts if you get reimbursed. Tim, would you like to add anything to?

Director Rutland: Well, only to say that I What, what we're really talking about doing is developing a grant program, an internal grant program. And the last thing anybody would want to do is develop a program like that, and then attempt to implement it when you didn't have all of your guidelines established. What are the ground rules? What does get allowed? What doesn't get allowed? I think all of that needs to be thought through by a group of fun times. Before we attempt to start getting money from anybody, you know, I'm making it available. There second, we're looking for that. I don't believe I want that. Yeah, So that's my recommendation. You know, I know I know that Chuck is has done a lot of work already and is anxious to get this thing rolling. But I just would want to be very careful and we had all of the I's dotted and T's cross before we start.(Chuck) It has to be vetted and looked at and it wouldn't hurt to have legal look at it before. You know, we do something.

President Richard Van Winkle: I think it Our meeting in July, maybe I'd be ready to put together a committee to start that process. And once y'all get all the guidelines in place, (Chuck)you know, what I wanted time for today was to let y'all know what I was doing. And to make sure that I wasn't going off into left field on something that the board didn't want done.

Chaplain Ben Kennedy: Mr. President going back to Jack King and I probably have to buy drinks tonight for bringing Jack back up. But he was a great guy and had a lot of forethought. What Jack was really looking at that you've expanded on it. (Chuck) Yes. (Ben) But what jack was really looking at because we were looking at the tremendous cost, it was costing the association to put on this conference, Jack was looking at getting the conference paid for, assisting the vendors a little bit. And by doing all of that, we could lower the cost of tuition and registration for our members. And we can do that without any kind of grant as an estimate. I think you're, you're the financial guy. But can we do something like that and get started and then develop it and put it into some type of a grant program? I just something to think about? (Tim R.) Theres a question to be explored, you know, how, how we might want to go about doing any of this. Yeah, (Ben)Wish Jack was still here. And he could probably explain it far better than I just did.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: Something that was brought up. I was explaining this to my son last night, because I knew he wasn't going to be here. And, you know, I bounce a lot of stuff off him one day, he said, you know, if we could use a portion of this grant, to fund instructors, you know, get those two day classes in here, you don't pay an instructor to come in the news does these classes and provide a higher quality instruction of what we have been not that the stuff we're presenting is bad, but that's not what I'm saying at all, but provide something that draws more people. So that's something we could look at as part of this, possibly. But the whole intent of it was to get more butts in the seat.

President Richard Van Winkle: They did some of that happening in matter a few weeks ago, when we go to talk about paying instructors to draw more people in that two day class. Okay, then a good portion of those might be staying overnight would have been possible maybe if we could contact the whole city and see if they could use some of their hotel motel tax money to pay for those Instructors. Because I mean, they're dead money is strictly put here to bed. And that might be an avenue.

4th Vice President Billy Tidwell: Mr. President. I know I'm new and they'll know among a lot of things. How long has it been since anybody went to Texas for service to increase? On like the tuition reimbursement. One thing I was wondering if could happen is, is a lot of these classes that we teach. Okay, TEEX will pay for the class? Well, why don't we build the cost of the motel room into the class and do it that way. So if you could say insert, so instead of this class saying it's \$20 for this class, charge \$100 for the class, but your motel rooms included in it, but that way 2604 would pay for this (Tim) I think that is legislatively controlled, we open that door, there's a lot of freedom with the room, you know, I mean, every one thing they talked about, you know what the cost of it if you could give me an all inclusive for the class training and all (Tim) We talk to Bill Gardner one time expanding and opened up a little bit of everybody. (Chuck) That's, that' is one of the reasons I was looking at doing this in house grant. Because if we take and put this proposal together and get it vetted, and get it on board, you know, we're going to be asking companies to donate money for specific thing and it'll go fund and then it comes out of it from but they'll know from what it's for. And we can govern ourselves to do that. It won't be for the home office to say okay, well I'm running behind in this category. Here we are air conditioners broke, we need money, but we'll take some that money, It's not like that. (Richard)I like Chucks idea. (Chuck) All my thought process is on this. (Richard) I like to do where we're saving the individual. And I think we need the investigate it further.(Chuck)The days of 69.00 night hotels for the host hotels are over, We're never going to see him again.

President Richard Van Winkle: Well, I think like to do is I'll put together a committee of, say five to seven, and then have that done by the meeting in July at A&M. And then we'll let that group get to work on it and bring back to us what they think best to happened and have the guidelines and help set out. And I agree with Director Rutland to we get that done. We don't need to be soliciting funds. (Chuck)No, The program I laid out for him is that every year that will solicit those funds no later than October 1, because we send it out to these companies, and they're setting their donations for the following year and then only happens in the first quarter because they know better than the last quarter, because then they can award that money in the first quarter.

President Richard Van Winkle: Okay, I'll have a committee ready. Tackle that project in July (Chuck)Thank you. Now, next up, we need to discuss applying for another Safer Grant. I think they feel it would be better if we make a decision to file for one, instead of just letting them do it on their own. Is that what we're looking at?

Director Rutland: Yeah, great. Greg came to me yesterday during the day and said, you know, if it were possible, he said, as far as FEMA is concerned, it's always best that the governing body of an organization, begin that process by proving the idea, you know, we're not necessarily discussing right now, what we should be applying for or that that type of thing, but it would be a safer grant at some time. But he said it would be great if y'all would be willing to, to vote to allow me to begin pursuing that.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: I move we allow, the executive director presumably developing the safer grant for the next round of grants.

3rd Vice President Curtis Brown: I'll second that.

Have motion have seconded. More discussion? Question. All those in favor? Aye. Aye. All opposed, same sign. motion passed. You now have our permission, because you don't have anything to do Tim.

Director Rutland: Yeah, just from y'all too. There are a number of things anybody in the room, there are a number of things that we could consider. And I know Greg talked a little bit about that yesterday, we were talking about doing one for maybe PPE with that being allowed, or training or whatever. The travel hotel money to train is a game changer. It couldn't simply say I'm traveling, I'm taking money from person folks to any offer, or training, or even this conference. So that's a game changer. I had no idea of being allowed.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: that was the other portion of what I was putting together. We're going to serve our convention first but we could also use that money to send people to get him as tuition reimbursable it's you know, you can't get there just depends on how well it's received, received by industry and how much money we get in.

Chaplain Ben Kennedy: Before we move on Jack King one of the things Jack said don't go in asking them for \$2,000 go in and ask him for 20,000 or 30,000 He said ask for ask for money. Don't go in and ask for a token. And that was Jack because that's what the Funeral Association did. They went in and asked for money for what they were doing and flat slot machine that may have changed with all we've got going on now.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: Mr. President I apologize for regressing back. To that Something to put in Think Tank word the

Audience Comments

Terry Broome: That Texas Farm Bureau should be recognize as a sponsor that needs to be sure that they know we are appreciative for what they are doing for us.

Steven Loving: No, Sir.

Andy Dexter: So, I put myself on a table and asked to do another project for the association. Last year, Around this time, I pitched to the executive board the idea of expanding our Fire Chief Development Program, which I'm on the ad hoc committee with, with Mike Bill Gardner and I've developed a training officer development program, as well, I've already pitch through the certification board they've already approved. And I want to kind of figure out a way that we could run it very similar to what the Fire Chief Development Program is bringing people in for maybe two weekends, teach them how to be training officers, because there's not a curriculum really out there that truly tells them how to be a training officer, the leadership of owning the liability, how to construct these courses, and outside of structure, one instructor to how to manage entire departments, how to utilize our program, how to utilize other programs, what other resources they have, all that stuff has been built into this program. If you're interested in it, I'll be more than happy to have the full presentation for you for your next meeting

President Richard Van Winkle: Absolutely, we're definitely interested if there's something that can be included in that. So, for grant reporting.

Director Rutland: It's entirely possible, you know, people actually do get reimbursed through 2604 for the fire chief development program. So, my guess is we're saying there, even without the sacred grant, before looking at that, so sure.

Andy Dexter: we got a good program with Archie called the program, I think the new formats working pretty well sounds like I don't get, I get the chance to teach them the next few sessions. So excited about that. But I'd like to be able to bridge it because originally, when we first pitched the fire chief development program, we pitched it in three ways. We wanted to be able to have start off with the fire chief program. And we wanted to move into a company officer program. And then we were talking about something that was other specially in the training officer really is the big hole to be able to offer those types of programs.

4th Vice President Billy Tidwell: So, like going be like in the old certification. So, it's kind of like a department instructor, so to speak ?

Andy Dexter: Different, We're talking about somebody who can come into a department because how people get appointed to that certification coordinator. They said, Hey, you know, I 'm now Fire Chief can tell you, like when I was formulated for the first time, I had zero knowledge, zero understanding those building needs really be successful in that program. So, I feel like I'm decent training officer. But I think that we can do better. And we can offer that as a program that

we offer. I think that would make a lot of the headaches that Austin office has in the future.

Director Rutland: you're in a good place to do it. We certainly got a training room to do it. If the board Yeah, board likes the idea gives you the Go ahead. We can certainly schedule it I'm sure.

Matt Cornell: I've got a long term training officer and probably step down. And since I said that he wants to do biggest thing is they don't realize when they're getting into. They don't know why.

President Richard Van Winkle: Yeah, yeah, I find it definitely some would be interesting to interview on a presentation. course we can put that on our next meeting agenda. That's going add an inch. If we can get that wrong. Let me know what the time is think I've got the date down. Make sure I'm off. I appreciate your time might rush flexibility for you right here.

Mike Montgomery: Thankfully, options before the executive board, I just want to give a real quick brief the chief officer development program that this board approved about three, four years ago now we're this sort of third time's running after one last year. It's full, we've got a waiting list. And we're starting to see a change in the people that are returning it as the smaller departments that and we're seeing a lot of people with a lot of fire experience. That very limited chiefs experience is in no way is intended to replace a Fire Officer for 1,2,3 or 4 certification. but rather to build the practical knowledge of the chief officer, a volunteer, right combination department needs to be successful. We're using a model. This is an information model that's published by the Center for Public Safety excellence. And you'll see the what's called their FESEM model of innovation should never be given details. But I want to echo and build on what Mr. Dexter just said is this is an ad hoc committee is this kind of morphed into a steering committee. So, we take the input from Executive Board members, other individuals in the association to see if we can help improve our programming. And one of the things is what has come up this weekend is could we expand what we offer. And so, we got thinking about painting, not cheap, not cheap. But the one that Archie that second plan, third command, aspiring company officer trusted in the same situation and doesn't have the experience yet to do that is looking for that it's more of a technical advisory role. We could do that. The second membership of this chief development committee that we have now was Bill Gardner, and Dexter, myself, Schaeffer and Bret Hart out of Mount Bellevue. And if the board would like us to consider expanding our role into other professional development programs, and then make this morph into something as the executive board identifies opportunities for professional development, whether it be in training officers, preparing somebody for any leadership role within the organization, or a

project role in the organization, we just want to pitch that you guys are interested, either included in what we're doing as part of an expanded Professional Development Committee, or certain player board. I'll take any questions or comments, and I'll say, yes,

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: Mike, do you feel that the people that you help or have the time to develop that the people that audience committee, the short answer is yes to the chase development program as well on its way. And we feel very comfortable in the way that that curriculum is moved. In fact, I was approached by the Texas by a representative this way, I was approached unofficially by a representative of Texas Fire Chief's Association asking what we're doing, because they're in the middle of revamping their curriculum as well for their we've already decided to start using Academy it's just that this is the first step. But in future conferences, we're in the leadership track, that leadership track will be those topics that we want to go into more depth than we did not have time to cover that cover to definitely wanted to. So, the short answer is yes, in the beginning, and to add more to guidance and a steering committee, and then we would reach out to membership. For a task force or a workgroup type of approach, like Andy is coming up, I'm sorry, like any we just say, people that are that have a very, very good focus on training officer. And that's their interest in their passion. And so they can focus on that. And then somebody else says, I want to get into first time officer development, we can that separately, or in concert with that, then this would just like everything together in terms of from application to retirement. Here, here are some things that you could take out to help enhance your career and your personal precedent.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: So, this was a company officer training program.

Mike Montgomery: could be essentially any product or student any particular expertise, the board felt was important developed for the membership, then we could just roll wrap it up under this this concept of professional development, any of you

President Richard Van Winkle: It would actually end up being more than one classroom. Training after we're talking company officer, or Chief Executive Officer, they've done any number of things you could include insert could leave it this way frozen the procedure.

Andy Dexter: If we could build. And this is a program that that we've been working on for a little while, down in our neck of the woods. If we could build a training program that provides for the succession of the future leaders inside any age organization, then we have hit gold mine to make sure that there's always competent leadership for those roles. There's always got to be somebody who's going to be able to step into position above the position below that, at any point in time. The problem is the training classes that are out there and certification programs don't truly prepare everybody buys positions, nor does everybody have access to if we can find a way to build that gap that has an association.

Director Rutland: But I don't want to get into a long winded discussion here. But just a simple question. Why would you not want? You know, a lot of my focus, and I may have mentioned it a couple of times in the last few days, that we have so many credentials right now being offered by this association certifications being offered by the Association. Why would you not want this program to be able to address those and allow people to actually earn those credentials from doing exactly the Oh, well, he was saying that it wouldn't really or the chief thing or in parallel I'm not meant to replace that. It's meant to augment that I would, I would hope that someone who attended one of the series of things could ultimately at that point, earn credentials. So

Andy Dexter It has both parts one, partial to a little bit of fire ops are three, instructor one, instructor two and a little bit, instructor three doesn't complete those courses. But it has objectives that fill all those.

Director Rutland But my suggestion to y'all is you find ways, as much as possible, find ways to allow it to complete some of those tips, somebody will have earned it at that point, they could apply for certification, or we had a test they could take now take the test,

Mike Montgomery: And through a combination of local options, our conference, this program that leads you back toward where you're able to prepare you for that credential. Yeah. And then if you want to take that course, separately, you absolutely can. The idea being that these programs we're talking about developing are built on recognize the best practices that may not have made it into an NPFA standard. The course Yeah, or maybe go beyond what the standard is. So that now it's just making you more well rounded, better to prepare, even something that something as simple as, so you're going to ride the seat for the first time. For some of us, it wouldn't even need to necessarily be face to face be part of an online training library. This is developed by the Association for associations, again, another benefit of association.

Director Rutland I know that's a long discussion to have. But I just I hope you all will keep that in mind before doing that.

Mike Montgomery: The concept is building on the concept of leadership, all those of you walk in the door, I mean, you've already you've already established yourself as a community leader just by walking in the door, filling out an application and applying to be a volunteer firefighter. So, now how can we generate that we build an additional level of concept to where you feel more confident, more prepared, and better able to provide whatever your community's expectations are. And we got started out just looking in this room here. But she looked at that. I mean, I couldn't help but feel, even with a small conference on a small-accelerated conference like we had, we filled the room. And we add that we're stateful. And there was I saw more entries generated. It's the number of people that are contending for first time. And the fact that you guys took the opportunity to recognize them and reinforce that. There's some real talent out there. And I think we can make use of so circling back to what you said, Mr. President, we would start a refresher, we would start with a small group that we have in place, because we've been through similar challenges on that for that we want to take advantage of their fingerprints on it.

President Richard Van Winkle: And I think we'd definitely be interested in that. Yeah. So for the yellow guys, so when you're Mike presentation if the next meeting or whatever you already and we'll see if we can't get it rolling. Okay, so thank you very much appreciate his time this morning.

Board Comments

Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson: Well, Thank you for opportunity to serve you another year. I think Past President Smith pulled us all together, and everybody for what we had needed to have just enough to have just the 2 business sessions. Everything else would have been good to get us back on track. So, I'm just glad to be here. Appreciate to be part of it.

Chaplain Ben Kennedy: I told Tim this, and he understands where I'm coming from. This is not the way I wanted to. It's not the way any of us wanted to do. But by golly, we've put together and

it worked. We did what we had to do. We adapted we overcame, whether we liked which had to be done or not. And I'm proud of this group of men and the others, the staff that helped put it together. And next year, we might have some issues because it's the first time doing it. But you know, it's like I said, you take constructive criticism. You work on it. And if you can you fix it. If you can't, we just have to deal with it and explain it. But to be on this board, and I appreciate everybody that supported me support and everybody that voted me. I appreciate, as I told you all the other day in the meeting, those that did not vote for me and did not support me to be your chaplain, I just want them to come back to other meetings, I want to see rooms for I want to see people there, I want to see training done. Because if we don't, we are failing. And I don't think this group is built to fail. So again, I say thank you to everybody. I appreciate all the work that we have done, and look forward to another year of doing it.

4th Vice President Billy Tidwell: Thank you so much. As he said, for all this for me from a candidate side, it has been a crazy two or three years, you know, from y'all sandar in the move, and y'all have a lot of tough tasks we did as well. To me, this golf person with huge success, I mean, for the panhandle and the had the amount of people that we had short this the amount of first time people. I mean, yeah, there were some little hiccups here or there and way beyond my head on those as I'm getting my feet wet learning. But I heard nothing but good things about it. I mean, the Austin staff did stuff for some of us candidates, we didn't even think about or they were when we did reach out to them. I mean, it's I can't say enough of what y'all did. The way the conference started out, and I'm looking forward to working with y'all. And it was an amazing event.

3rd Vice President Curtis Brown: Good conference, I think I think we showed some good numbers, I mean, way above and beyond what any of us expected. And that, you know, I was expecting kind of a small conference out of and then ended up being pretty big. But other than that, the only thing I have is I did apologize. On behalf of the Board Glenn Pack. He was one of my firefighters that came later his brother's name called and it got skipped. skipped right over and enrolled. So, he was very, very upset about that. So, I apologize to him for that. And so, to **(Richard)** do we need to do something for him? No, no, no. I think I've got him calm down. So, his mother passed away, her funerals tomorrow. And it's all just really bad timing. He came down here to this first conference called and it died and get skipped right over. So just this moment is life.

2nd Vice President Donny Boggs: I want to commend you. Two years in president's chair is not an easy task. board. Well, I'll share those chairs next year. You know, I don't know about y'all. I took a lot of hiney tunes over the two years, about the way things weren't getting done. And they weren't aware of that, workings were going on. So, I commend you for what you did. President for those two years. It looks this conference, the options staff just phenomenal of putting this thing together and making it work. And I'm so proud of him. And unlock said I told him and I tell him I look at the amendments, where none of them passed. None of them got the two thirds that was required. But I didn't look at as a loss on the one that went through the executive board. When you look at how many people truly voted for that's indicated in orange, definitely indicative to me that they're wanting to see some chain, but they don't want to wholesale change. Basically, listen, I say we don't give up on our ideas. But we take our time to get the language right, because there was a lot of questions about the language in it and all that maybe the parliamentarian can be a part of that. And when it's right, we've submitted by the steering committee that put it together, maybe not put the executive board name on. So, these are just some of my ideas to look at. So again, I'm so proud to be on this board and I'm going to continue to work as far as I can for the Volunteer Fire Service. I know the legislative year was a tough year. We got I think the best lobbyist you could ever want to work for no weapon or discussion with him about you know the next session about some of the bills that didn't make it you know,

maybe how we try to go about resubmitting them and getting them in and getting support for that like we got strong board was strong leader.

And on the phone call away. And again, Tim thank you for two years and what you've had to do.

1st Vice President Chuck Richardson: It seemed like I've been on Time Warp since I was sitting in the chair, Where he is, I've turned the corner, and it's seems like it speeding up, I don't like it speed up too much. We do have a great bunch of people here we got low potential to make some changes that are good for the organization. So Montgomery to group by here, we got some great ideas. I think we're heading over. And I think we need to keep heading forward. And if we take our keep our wits about us, which are proved on Friday that I'm not good air. But if we keep our wits about us and keep our head down, we can take and succeed and what we need to do. We definitely look at the Constitution, we need to appeal we need to pursue this grant program. And I don't see any downside to it. So we work as a team. I think we can accomplish a lot. Thank you.

Mascot Hannah Brown: Oh, nice to meet y'all. Y'all probably don't know me but I'm your new Mascot. Having fun. I love it. Glad I got to see my friend. And I'm glad this happened. Yeah, I can't wait to annoy y'all for a year and bank money. So just remember every time you see this hydrant it will be ten dollars. Good to know. It's okay. Thanks. y'all.

I.P.P. Tim Smith: Well, yeah. I think the conference was a huge success. It really was we got together really good. With the help of your staff, Mr. Rutland This was simply amazing. And that's it before. And do have some kind of deep concerns that we've set a precedent and letting the membership dictate how we're going to run meetings and how we're going to make changes to agendas. And now we're going to make changes to balance. I think we have or made a terrible precedent is probably I don't have a problem with that, going to McAllen, just as I told all of them, I didn't like or appreciate the feeding frenzy that happened in that meeting, it made us unprofessional .Sorry, two years was hard. But if y'all made it easy, because you're always there, Richard, all of you answer my questions and figure it because I guess it's first time we ever done a lot of these things. Think truly the reason? And do we know how many total registrations we have? I've heard it's above one. It was above 400. The last number I heard but again, it was it was happening nonstop though the day. So but yeah, it could very well surpass 400. And I do agree with a lot of folks. And I do hope they come back. I believe that we've gotten some folks involved that didn't know what we were about. I know I got approached by Ransom Canyon by staff and they wanted to find Greg Written because they want to get in. And they only got about 10 members, but they weren't all up here. And they want to be involved really big reason we had all those attendees is because Tidwell, Curtis Brown and Me So, we got on the damn phones and we got on the emails when we called when could you hear momentous conferences says it's abbreviated. It's short. And he had some important things about him. And we got out here. So I mean, I think it takes work from the, from the local areas to get those folks here. Obviously, you're always going have more to learn when you do have it in your hometown. But I think the benefit to that was regardless of the past any amendments, then that was we got to the point that's going be a game changer. Panhandle is strong, really strong. And come to one of our conventions you we see are convinced and you'll see when we get there. We still feed about 150we don't have good door prizes Permian Basin. We're working. So again, thank you all so much. I'm not going anywhere. And I will help on anything that need to help one. It's been an honor, sir, because that's good, because you're not done.

Assistant Mike Richter: I just like to say I'm glad to be on this board. My first time first year. I've already told him, I'm still going learn what all I need to do. But all I don't need to do so bear with me on that. Tell me where I can help you. I'll be willing to help anybody. I can do anything they need me to do. I'm here to work with you. I'm here to work for the membership of this

association. I think we, hopefully are on the right track moving this move forward. And I hope to keep doing that. Again, I just appreciate you being here. As far as the conference was lovely for the way it went for three days. Short me like it was it, it worked out nice. And I was really surprised for the amount of attendees we had for inspections, especially delegate wise. That was nice to see. So again, I think overall it was a success.

Secretary Brent Allen: It was a great success, I though texcept for the little mayham at one time, but other day I was, I was amazed to how many people were here. And they were actually in the building, listening and paying attention. Usually you don't have to have a lot of people look around food around and all that stuff. Pretty much everybody seemed to be loyal, focused on what the problems were the things that we were doing. The things that Sergeant arms did, your staff, they all did a great job of keeping everybody in place. And I was impressed with the amount of people that were in there and there venders seemed to be happy. And that's everything that we really, really wanted to see happen to me, we didn't want to just be this. enabled, had a lot of fun, too. So, lots of people talking to each other being happy. And that's that so that we haven't had a couple of years. So it was really good thing. Other than that, I do say thank you all for enjoining time here. And so it's a great, I felt like.

Director Tim Rutland: Okay, there were a couple of times this during the conference, I had, I had folks come up to me and we were visiting about yesterday, for instance, after the presentation, and that Durell did visiting, and they were these folks were excited about what they were seeing. But in those conversations, and I heard it at least twice. While I was here, that we never hear anything, they'll never communicate you were never hearing from me, all that sort of thing. And I understand that there are things in the website people get to, nonetheless, that perception is there, it's still there. And I and I committed to them, and I'll meet anybody who asked me if I had time, I'm going to go visit with districts and other groups anytime I get inside and I'm going and I would ask you all as much as you can to really be in the in the process of reaching out on a regular basis so that these departments out there don't feel like they're just part of an association. They don't even know why. You know, that bothers me. When I'm hearing that kind of stuff. Do we really know why we're doing whatever we're hearing and what we're good at, you know, that sort of thing. And, and, and my thanks again, the sergeant of arms committee, I do want to say that I, I finally saw it this obviously this is my first conference that I've been able to do it from this and I'm going guess several times. I have never appreciated more what you guys do. So appreciate. So Thanks.

President Richard Van Winkle: Yeah, no Sergeant at Arms. I guess. That's a big group. Many years ago, I was on Sargent of Arms, it took me two years to get off of it. The you got to do an amazing job. And we do appreciate you. We may not tell you enough. You said there was a lot of people here from the panhandle. They're supposed to be. That's why several years ago, we went to this five area rotation, because those people don't want to have to go from the north pole to the South Pole. And there should have been more people from the panhandle here. Good, bad, indifferent. More people you get better news. I don't care what the rates are. I do think this time, there was a lot of participation from the membership that we haven't seen in the past. I've always said nothing to you, not a group of people, a common enemy. And I'm playing for some moments during this. This commit to we were the common enemy. So regardless, we got to participation out of happening. Overall, this was a very successful convention. Tim, if I were you I would be proud to have been president if there were some glitches here. There's going to be, but when you throw something together, and I hate you that term thrown together, but within a short amount of time we do it. And y'all pull it off It couldn't have been much better. This coming year, I'm hoping that we're not too often the common enemy. I hope things settle down. And hope everybody got their feelings expressed and can put them up. And we can get back to business. Here strictly for one reason to serve the firefighters of Texas. I believe anything you do

if it ends up being good for the volunteers, sooner or later, you'll end up being good for the career guys. And I hate to we have a divided fire service in Texas like we do. A lot of you got unions, you got to have a strong union man when I used to work for it. So understand how that goes. I'm not the sharpest knife in the drawer. I'm will be needing lots to help. I'm not ashamed to ask for it. Appreciate when I called and asked you for something. If you don't want to do it, just tell me. You're not going hurt me. Don't tell me I'll do it. And then nobody, just tell me right straight out. You know, I don't have time. I don't care to do that whatever. One big change we will see this year over the past couple of years. We're going back to the maroon jackets. a traditionalist one, it's not holding you back the maroon jacket, and I don't believe a maroon jacket will not hold you back. So, if you have a funeral or something to go to the maroon jacket, dark pants. Other than that, all I can tell you that I'm glad to be able to work with you guys. Like I say neglect here. I'm not smart, but I am stubborn. So if we have a difference of opinion, it might take us a while to work it out we get eventually get there. And I've grown up enough that I can agree to disagree. So anytime I do anything, let me know. Tim, you've been a great mentor. I've enjoyed our conversation. And not always been pleasant. But they were always ended when we said goodbye. And I look forward to continue to work with you in future. You've got I believe the best that we've ever had. I believe we've got the best record we've ever had. So, I expect big things from y'all. Keep plugging away and do their job. And that is all I got!

3rd Vice President Donny Boggs: bring this up real quick. I know when we go to Beaumont. We're going have to be looking at looking for hope city for 24 to 25. Possibly three years in advance, then you've got to stay in like the rotation, as it is. Yes, we are like the five different location that we want to target. I would say because you know, it was 23. Which McAllen had won That would have been central. But Mac Allen got it. So but then we'll start with central fall. So, 24 will be central. You've got an account. Okay, we'll jump forward. Now it's only four will go. Work for You getting out of work. Okay. 25 will go back to Northeast Right. Exactly. And what were you guys? All I just know, we got to think about that. Yeah. I like it because we have to always have some contingencies because this is five rotation thing. Oh, to get the best of always possibility that can get out of sync. And you can't, you can't put it back in sync for a while. takes a few years before getting back and think.

President Richard Van Winkle: Well, hopefully, we won't have any reasons to cancel any more conventions. The next meeting will be July 23, 2021 at Brayton Training Field 9:00 a.m. the length of that meeting will be determine on how appointments you get back. Bring your own district.

The next scheduled meeting is July 23, 2021

There being no more agenda items

A motion to adjourn was by _____ seconded by _____
the motion passed with 9 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

President Richardson ended the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Brent Allen
SFFMA Secretary
07/03/2019