

Louisiana State Firemen's Association

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2023

Winnsboro, La.

2nd Vice President William Parker called meeting to order at 1:15 PM. Wes Anders opened with a prayer. Chris Boudreaux led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dwayne Thevis called roll. Members not present were, Father John Talamo and Bob White. Guest in attendance were Fire Chief Harold Allen with Tallulah Fire Dept., Doc Johnson, Danny Mayet and Nick Palmer. Mike Labruzzo made motion to accept the Secretary's report has emailed prior to the meeting. Second by Chris Mickal, motion carried. Sonny Coffey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report has emailed prior the to meeting. Second by Mark Treadway, motion carried.

Reports of Special Interest:

Thomas Stone reported on the progress of FETA. He stated that new dorms are expected to be completed in July of 2023, replace an old 1,989 sq. ft. building with a 10,000 sq. ft. building. They are designing a slate of 40-hour classes. The new registration system is expected to online by February 4, 2023. FETA Commission Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM and encouraged all board members to attend. Certifications are running approximately 10 days behind schedule. The next mini school is being planned for late April in Baton Rouge, La. at the campus. Mark Treadway expressed gratitude for bringing the mini school to north Louisiana. Kenn Fontenot reported on developing a Firefighter 1 program for high school students at that it will be piloted in conjunction with Livingston Fire District # 4. Kenn's NVFC report he stated the he had been working the Task Force Development to standardize Medical, FF 1 & 2, Haz Mat Ops and Awareness Guidelines for the NVFC. He also reported that the IAFF was looking into the back and away from DHH and suggested that we support that effort. He also spoke on the national implementation NIFRS Priority 1 System. Butch Browning reported on behalf of the Governmental and Public Affairs Committee that he spoke with Speaker of the House Clay Schexanyder in reference to the \$1000.00 tax credit proposed by Representative Mike Johnson and he will support this bill. We are still trying to find dates for the Legislative Breakfast. Mike Labruzzo made a motion for Butch to secure dates and line up the breakfast. Second by Chris Mickal, motion carried. Butch also reported that the AFG Grant has not yet been funded for 2023 and encouraged all board members to reach to the senators. Mark Treadway presented OSFM Dan Wallis's report

- In 2022, the State Fire Marshal's Office saw a change in leadership when Chief Dan Wallis was named Fire Marshal following Chief Butch Browning's retirement.
- The agency continued to thrive in its primary services to the people of Louisiana including Plan Review, Life Safety Inspections and Fire Investigations.
 - The SFM completed more than 19,000 plan reviews; that's 2,000 more than in 2021
 - The enforcement division conducted more than 34,000 inspections
 - Deputies conducted around 700 fire investigations
 - Unfortunately, more than 80 of those investigations involved losses of life. We continue to prioritize our efforts to conduct fire prevention education and programs across our state including our smoke alarm installation program, Operation Save-A-Life. We appreciate all of your partnerships in these efforts to keep your communities safe from fire dangers.
- The SFM's Emergency Services personnel finally got a break from a hurricane season that targeted our state, but they, along with partner Incident Management Team members from local fire departments, were called to assist a fire district in Fort Myers Beach, Florida following Hurricane Ian. Our emergency services personnel also responded to several severe weather disasters throughout the year in an effort to help affected communities assess their damages quickly in order to kickstart their recoveries.
- In the new year, we look forward to some improved and expanded services and partnerships.
 - We will be developing a Community Risk Reduction program and staff that will be directly helping your departments and districts identify the biggest fire threats in your communities then work with you to educate your communities about those threats in the hopes of eliminating them.
 - We will be offering more training topics and opportunities for you and your members, both in-person and virtually
 - We're improving our Public Safety Information Management System based on your feedback and we hope to grow participation with the system to help us all protect our communities better with consistency
- And we're doing a little self-reflection to make sure our own processes and operations are accountable, consistent, and offering the best service to the people of Louisiana, which includes you, our partners in safety.
- As always, we welcome feedback and ideas to serve all of our communities better together at all times throughout each year.
- We thank you again for your service to your communities and your support of our efforts to do the same statewide.

Officers Report:

1st Vice President Tim Crockett

No Report Filed

2nd Vice President

No Report Filed

1st District Thomas Stone
No Report Filed

2nd District Report Chris Mickal
No Report Filed

4th District Report Gray Young
No Report Filed

5th District Mark Treadway
No Report Filed

6th District Whitney Crockett
No Report Filed

7th District Sonny Coffey
No Report Filed

8th District Wes Anders
No Report Filed

Old Business:

2023 Conference Dwayne Thevis reported that things were coming to together very well and thanked everyone for stepping up helping organize the event. All classes have been scheduled and Desiree Pfister was working on the Ladies Program. 2024 Conference Tim Crockett reported that things were moving along and that contacts had been signed with the Crown Plaza. He stated that his conference was going to differnet. 2025 Conference William Parker reported he signed contract with the Hilton Downtown. 2026 Conference Mark Treadway reported that he was in talks with Alexander and Pineville, La. Tim Crockett stated that a letter had been sent to the Board OF Commissions to reappoint Brian Lindberg to the FETA Commission.

New Business:

The following fire departments applied for membership to the LSFA; Winnsboro Fire Dept., Afton VFD, Lake Providence VFD, and Delhi Fire Dept. Sonny Coffey made a motion to approve the afore mentioned fire departments membership. Second by Mike Labruzzo, motion carried. Dwayne discussed the option of the LSFA having an AMBA Sponsor Member. This member would travel to events with AMBA and promote AMBA. Sonny Coffey motion that Dwayne Thevis should be that member and the LSFA allow him to travel with AMBA has long has no cost occurred to the LSFA. Thomas Stone seconded the motion, motion carried. Congressional Fire Service Institute will be held on May 22 & 23, 2023. We usually send a delegation to Washington, D.C. to take part in the event. Motion was made by Thomas Stone to send a delegation to Washington, D.C. Second by Jarrod Naquin. Executive Board members that were assigned to attend are Sonny Coffey, William Parker, Tim and Whitney Crockett and Wes Anders. Jarrod reported that minutes of the board meetings have not been posted to the LSFA Website lately. Dwayne agreed to look into matter and get the minutes posted. Discuss on the signature of membership cards and other documents that are signed by the president should be signed by whom? After brief discussion it was decided that Tim Crockett should sign all documents, as he was the 1st Vice President. Dwayne Thevis discussed the opportunity for the LSFA to be a sponsor for the upcoming Recruitment and Retention Officer Class, July 15 & 16, 2023 in St. Martin Parish. The LSFA would handle registration for the event and that would be the LSFA's commit to sponsor. Mike Labruzzo made a motion for the LSFA to sponsor the event. Second by Sonny Coffey. Motion carried. Discussion was held about adding an EMS Division to the LSFA. The Bureau of EMS contacted the LSFA wanting to become members for the benefits that the LSFA offers to the membership. It was decided that Tim Crockett and Dwayne Thevis would attend the next Bureau of EMS meeting and discuss what the Bureau intentions are and what the LSFA has to offer them. Discussion on having a 30-day gun raffle to raise funds for the 118th Conference. Sonny Coffey made a motion to move forward with the raffle. Second by Thomas Stone. Motion carried.

Good of the Order:

Fire Chief Harold Allen, Tallulah Fire Department, announced that he would be seeking the 5th District Representative seat when Mark Treadway moves up to 2nd Vice President this year. Wes Anders complimented FETA on putting on great mini school in Winnsboro, LA. Ken Fontenot said that he spoke with V.J. Bella the past week and health was declined and he had been in the hospital.

Announcements:

The next Mini School is planned for the end of April at FETA Campus.

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2023 at Harvey Volunteer Fire Company No. 2, Station 61.

Wes Anders closed the meeting with a prayer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Chris Mickal at 2:47 P.M.