



Louisiana State Firemen's Association

August 13th, 2017 at 1730 hours

LSFA 07/19/2017 Board Meeting and District Reports

Louisiana State Firemen's Association Board Meeting

Houma, La.

July 19, 2017

President Chris Boudreaux called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm. Kenny Hunts with West Baton Rouge Fire Protection District #1 led an opening prayer. Brent Cortez, Opelousas Fire Department, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Dwayne Thevis called Roll Call.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Excused
President Chris Boudreaux	X		
1 st V. P. Charlie Metcalf	X		
2 nd V. P. Charles Hudson	X		
Immediate Past Pres. Richard Parker, Jr.	X		
Secretary Dwayne Thevis	X		
Treasurer Mike Labruzzo	X		
1 st District Representative Melvin Kiff	X		
2 nd District Representative William Parker	X		
3 rd District Representative Danny Mayet	X		
4 th District Representative Brian Lindberg	X		
5 th District Representative Joe Thompson	X		
6 th District Representative Tim Crockett	X		
7 th District Representative Brian Castille	X		
8 th District Representative Bob White	X		
Sergeant of Arms Bruce Brewer	X		
N.V.F.C. Chairman Kenn Fontenot	X		
Parliamentarian Donald Bock	X		
Chaplain Father John Talamo			X
Counselor Roy Cascio	X		
Government and Public Affairs Chairman Butch Browning		X	

Reasons for excused absence:

Guests in attendance were Dan Wallis, OSFM; Melvin Wheat, Denham Springs Fire Department; Dave Casey and Wayne Cruse, LSU-FETI; Wayne Hill, Galvez Lake VFD; Eric Benoit, Lockport VFD; Jimmy Holland, Haughton FD; Donald Milligan, Mansura VFD; Kenny Hunts, West Baton Rouge FPD #1; Brant Thompson, OSFM; John Saucier and Brent Cortez, Opelousas FD; Gerald Delucky, Secretary Emeritus.

A brief summary of benefits was given by Melanie with Condance.

Secretary Dwayne Thevis had previously emailed minutes of the April Meeting to all board members and appointed officers. A motion was made by Bob White to approve minutes as emailed; Second by Joe Thompson. Motion carried.

Treasurer Michael Labruzzo had previously emailed the treasurer's report to all board members and appointed officers. A motion was made by Danny Mayet to approve report as emailed; Second by Charles Hudson. Motion carried.

Yearbook coordinator, Michael Labruzzo, reported it is time to start working on the annual yearbook for the coming year. Letters have been sent out to previous sponsors. He also stated that he had been questioned by some of the wives of deceased past presidents about acquiring yearbooks. Motion made by Richard Parker to send yearbooks to the spouse of any deceased past president if requested free of charge; Second by Joe Thompson. Motion carried.

President Chris Boudreaux read a "Thank You" card from Lafourche Fire District #3 for the support given by LSFA for the funeral of Freddie Guidry.

Reports of Special Interest:

Dan Wallis and Brant Thompson with the OSFM reported on several issues the State Fire Marshall is currently working on. This included the new information center for data collection; phase 2 of the fire prevention bureau across the state having access to the latest data, phase 3 being giving access of current data to the fire service later this year. He also reported that Louisiana is among those states with the lowest death rate in commercial buildings but remains ranked #8 in residential deaths. He urged fire departments to put public education in the forefront of services provided. Operation Save a Life has distributed over 35,000 smoke alarms across the state with 12 confirmed saves. In the spring of 2018, Louisiana will host its first fire summit. He also spoke on the firefighter insurance program and encouraged all fire departments to sign up their members. He also

discussed the Heart and Lung Act which was passed through legislation earlier this year. The OSFM will soon be assisting the Department of EMS in a leadership role. They are currently in the process of hiring personnel to assist in the transition.

Boyd Petty with Louisiana Fallen Firefighters Memorial reported that the 12th annual memorial service was a great success with the unveiling of the "Dispatchers Memorial". This new memorial will be used to start all memorial services from this year forward. The water feature is currently in the process of revision. He also reported that Rhonda Varnado of Washington Parish Fire District #2 was the 117th name and the first female firefighter to be added to the memorial wall. This weekend, they will presenting plans for the new 9-11 memorial building which will house the Spirit of Louisiana. He thanked Gerald and Teresa Dellucky for their hard work and dedication in raising money for the Spirit of Louisiana when it was purchased and for taking on the task of raising money for the new 9-11 memorial.

Kenny Hunts reported that the Louisiana Fire Service Honor Guard has been very busy over the last few months. He encouraged the fire service to become more involved.

LSU-FETI director, Dave Casey, reported 100% turnover in the office of certification; Christine is back in her old position. Interviews will take place for an assistant director on July 23rd. There are currently three candidates for the position: Dwayne Hanson, Doc Johnson and James Wolford. A new region 4 has been added which divides the region overseen by Wayne Cruse. James Wells is the new coordinator for region 4. A new Tier 4 certification is in the works and will be available soon. LITCO training will soon be offered as well.

Officers Report:

President Chris Boudreaux reported that there are 63 vendor booths and encouraged everyone to visit them.

Officer's reports were submitted via email and will be available for viewing on the LSFA app or website.

Old Business:

President Chris Boudreaux wished everyone a good time at conference and hopes everyone enjoys it.

Constitution and bylaw changes; the board decided not to take a stand on this action.

Robbie Smith has never replied to the request sent for information regarding allegations he made and is now considered closed.

Competitive Drills next year will be held in conjunction with the LSU-FETI Trade Show at 10:00 AM on the Saturday of the show. Dates to be announced.

A motion was made by Danny Mayet for the association to pay the fee of \$700.00 plus the recurring annual fee of \$500.00 for the LSFA app; Second by Richard Parker. The motion was then withdrawn after a brief discussion. A new motion was made by Danny Mayet for the association to pay the fee of \$500.00 and the recurring annual fee of \$500.00 and for the 112th conference to pay the \$200.00 remaining balance for the setup of the app for this conference; Second by Richard Parker. Motion carried.

New Business:

2018 Conference: Charlie Metcalf reported that the dates on the back of the Conference Program are wrong and the correct Conference dates are July 19-21, 2018. Registration fees for conference will be increased to \$175.00 for members and remain \$100.00 for guests.

2019 Conference: Charles Hudson reported that his conference will be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside on August 8-10, 2019. He will present this at the general membership meeting for approval.

2020 Conference: Joe Thompson reported that he will host his conference at the Ike Hamilton Convention Center in West Monroe on July 23-25, 2020. He will present this at the general membership meeting for approval.

An issue was addressed regarding St. George Fire Department having “Active Member” status without an “Active” department status due to nonpayment of department dues. Tom Cassisa reported that the Chief refused to pay department dues and every member pays their own dues. Following discussion, the board decided that St. George Fire Department must pay dues for the department in order for the members to be considered “Active” in LSFA.

New departments considered for membership were Natchitoches Fire District #6; City of Natchitoches Fire Department; Acadia Parish Fire District #5; West Terrebonne Volunteer Fire and Rescue; Rural Metro-Citco, Sulphur and West Baton Rouge Fire District #1. Motion was made by William Parker to accept these new members; Second by Tim Crockett. Motion carried.

Kenn Fontenot, Chairman of NVFC explained the details of AFG Grant funding changes presented by the National Fire Marshall's Association. A long discussion ensued and the decision was made to table the issue and present it at the General Membership meeting.

Michael Labruzzo reported that the bank where LSFA had its accounts failed but was insured by FDIC and all funds were recovered. He opened a new account at First Bank in Gretna. Charles Hudson has been temporarily appointed due to his proximity to the bank to be the second signature on the account until Secretary Dwayne Thevis is available to go to Gretna to provide his signature. There was a motion made by Michael Labruzzo for Charles Hudson to temporarily sign on the account until Secretary Dwayne Thevis is able provide his signature for the account; Second by Dwayne Thevis. Motion carried.

Charlie Metcalf reported that a department requesting the free uniforms needed them shipped and he paid the shipping. He sought clarification of the proper procedure for this event if it occurs in the future. The board decided that the department making the request for free uniforms must pay for any shipping costs.

A CISM training class will be held August 17-19, 2017 in Baton Rouge at the Sheriff's Complex. Kenny Hunts stated that lunch will be provided each day. He requested that the LSFA assist with sponsoring the training. Motion made by William Parker to donate \$1000.00 to sponsor the training; Second by Tim Crockett. Motion carried.

Announcements:

The next board meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on September 16, 2017 at the Hilton Shreveport.

Closing prayer was given by Brian Lindburg.

Michael Labruzzo made a motion to adjourn.

Board Member Reports for July 2017 Board Meeting:

Immediate Past President:

No report at this time.

President:

No report at this time.

1st Vice President:

No report at this time.

2nd Vice President:

President Boudreaux and Board Members,

Since our last meeting I have actively been working on the 2019 LSFA conference materials. I've reached out to ask several questions of Past Presidents in order to better prepare myself and my department with the planning process.

I would like to congratulate 1st Vice President Charlie Metcalf on a successful competitive drills competition; along with recognizing the St John Parish Fire Department for successful defending their drills championship for a 4th year in a row. We are very proud of them representing, so well, from the 2nd District.

Since leaving the competitive drills, I have initiated conversations with LSU FETI Directors Casey and Donahue to discuss the possibility of hosting the 2018 competitive drills during the LSU Fire Expo show in January. This remains a work in progress. I hope to have further info by our meeting at the conference.

Respectively Submitted,
Charles M. Hudson
LSFA 2nd Vice President

Secretary:

No report at this time.

1st District:

Since the last Board meeting I have been forwarding email information received to 1st District departments. I have had discussions with various departments concerning the upcoming 2017 Annual Conference. I have mailed out Life Memberships to departments who wanted them mailed to them. I have also made Life Membership presentations. I attended the visitation for the Washington Parish fire fighter Line of Duty Death.

Melvin P. Kiff

2nd District:

Board,

Since our last Board Meeting, I have had the pleasure of attending the first annual St. Charles Firefighter Family Day and Competition. It was a great event and all the firefighters and family members looked as if they were enjoying themselves. I also attended a St Charles Firefighter Association Meeting, talking about the upcoming conference and steadily recruiting a new department and assisting another department that has been inactive for several years now. I have been helping Dwayne straighten out a few problems with membership and dues in the 2nd district. I have also been steadily helping Dwayne and Chris with the online registration and banquet seating. I have been making contact and visiting the departments of the 2nd district. I'm excited to continue serving as I start my first year of 2nd district rep.

Thank you all,

William Parker

2nd District Representative

3rd District:

As District 3 Rep. I have been assisting President Chris Boudreaux with the upcoming convention as food fest chairman. I have been confirming departments and vendors to what foods will be provided.

I have assisted several departments with registration information for the convention. I have attended several funerals representing the LSFA. I have attended several department and chiefs meetings.

After meeting with West Terrebonne FD, Terrebonne Fire District No. 8. I was successful in getting them to join the LSFA. They will also send three members to the convention
Looking forward to the convention.

Daniel A. Mayet

LSFA District 3 Representative

P.O. Box 528

Raceland, La. 70394

985-637-2166

dmayetlsfa3@gmail.com

4th District:

Since our last meeting I have visited with multiple departments in my district. I have worked with multiple departments on updating their information, getting them setup for the conference and bringing new or non active departments back into the association. I have made multiple training evolutions, met with Fire Chiefs etc... I have tried forwarding as much information as I can to my district members and asking them for their input on upcoming business matters pertaining to potential changes within our association.

5th District:

Mr. President Boudreaux, Executive Board, and LSFA Members,

I submit my annual 5th district rep.report for the period of 2016-2017.

I attended all board meetings called by Pres. Boudreaux. I also attended the Jason Simon memorial firefighter completion that was held at DesSoto Fire Dist. 9.in April.

Through the year I have attended the Northeast Firemans Association every month. . I also have gave out Life time achievement awards to several members.

I would like to congratulate President Boudreaux and his host department on the 2017 conference.

I look forward to serving on the LSFA Executive Board as 2nd Vice President tor this up coming year.

Respectfully Yours,

Joe Thompson

5th Dist. Rep

6th District:

No report at this time

7th District:

Since our last meeting I have visited several departments in my district, attended several Parish Chiefs Meetings and awarded members there Lifetime Membership Certificates. Worked with multiple departments on getting dues paid and registering for conference. I have attended several Department Fundraisers and Cook-Offs. I have forwarded all information that I receive to my district members to which I have e-mail addresses for.

Brian Castille

LSFA 7th District Representative

8th District:

Since our last Board meeting in May, I have been contacting as many Fire Departments as I can, to talk to them about renewing their membership to the LSFA or to join if they were not members. I have been going to meetings and Providing them with material about the benefits available to members.

I have been forwarding E-Mails I receive about Legislative business that affect the Fire service and any other special Events.

I have attended Several Fire Chief Association, Parish Association, and Fire Department Meetings in my District and presented several Life Membership Awards, and mailed several Life Membership Awards to other Departments.

I received calls from some Departments about membership cards or paperwork they lost or the secretary misplaced, with the help of Secretary Thevis their Questions or problems were resolved quickly.

I received a few calls about registration and Hotel arraignments, with the help of President Boudreaux and Representative Parker these issues were taken care of.

Robert (Bob) White

LSFA District 8 Representative