

Minutes from TIESB Meeting
9:00 AM, Thursday, January 23rd, 2014
TEEX-ESTI
Brayton Fire Field, H. D. Smith Bldg., Room 200
College Station, Texas

I. Call to Order

Chairman Deel called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

II. Roll Call

12 Members present: Rick Deel; Keith Russell; Terry Boyett; Todd Johnson; Corky McCool; Chuck Richardson; Gerald Sherman; Paul Hanneman; J. D. Lowe; Michael Barley; Jeff Hoffstadt; Kent Delaney; Robert Moore;

6 Members absent: Brett Steed; Rodney Kovalcik; James Purcell; David Cave; Lee Ray Kaderli; Steve Pollock
SFFMA Staff present: Kevin Creamer, Industrial Coordinator

Guests: David Wade – Executive Board Liaison; Gordon Lohmeyer – TEEX

III. Committee Members Review YTS Reports

The committees began reviewing the **13** submitted reports prior to the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2013.

On motion by Robert Moore and seconded by Paul Hanneman, the minutes were approved.

V. Action Items

A. February '10 Meeting Status

1. Verify with Trey Blocker if it would be better to insert in the Vehicle Criteria document to reference DSHS criteria with appropriate TIESB exceptions as warranted or leave alone. (Chuck Richardson – EMS Committee) **In Progress**

Kevin Creamer mentioned that Mr. Richardson had asked him to verify if Chris Barron had heard anything from Mr. Blocker. Mr. Barron has Mr. Blocker checking on the status but no update at this time.

B. October '10 Meeting status

1. Set up meeting with TEEX to discuss development of industrial class for municipal firefighters (Paul Hannemann) **In Progress**

Robert Moore stated that TEEX has developed the curriculum for the course, but is in the final stages of review. The course is scheduled to be piloted in the first week of March and is targeted toward an “all hazards” set up.

C. April '13 Meeting status

1. Draft letter to send to new members upon appointment (Robert Moore) **OPEN**
2. Update YTS letter to better explain need regarding ESD ad valorem tax exemption (Kevin Creamer) **OPEN**
3. Review vehicle registration signage & pin-striping requirements (Gerald Sherman) **In Progress**

Mr. Sherman reported that no changes were necessary to change the wording to “state minimum standards” rather than stating a detailed description. The board could change the wording, but it would have no other effect.

Mr. Sherman stated he would provide updated wording for the next meeting.

D. June '13 Meeting status

1. Review 2012 YTS reports to determine how many are NIMS compliant (Kevin Creamer) **OPEN**
2. Create a position paper on certification standards (Lee Ray Kaderli) **OPEN**

E. October '13 Meeting status

1. Digital Review of YTS reports (Kevin Creamer) **CLOSED**
2. E-mail out the legislation information to the Board (Kevin Creamer) **CLOSED**

E. January '14 Meeting status

1. Review payment wording on invoices (Kevin Creamer)
2. Add wording to invoice regarding vehicles (Kevin Creamer)
3. Verify Valero refineries are listed in the correct areas (Kevin Creamer)

VI. Communications

A. Committee Reports

1-4. Area Committees

- a. Area 1 – Area Chair Brett Steed: 0 YTS pending for Area 1
- b. Area 2 – Area Chair Kent Delaney: 7 YTS for Area 2 were approved
 - i. Celanese Bayport – Advanced Exterior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - ii. Enterprise-Mont Belvieu – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, HazMat
 - iii. Lubrizol-Pasadena – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - iv. Lubrizol-Deer Park – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - v. PPL-La Porte – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, HazMat
 - vi. Houston Fuel Oil – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, HazMat
 - vii. Dow-La Porte – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue
- c. Area 3 – Area Chair David Cave: 4 YTS for Area 3 were approved
 - i. Valero Refining-Texas City – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - ii. Refinery Terminal Fire Company – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Marine, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - iii. Phillips 66-Sweeny – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
 - iv. Chevron Phillips-Sweeny – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Rescue, EMS, HazMat
- d. Area 4 – Area Chair Keith Russell: 2 YTS pending for Area 4
 - i. US Steel-Lone Star – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Confined Space, EMS
 - ii. XL Energy – Advanced Exterior/Interior, Confined Space, Rescue, EMS, HazMat

5. Codes, Standards & Legislation Committee – Robert Moore

Mr. Moore noted that some of the NFPA codes are reaching their 5 year mark for review and deferred to Gordon Lohmeyer. Mr. Lohmeyer noted the review of 1081 was completed last year, the instructor series is going on right now, and 472 (hazmat) will be completed in August along with 1006 Rescue. Mr. Moore noted that Laura Corn will be keeping up with NFPA standard changes and will send out notices periodically.

Mr. Moore reported that at the latest Texas fire service consortium meeting all parties are working well together.

Mr. Moore announced that the proposal for the Texas Commission on Fire Protection to accept ProBoard qualifications passed unanimously. The qualification must be on the most current standard.

There was discussion of the two bills from the last Legislative Session (SB1267 and HB2751) regarding liability. If someone were working as an individual or contractor for the Texas A&M Forest Service on an incident they would be covered for liability and should also extend to industrial response. The best course would be for each entity's general counsel to determine if they would be covered to make that decision.

6. Board Membership – Robert Moore

There are currently 2 openings – Slots 14 and 15. Mr. Moore noted he had received one request for membership from the Beaumont area and had sent out information, but had not received anything back yet.

Chairman Deel asked that if anyone is aware of anyone from the Beaumont/Port Arthur areas who might be interested in joining TIESB, to please send an e-mail to Robert Moore and to include him on the CC list.

7. TEEX Advisory Board – Keith Russell

Mr. Russell complimented Robert Moore and the rest of the board on their hard work. There have been some major improvements to the fire water system. They continue to work on continuity between schools and the attendance numbers are improving. At their last meeting Howard Meek, the Safety Manager, gave a report about the PPE used at the field, specifically on the firefighter safety.

Mr. Moore noted that TEEEX is in the process of taking over and expanding the marine facility in Galveston. TEEEX will also be using the site as a satellite facility. Mr. Moore added that the rail cars over at the HazMat field had been relabeled and repainted. The old cable system has been improved along with communications system.

8. Texas Chemical Council – Rick Deel

Mr. Deel was not able to attend the December meeting due to a schedule conflict.

Training Committees

9. EMS – Chuck Richardson

Mr. Richardson reported the Texas EMS Board would be meeting in Lubbock at the Planning Conference.

10. HazMat – Lee Ray Kaderli

No report.

11. Marine Firefighting – Rodney Kovalcik

There was discussion of whether Houston FD had finished putting some of their firefighters through marine training. Mr. Lohmeyer confirmed the course had been completed.

12. Firefighting – J. D. Lowe

Mr. Lowe noted that the Eagle Ford Shale area is continuing to grow with new companies coming in, and their firefighting coverage varies by company. Corpus Christi is looking to use RTFC services on the south side of the bay, but the ship channel area is filling up on the north side of the bay. The companies in that area met recently to discuss contracting services, perhaps mutual aid, but the local fire departments were hesitant to become involved. There was further discussion of fire departments being deterred from becoming involved in well fires if they are not able to fully deal with contingencies.

Currently the Eagle Ford Shale oil is being brought out by pipeline and truck, but a 260-acre rail yard is being constructed on the southeast side of Three Rivers to handle natural gas, LPG, and crude oil.

There was discussion on the needs of the fire service for equipment that is no longer of use to industrial facilities. The number of calls responded to by small departments are vehicular incidents and there is a need to educate the responders to the chemical codes. Paul Hanneman reminded everyone that HB2604 funding is available to cover training costs. David Wade added that VFIS of Texas is providing grant monies to cover hotel costs that are not funded by HB2604.

13. Organizational Membership – David Cave

Mr. Creamer noted that 33 facilities had renewed so far. The 2014 invoicing was done via e-mail with a good response. Second notices for 2014 invoices and the 2013 YTS reports will go out soon.

14. Texas A&M Forest Service and State Incident Management Team – Paul Hanneman

Mr. Hanneman noted that the Fire Department Director (FDD) is continuously being updated and agencies/department have access to it.

Annex F of the State Emergency Plan is going for final reading tomorrow in Austin. It's been rewritten as generic fire with appendices added for additional information, industrial would be Appendix 1 from Appendix 5, and TIFMAS is Appendix 2.

Mr. Hanneman announced there will be a state all hazards IMT conference in Corpus Christi on April 28-29. Brazos Valley IMT just went official in November and has a 5-day 0305 class starting in Bryan this week at the EOC.

15. Certification Committee – Lee Ray Kaderli

No report.

16. Industrial Fire School – Lee Ray Kaderli
Keith Russell stated they had completed the initial stages of the Level 3 program that uses a virtual reality type process to run incident management. On the safety side, there were 5 assessments done and 2-3 were pre-existing conditions, and Mr. Deel added that none of the assessments were heat-related.

Mr. Russell continued that there is continued success with their 1081 program and they are reviewing how to expand the program if the school continues to grow.

17. Vehicle Registration – Gerald Sherman

Mr. Sherman reported that the renewal form had been updated to facilitate the renewal process.

There was discussion of whether current new membership applications ask if the facility has vehicles, and Mr. Creamer noted he would check and add it if necessary.

B. Executive Director's Report – Chris Barron

In Mr. Barron's absence, Mr. Creamer noted that the Austin staff had relocated to the new building just before Christmas, and the contents of the old building have been sold. Additionally, there was a database upgrade at about the same time as the move, and Austin staff was performing testing of a new database and website.

SFFMA exhibited at the EMS Conference in Fort Worth, at TEEEX-ESTI during Spanish and Municipal school weeks, and at the Thursday demo night. SFFMA helped host the NVFC fall meeting and the International Conference in McAllen, and will be at SAFE-D in Galveston for the remainder of the weekend. SFFMA Planning Conference will be in Lubbock the first weekend in February.

Publication sales for 2013 were 90% of what was budgeted through November and doesn't take into consideration the move. There were some special moving sales to reduce inventory. Texas Forest Service issued 35 training library grants in November and SFFMA was able to fill 8 of those orders. One of the benefits of the move will be lower shipping costs for in-bound shipments as we have a large receiving/storage area with a loading dock.

DelMar will be ending their fire and EMS product lines but will continue to support items already offered. Jones & Bartlett have purchased several other publishers' products.

We had a 100% departmental membership retention with a total of 1242. 3% increase in overall membership with 600 new members in 2013, and an 80% increase in international membership thanks to Diana Cardona.

The membership cards for 2014 are hard plastic instead of the tear-off paper ones used previously. Since SFFMA has purchased the equipment to print the cards, we can also print cards for other entities. There is the ability to expand to magnetic stripes, embedded chips, or QR codes.

C. Industrial Coordinator Update – Kevin Creamer

Mr. Creamer stated there would be a grand opening of the new building sometime in March, but would get more information out as it becomes available.

VII. Old Business

A. Limits on Liability and TCFP – Rick Deel

Previously discussed and Mr. Hanneman e-mailed out the text of the bills during the meeting.

B. TEEEX Regional Model – Robert Moore

David Wade asked Mr. Moore to provide an update on this. Mr. Moore reported that TEEEX had moved to a regional model for providing extension training to better suit the needs of the areas. The state has been divided into eight regions, each with a regional coordinator who lives in that area. They would work with the TFS in that area as well as with state legislators from their area.

TEEEX has been designated as the provider of NFA classes in the state and are opening them up to metro departments.

Mr. Wade asked how the extension program could help industry. Mr. Moore stated they could work cooperatively with industry by teaching their [TEEEX] curriculum and issuing certificates. The facility would need to be geared toward teaching, especially with the need for props.

C. SFFMA Certification Program – Robert Moore

Mr. Wade announced that TEEX would be the third party test provider for SFFMA. Mr. Moore clarified that TEEX is working toward this goal but that it is still in the proposal stage.

VIII. New Business

A. TFS/TIESB Annual Meeting with Industrial Mutual Aid Groups – Rick Deel

Mr. Deel stated that a couple of years ago TIESB had met with the industrial mutual aid groups, and proposed an annual meeting in the first quarter of each year. There are new officers in these organizations and this would provide an opportunity to meet and discuss industrial issues and improve communications. This would be a good place to exchange experiences and possibly discuss updates to Annex F.

There was discussion of the best location for such a meeting. Mr. Deel suggested that although the gulf coast had a high amount of industry, other places like Longview might be beneficial. Mr. Wade suggested that with the influx of new processes coming on line and new employees that there might be another peak in incidents and such a meeting might help in prevention.

The board had a positive opinion of the idea and Paul Hanneman offered TFS to serve as host.

Mr. Deel stated that he would work with Mr. Hanneman and Robert Moore of TEEX to determine all of the organizations that might be interested. He further asked that if anyone could help flesh out the list of organizations from their areas to please provide contact information.

B. Industry involvement with TIFMAS – Paul Hanneman

Mr. Hanneman discussed the need for industry involvement in TIFMAS and how this could be accomplished. He suggested setting minimum standards for individuals responding to a request from industry. Mr. Lohmeyer reviewed the documentation provided by Mr. Hanneman, specifically training to the NFPA 1081 interior/exterior standard.

Mr. Hanneman provided a proposal handout and asked for feedback. There was further discussion of minimum standards including a change from “must have ProBoard certification” to “ProBoard certification preferred” and include an ability to provide documentation of equivalent training.

IX. Announcements

A. Ex-Officio Members

Diana Cardona, Membership Administrator with SFFMA, addressed some of the current membership benefits. She introduced the board to Stream Energy, an energy provider that gives proceeds to non-profits for signing up individuals who live in unregulated areas.

David Wade reminded the board that members also have access to benefits through American Income Life.

B. Review of new Action Items

See Above

C. Roundtable Discussion

Mr. Deel noted that due to the Executive Order on chemical safety and security there will be a session in Houston tomorrow.

David Wade thanked the employees at the state office for all of their hard work during the move and suggested the new Austin facility for the spring meeting. He further announced the grand opening is scheduled for March 22nd.

Mr. Wade reminded the board that on Wednesday, July 23rd, SFFMA would be holding the Legislative Day at the fire field for legislators or their staffers to see what volunteers actually do.

Chuck Richardson asked if anyone had documentation on steam-driven fire pumps. His facility has one they're trying to get rid of.

D. Next Meeting

1. 9:00am, Friday, April 25th – New SFFMA Building in Austin (707 W FM 1626 in Manchaca, TX)
2. Friday, June 6th – Overton Hotel, Lubbock

X. Adjourn

Motion made by _____ and seconded by _____ to adjourn. Motion passed.