

Minutes from TIESB Meeting

Moody Gardens – Floral Hall A1

Galveston, TX

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Friday, June 12, 2015

I. Call to Order

Vice Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

14 Members present: Keith Russell; Gerald Sherman; Terry Boyett; Todd Johnson; Brett Boren; Paul Hanneman; Steve Pepper; Rodney Kovalcik; James Purcell; David Cave; Michael Barley; Robert Moore; Henry Perry; David Wade

7 Members absent: Rick Deel; Brett Steed; David Atkinson, Jr.; Lee Ray Kaderli; Jeff Hoffstadt; Kent Delaney; Steve Pollock;

SFFMA Staff present: Kevin Creamer, Industrial Coordinator

III. Committee Members Review YTS Reports

The committees began reviewing the 1 submitted report prior to the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes from April 10, 2015.

On motion by Terry Boyett and seconded by Steven Pepper, the board approved acceptance of the minutes.

V. Action Items

A. February '09 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. (John Holloway– EMS Committee) **In Progress**

B. April '13 Meeting status

1. Review vehicle registration signage & pin-striping requirements (Gerald Sherman) **In Process**

C. October '14 Meeting status

1. Appoint new committee liaisons (Speaker Selection, EMS, Certification, etc.) to replace Chuck Richardson (Rick Deel) **Closed**
2. Confirm with DPS their requirements for 2nd party registration stickers regarding content and placement (Kevin Creamer) **In Progress**
3. Add committee duties to roster (Committee Chairs)

G. January '15 Meeting status

1. Add a facility name change document to the website to ease updating of information (Kevin Creamer) **In Progress**
2. Provide vehicle registration information letter to David Wade for distribution to CIMA members. (Kevin Creamer) **In Progress**
3. Speak to Trey Blocker about getting an Attorney General opinion on limits of liability. (Chris Barron/Kevin Creamer)

H. April '15 Meeting status

1. Provide information on the possible new TCFP highway incident management requirement to SFFMA Certification Board (Robert Moore) **In Progress**
Mr. Moore stated it is not set with TCFP yet, but will be after the next meeting, and he would provide a written document to Kevin. On request from Vice Chairman Russell, Mr. Moore stated there were several courses of about eight hours delivered by different groups (including TEEX) showing firefighters how to set up at an accident, where to set up vehicles, etc. On question from Mr. Creamer, Mr. Moore clarified that the course would be due by "this fall". Mr. Moore stated that it would make sense to be a requirement by SFFMA for structural certification, but would probably not affect industrial response.
There was discussion that law enforcement were telling industrial response does not have authority to close roads. Mr. Wade clarified that fire does have authority to close roads in the 2013 Legislative Session.
2. Contact John Holloway from Chevron Phillips – Cedar Bayou about serving as the EMS committee liaison (Terry Boyett) **COMPLETED**
Mr. Boyett reported that he had spoken to Mr. Holloway and would be bringing him in as his replacement.
3. Research option of adding a forum section to the TIESB use page. (Kevin Creamer) **In Progress**

Mr. Creamer reported that Austin staff was in the middle of another database upgrade and this may be an option afterwards.

On question from Mr. Cave, Mr. Creamer reported that he had added a notation with an e-mail address to the TIESB page of the website if anyone had questions. Mr. Creamer further stated that he had recently gone through the TIESB page to add links to statutes and provide more detailed information.

4. Review of the signatory area of the YTS form for applicability for FMO use. **OPEN**
5. Discuss new TIESB logo design and check on new shirts (Kevin Creamer) **OPEN**

I. June '15 Meeting status

1. Membership Review (David Cave)

Review the current membership and provide statistical analysis as to what impact basing the participation fee only on employees as opposed to including contractors.

2. Policy Document Review

All committees to review their own documents and provide feedback regarding charters.

3. Add Committee Roster to TIESB site (Kevin Creamer)

4. Provide membership numbers on the agenda for the next meeting (Kevin Creamer)

5. New Industrial Certification Committee (Gordon Lohmeyer)

Provide clarity as to what the group is working on as to their charter.

6. Link individual membership benefits to the TIESB website (Kevin Creamer)

7. Area rosters for use on-site by board members (Kevin Creamer)

VI. Communications

A. Committee Reports

1-4. Area Committees

- a. Area 1 – Area Chair Brett Steed: 0 YTS for Area 1
- b. Area 2 – Area Chair Kent Delaney: 0 YTS for Area 2 were approved
- c. Area 3 – Area Chair David Cave: 0 YTS for Area 3 were approved
- d. Area 4 – Area Chair Keith Russell: 1 YTS for Area 4 was approved
 - i. Luminant Power Martin Lake – Advanced Exterior/Interior

5. Codes, Standards & Legislation Committee – Robert Moore

Mr. Moore reported that the session was over. There were a lot of new legislators trying to determine their roles, so not much happened. The Springer bill that stated that a state agency could not regulate volunteer or industrial fire died in committee this session as it did last session.

Mr. Moore stated there is the potential for a legislator to introduce legislation to put volunteers under the Commission. As far as TCFP is concerned “at this time” they do not want to pursue regulation of industry or volunteers, but the makeup of the commission changes. There are currently 5 open slots for reappointment and 1 (Green) who is resigning for a total of 6 available, and appointments should be done next week. Mr. Moore continued that with an issue this large, the commission would usually wait until just before a legislative session before consideration.

Mr. Moore continued that the expense and challenge of such an undertaking has been one reason no action has been taken in the past. SFFMA has two seats on the commission, so there are two active supporters of SFFMA on this issue. He hesitated to speculate until after the appointments are made.

The budget for TEEX remained flat from the previous session. One of the major concerns was the lowered oil prices. Mr. Hanneman reported that 2604 had been restored to the amount 2 years ago, but they would need to be prepared for next session as there are some residual funds that will probably be targeted.

6. Board Membership – Robert Moore

Mr. Moore reported there were currently two open slots on the board and two applicants. The first is Mark Garvin, Fire Chief of Marathon who could not be here today, and Gordon Lohmeyer of TEEX-ESTI. On motion by Steve Pepper and second, the board approved adding Mark Garvin to Slot 14 and Gordon Lohmeyer to Slot 15. Final approval from President Hamilton pending.

7. TEEX Advisory Board – Keith Russell

Mr. Russell reported the board met last month in College Station. There had been some concern about the preregistration levels and discussion of the challenges they might face this year. Mr. Russell further stated that the infrastructure with the new props is phenomenal and congratulated Chief Moore and staff on their hard work. Mr. Moore added that this year there were discussions of appointments to the board between himself and Paul Hamilton. On question from Mr. Moore, Mr. Barron stated that he had made a note to bring up the new appointments with President Hamilton.

Mr. Moore noted that the new rail prop would be burned for the first time on Friday, June 19th at 9am. He further reported the rescue building was coming along after weather-related delays. The next project was to move all of the rescue props from the front of the field to the rescue complex.

There was discussion of the status of volunteer instructors. Mr. Moore stated that the problem that they had in the past was that there were too many and some had finally stepped down. With new applicants they would fill needs rather than having full instructors on site with no assignment. Instructors of courses that have low enrollment are allowed to keep the years of service even if the course doesn't "make".

8. Texas Chemical Council – Rick Deel

Mr. Deel was not in attendance so Vice Chairman Russell asked Gordon Lohmeyer to address the topic. Mr. Lohmeyer noted that TCC was growing again since membership was opened up to the Louisiana people. The conference is going well and the exhibits were well attended.

Training Committees

9. EMS – John Holloway

Mr. Boyett noted that Mr. Holloway would be looking into this and that Mr. Holloway had told him the National Registry part would be increasing the amount of time it would take to be a paramedic, not just class time but rotations as well. There was discussion of whether paramedics would be able to use their skills within hospitals.

10. HazMat – Lee Ray Kaderli

Mr. Pepper noted that Transport Canada had a meeting in March with NFPA regarding their desire for a new standard for professional competencies of flammable liquids unit training for emergency responders.

11. Marine Fire Fighting – Rodney Kovalcik

No report.

12. Industrial Fire Fighting – Keith Russell

Mr. Russell reported that with the Industrial school coming up there was significant changes to logistics with how the school will operate. An example was where people would have to go out on the field the first day without previous training classroom training such as handheld extinguishers which will make for a safer school.

13. Organizational Membership – David Cave

Mr. Cave noted that over the last couple of years the membership had not been growing and the YTS reports weren't being submitted in the numbers they needed to be. With the changes to the brochure to better identify the benefits of membership, maybe there is a way to touch base with these companies that have not submitted reports to see if perhaps it was due to a change in leadership.

Vice Chairman Russell stated he was very disappointed with the membership numbers as well as the YTS submissions. Mr. Creamer stated that with one more renewal that came through this morning, membership was up to 65 but not all of them are paying the participation fee. Of those who are, the ones submitting reports are represented by people actually attending the board meetings.

Mr. Creamer noted that with links to the board use page there are lists of active and inactive facilities updated as of yesterday. There are about 110 active facilities meaning they were members from 2013 to current, but of those only 65 had renewed for 2015 after three membership renewal notices.

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

Mr. Hanneman reported that TFS went into the latest legislative session with the plan to maintain what they had. Their two goals were to get the HB 2604 funds increased back to previous levels, which was met, and to double the funding to TIFMAS, which was not.

On the Incident Management side, the CIMA program was done in Deer Park. Mr. Wade noted that CIMA would budget for another next year, and there was interest in MAMB in the same. Mr. Hanneman stressed that it was a good training sustainment. Mr. Hanneman noted he had recently been contacted by Plains Pipeline who had four pipeline management teams and were looking for ways to enhance their ITs.

15. Certification Committee – Lee Ray Kaderli

Vice Chairman Russell provided a recap of the discussion at yesterday's workshop. He reiterated that Mr. Creamer provided input at the workshop regarding membership status, dues structures, and participation status. There was discussion on where the board thought they would want to go regarding the certification processes with Mr. Perry having provided input on how to approach the Certification Board. Mr. Moore had provided insight on how TEEEX's training dovetailed into the current municipal program.

Mr. Russell shared a diagram of how the board might want to restructure the committee to move the process forward. Mr. Moore noted that the main point was to avoid putting unnecessary restrictions on the membership, but that the current participation is on a good-faith system with little auditing, so going to another form of program might provide that oversight.

Mr. Moore raised the topic that the current certification committee chaired by Lee Ray has been on the agenda for quite some time with no movement. Additionally at the last meeting Chairman Deel decided to appoint Lee Ray as the liaison to the Certification Board. Nothing against Lee Ray, but he is planning to retire in December, so is it in the board's best interest to go through the process of having Lee Ray appointed as an official liaison only to have to go through the process again once he retires?

Mr. Hanneman questioned whether would it serve the board's purpose to have a member of the Certification Board dealing with industrial certifications or should it be better to have a subset of the Certification Board with multiple industrial members being a part of it. Mr. Moore noted that there are multiple members on the municipal side as regional representatives, but to represent the industrial sector we'd need at least one person there.

Mr. Moore stressed that TIESB is part of the SFFMA, but we may not have made sure everyone understood that. If we go to individual certifications, it would need to be done through the SFFMA Certification Board and in doing so TIESB will need to ensure that their representative is very active on that board so that rules are not enacted that affect the industrial side that cannot be supported.

16. Industrial Fire School – Lee Ray Kaderli

Mr. Lohmeyer noted registration was 55 students behind last year, but there would probably be a good number of late registrations, and provided an overview of registration numbers.

17. Vehicle Registration – Gerald Sherman

Mr. Sherman noted that there had been some manufacturing problems and Mr. Creamer confirmed that they were scheduled to ship to Austin on the 17th. As soon as they arrive he would be sending out the stickers to the facilities. On question from board regarding registration numbers, Mr. Creamer stated that with the new renewal process that would include vehicles as part of the fees, the renewals would be included for the first time as part of the membership renewal process. Mr. Sherman noted that the process had been amended to drop the side logo on the application process. Mr. Creamer reported that currently there were 325 vehicles registered.

18. TIESB Marketing – David Wade

Mr. Wade noted that this was part of the discussion of the new flyer. He added that Chairman Deel would sometimes work with an organization like CIMA to bring in people from around the state from different groups discuss issues. Mr. Creamer asked if it would make sense to have a representative at HotZone to represent TIESB, which Mr. Wade confirmed, but that the attendees were mostly municipal people who then also work for chemical companies.

On question from Mr. Creamer, Mr. Wade noted that other organizations/meetings that might be available were Texas Chemical Council in May, but would try to think of others. Mr. Creamer added that it might be helpful to have an official representative there to make sure that attendees understand who we are and what we do. There was discussion of whether there might be any value into opening membership to neighboring states, especially Louisiana. Mr. Moore suggested Industrial Fire World and noted there was discussion of whether there might need to be a Texas conference.

Vice Chairman Russell added that with the pipeline discussion, that it might be another area to be addressed. Mr. Wade agreed that it might be a good group to bring into the association. Pipeline Emergency Response Forum will be meeting at the end of the month in Fort Worth and might be a good place to go. There was discussion of the new standard RP 1174 which just passed ballot this week with 300 comments that should be published at the end of the year regarding pipeline emergency management systems.

Mr. Wade added that maybe the board needed to better stress our legislative efforts on behalf of industrial response. TCC worked hard to support the firefighter protection bill, and we may need to advertise that partnership. Mr. Hanneman asked if there was a pipeline organization to which Mr. Wade responded that they were mostly at a national level. PPI has a big conference in Texas every three years or so.

B. Executive Director's Report – Chris Barron

Mr. Barron welcomed the board to the annual conference and reviewed the major events over the next few days as well as the keynote speaker. Staff has been in the new building about a year and they are working to resolve a few last construction issues, but there is a 2nd floor that is currently vacant. Mr. Barron reminded the board that the firefighter memorial project is still ongoing with the Preservation Board having come back after we met their goals to ask for more. Mr. Barron provided an overview of the annual sales numbers and noted that SFFMA is now selling HAIX boots. He further addressed recent staffing changes.

Mr. Barron described some of the recent database upgrade information as well as the proposed changes to the online certification module. On question from Mr. Wade, Mr. Barron noted membership was about the same as last year.

C. Industrial Coordinator Update – Kevin Creamer

Nothing further to report.

VII. Old Business

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

Mr. Hanneman reported that regarding Annex F that it was reviewed last year which is available online. He further added that it is a living document and that any suggestions for updates or improvements would be welcome. Mr. Wade added that he had been tasked with reviewing the Appendix to see how CIMA would match up with industry in a large scale incident.

On comment by Mr. Hanneman, there was strong agreement that any plans with TIFMAS regarding industry needs to be the decision of TIESB, rather than TEEEX or TFS. Mr. Moore agreed and clarified that any certification piece by TIESB needs to meet requirements of other organizations so that it will meet multiple needs.

B. Workshop Prior to June Meeting – Rick Deel

Nothing further.

C. Policy Document Review

Vice Chairman Russell questioned whether this might need another workshop session. Mr. Moore suggested an ad hoc committee to review the documents to bring a proposal back to the full board.

VIII. New Business

A. Recognition of Chuck Richardson

Vice Chairman Russell presented Mr. Richardson a recognition plaque and thanked him on behalf of the board and the Association for his service to the TIESB.

B. Committee Appointments – Keith Russell

Mr. Russell reiterated that John Holloway would serve as TIESB liaison to the EMS Board. He further noted that there is a current vacancy under Industrial Firefighting and noted that the committee was established before alignment with 1081 with the goal of how to address the same alignment.

Mr. Moore that the Industrial Firefighting, Certification and HazMat committees work together so might want to combine them into one. Mr. Russell restated that this might be a way to focus the group to look at firefighting and 472, but stressed the need for active participation from the committee members. Mr. Boyett noted that the committees were formed in the past as response to specific issues. Mr. Cave added that they might want to consider sunseting the committees if there were not specific issues for them to address.

On motion by Mr. Moore and second by David Cave, the board approved combining the HazMat, Marine, Industrial, Rescue, and Certification committees to become Industrial Certification and to have Gordon Lohmeyer to chair and serve as delegate to the Certification Board. There was discussion of Mr. Lohmeyer's duties and powers to make agreements on the board's behalf. Mr. Wade suggested keeping Mr. Pepper as the assistant.

There was discussed that Mr. Lohmeyer reach out to subject matter experts without requiring additional action by the board. The purpose of the committee at the outset is to provide oversight on the different subject areas and provide guidance to the board. Additionally, the committee should provide an updated statement of purpose as it deals with issues.

Vice Chairman Russell readdressed Item C under Old Business: Policy Document Review and suggested this committee's first work should be to do a preliminary review and bring suggestions/revisions to the board prior to the full review.

On motion by Mr. Cave and second, the board approved the new Industrial Certification be recognized as a charter committee of the TIESB.

B. Next Meeting

There was discussion on the best time/location for the next meeting with it finally settled to take place October 9th from 8am to Noon at TEEX-ESTI in College Station.

IX. Announcements

A. Ex-Officio Members

None.

B. Roundtable Discussion

There was discussion of the policy document review to have the committees review the documents that pertain to their duties and bring back suggestions to the board. Mr. Hanneman questioned whether there should be a committee to review the Annex F and provide input to that group with a decision to put that under the Codes, Standards & Legislation committee.

Mr. Cave reviewed the dues structure of dues and participation fee and suggested amending the participation fee to only be based on actual employees as opposed to including contractors. He was tasked by Vice Chairman Russell to review the changes to income this would make, with Mr. Creamer providing statistics to him.

There was discussion of lining out charters for each of the existing committees to clarify their duties, etc.

There was additional discussion of how to redesign the TIESB logo and if any new shirts could have the logo on the sleeve.

D. Next Meeting

1. October 9th, 2015 – 8am to Noon – TEEX-ESTI, College Station

X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

GUESTS:

Gordon Lohmeyer – Texas A&M Forest Service