

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

**March 18, 2019
Omni South Park Room 104/105 Austin, Texas**

Meeting called to order at: 10:00a.m.

by President: President Mike Richardson

Invocation given by: Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Roll Call of Board Members Present:

Board Members present on site:

President Mike Richardson
1st Vice President Tim Smith
3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson
4th Vice President Donny Boggs
Immediate Past President Harvie Cheshire
Secretary Brent Allen
Assistant Secretary Jim White
Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Non-Voting Board Members Present: Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson

Board Members Not Present: 2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle

Non - Voting Board Members Not Present: Mascot Kylie Maples

Office Staff Present: Executive Director Chris Barron

Approval of Minutes from Secretary Allen:

A motion to approve the minutes from January 25, 2019 as presented, was made by 3rd V.P. Chuck Richardson and seconded by 2nd V.P. Tim Smith. The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

A motion to approve the minutes from February 23, 2019 Conference Call as presented, was made by 3rd V.P. Chuck Richardson and seconded by 2nd V.P. Tim Smith. The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Guest present: Greg Cross, R.J. Thomas, Henry Perry, Rusty Kattner, Curtis Brown, Barbara Marzean, Stephanie Dew, Tom Newby

Legislative Session Report: Lobbyist J.P. Laney

- ❖ Spoke on the Budget Bills, not knowing how much money they will have to spend
- ❖ Pass a supplemental funding bill.
- ❖ We support the increase the TFS has asked for, and TIFMAS Grants
- ❖ Take all the money out of 2604 account and allocate that money the next two years.
- ❖ Spoke on several bills that we are supporting for the Volunteer Fire Service.
- ❖ We will have flags for the families of the fallen, within their districts, Senators and Representatives that want to be there and present flags.
- ❖ Passed out invitations about 60 to 70, to the House and Senate members.

- ❖ 65 million dollars in the 2604 account
- ❖ TESRA, received some emails wanting us to support their bill, right at this moment we are neutral, T-Flag and the Executive Board have not review this, as to have a opinion at this point. HB3247, 1.3 million per year that they get.
- ❖ Discussion HB751 that deals with CISM
- ❖ Discussion on the Drew Springer bill on the Inspector changes for volunteer fire service.

Old Business:

Online Survey brought forth by 4th Vice Donny Boggs and 3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson

- ❖ About doing an online survey.
- ❖ Having input from our membership.
- ❖ Looking for an honest opinion from the membership.
- ❖ Get the demographics of the members.
- ❖ Allow 3rd V. P. and 4th V.P. continues working on this survey.
- ❖ Make sure it's a neutral stance by the board; we're seeking information from the membership, on what they want for their association.

New Business:

VFIS - Additional Membership Benefits

- ❖ 4 main ways to purchase insurance: Purchase on their own, Purchase though employer, though an association, though the government, Medicaid or Medicare.
- ❖ This is a group product and a lump sum product, which is \$5,000 or \$10,000
- ❖ Just doesn't cover cancer, but other things, like abnormal cells, in stage renal, major organs, heart attack, HIV and hepatices.
- ❖ When a member purchases a policy it includes all of their children and newborns.
- ❖ No health questions asked, guarantee issue.
- ❖ Policy is eligible from 18 to 79 years old
- ❖ Life Insurance, No Health Questions, Can purchase \$25,000 or \$50,000(Standard)
- ❖ Group rates are about 75% less
- ❖ Discussion on I.D. Experts for ID protection.

A motion that Winstar Insurance Group present their proposal to our Membership as presented, was made by 1st V.P. Tim Smith and seconded by 3rd V.P. Chuck Richardson.

The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Conference Issues Update – Charles

- ❖ Exhibit Hall Sold Out.
- ❖ Finalize the Exhibit Manual
- ❖ Sponsorship were ironed out
- ❖ Questions about what's on the agenda
- ❖ Working on President reception-Rowdy Creek Venue, Transportation included
- ❖ Working on a Band for Tuesday Night
- ❖ We are on Hold for 2022 Convention
- ❖ Currently working on function sheets, they identify every events and what happens at those events.
- ❖ Are all the contracts done? More are that care of, except catering.
- ❖ Do we have a Back up list for not used rooms.

VIFS 50th Year Recognition

- ❖ Work on a resolution from the Texas Capital
- ❖ Create a Plaque?

A motion to approve Director Barron to get a item for VIFS 50th year of business as presented, was made by Asst Secretary Jim White and seconded by 4th V.P. Donny Boggs. The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Office Space Rental – President Mike Richardson

- ❖ The person wants to rent out 2 office spaces from us.
- ❖ Short term lease for 1 year Financial Company

A motion to approve Financial Services Company a short term lease for 1 year as presented, was made by 3rd V.P. Chuck Richardson and seconded by 4th V.P. Donny Boggs. The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

FF 1 & 2 & Industrial Test Bank Purchase – President Mike Richardson

- ❖ Cost of the program update approximately \$20,980.56 cost for development and updates FF1 & 2 test
- ❖ Avg. Cost to test is \$22.00 per student
- ❖ Industrial test bank already approved at \$5,496.00

A motion to table FF1 & 2 development discussion till we have more information as presented, was made by 3rd V.P. Chuck Richardson and seconded by 4th V.P. Donny Boggs. The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Budget Discussion – President Mike Richardson / Executive Director Chris Barron

- ❖ At the 85% level departmental membership dues, show we are about 75% of what we anticipated.
- ❖ Industrial dues are at 163%, we actually did really good there, higher than expected.
- ❖ Sustaining dues are about 56% of our budgeted amount of 14,000
- ❖ Individual dues is right at 68% of what we budgeted; we anticipated about 689,000.00 for individual dues. 68 % collected on that.
- ❖ Organizations are a little low at 28% that's usually our fire marshal's offices, different associations affiliated with us.
- ❖ Certainly, not where we what to be.
- ❖ Haven't gone wild on expenses, we did have air condition issues that had to be fixed, at a cost of 10,000 to 12,000 dollars.
- ❖ Discussion on growth zone in connection with the budgeting and dues payments.
- ❖ President made a short comment on working the strategic plan for the association

Enter into Executive Session at 1:05 p.m.

No action was taken in executive session

Exited out of Executive Session at 1:25 p.m.

Robert Rules – Executive Board

- ❖ To strictly follow Roberts Rules from now on.

A motion that we strictly enforce Robert's Rules of order in all of our meetings from this day forward as presented, was made by Chaplain Ben Kennedy and seconded by I.P.P. Harvie Cheshire.

The motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

Audience Comments:

Greg Cross – No

R. J. Thomas – No

Henry Perry - No

Rusty Kattner – I only have one question for the Asst. Secretary, do you still have your flip phone. Jim replied, that's what going off

Curtis Brown – No

Jenny Moore – Member of SFFMA for 22 years, got my master certification though SFFMA TESRA, Pension Board wants support for their bill.

Board Comments:

President Richardson – Good Meeting, went long, I think some very positive things came out of the meeting today and some stuff to look forward to. I like the survey, I like the feedback, again. I texted back and forth with Chris, a little bit, after you talk about that. We kinda think where we narrow it down about where that survey was put in place. And a lot of that information, I know Ben remembers some of it. I think your going to get a lot of good information, I think the survey is a good update too. Plus, add some more information to you. So. I'm going to look forward to that. I do what to remind everybody, I'll send out an email, again, is the Executive Directors evaluation, please take between and our next meeting, June 21st. Fill it out like you would like, at that meeting, we will go into executive session. We will a consensus meeting for that evaluation and then present it to the Executive Director. Use that as your template follow it along feel your conscious. Other than that.

1st Vice President Tim Smith – I appreciate everybody it a great meeting. it will continue to get better as we move along. and I really like that. Change is hard, change is the animal, growth is the optional piece of it. Hopefully in the direction we are headed, we will see that growth as well in that change. Since the last meeting, since growthzone is complete certification program is 100% working, lots of good feedback, tons of feedback, that's good. We are working close with our zone coordinators up there, making sure they are doing their work and they are. Lots of conversations with those guys up there. Yes, the outlook for the future is bright. We for to do whatever we need to do for you, you have a tough convention coming up, here. Let us know, your not a one man band, all these people will help you, want you to know that. Love Ya! I appreciate everybody's support.

3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson – I want to say thank you for considering our proposal on the survey. And having an open mind to work those things. We all know change is inevitable and also difficult and painful at times. If there is something we're not looking when putting this together, we are depending on the entire board toto have that input in to steer us in the right direction. Thank you, sir.

4th Vice President Donny Boggs – I can't thank ya'll enough to accepting me into the fold, I may be a little course at times, but I'm very passionate, but I want nothing but the best for this association. I'm going to work hard to earn my spot, per say. If ya'll feel I need a thump on Its just the head, don't hesitate to thump. It's just a privilege to be a part of this group, I think we have a strong board. We have some good thought processes to try to revitalize the association. I think we are going to see results, I truly do, With the improvement on the certification program. Thank ya'll for letting me be a part of it. Lord willing, I'm here for the long haul.

Immediate Past President Harvie Cheshire – I can hear the fat lady, Just to let ya'll know , even though in June, I'll be walking off, I'll be getting a Red Jacket hopefully, if I pass the test, but I'm going to be here, for as long as ya'll let me hang around.

Secretary Brent Allen – It is a privilege to work with ya'll, and still learning.

Asst. Secretary Jim White – I'm happy with some of the decisions, we made today.

Chaplain Ben Kennedy – I said enough.

Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson – Real good meeting, put out a at boy, the amendments, this time, that are going to be vote on, at the State Convention in June, were handle the nearest prefect that they have been handle in a long time. They were handle properly, they were vetted, they were processed, sent out on time, the district secretaries got it on time, that's the way unlike in the pass, they did it from a totally impartial outlook, they didn't offer suggestions, they didn't say they support it or didn't support it. I just wanted to give that at boy to Harvie.

Executive Director Chris Barron – First off, I'm so sorry for not being there, I'm literally a few miles down the street from you. My mom, for those that don't know she has lupus and has been in and out of the hospital for quite awhile she been the hospital for eight days. Release her to early and two days later we are back at the hospital. With that said I don't know what's going to happen the rest of the day and tomorrow we are just playing it by ear, she is showing improvement with meds. I'm doing all kinds of backup plans in case I can't make it tomorrow. I hope to see you all there tomorrow, Just, keep my mom and family in your prayers, if you don't mind. Good meeting really appreciated the guidance and everything you guys did for us, if there is anything to help serve you just let me know.

The next scheduled meeting is in Longview, Texas at 1:00 p.m.

There being no more agenda items

A motion to adjourn was by Asst Secretary Jim White and seconded by I.P.P. Harvie Cheshire the motion passed with 8 voting for the motion and 0 against and 0 abstaining.

President Richardson ended the meeting at 1:43p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Brent Allen
SFFMA Secretary
04/22/2019