



## State Firefighters' & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

PO Box 1709, Manchaca, Texas 78652-1709

January 20, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Andy Dexter, Kevin Creamer, Tim Rutland, Jimmy George, Kendall Hunting, Clay Deatherage, Edwin Baker, Donnie Boggs, Josh Constancio, Nate Mara, Patrick Dooley, Willow Sylestine, Larry McRae, Brad Hargrove, and Cary Roccaforte

Called to Order at: 1852 hours.

- I. Discuss and take action on proposed TEEX testing and grading process.
  - a. Motion by Clay Deatherage, 2nd by Jimmy George to adopt the new direction for TEEX in developing and implementing SFFMA Testing.

We need to take care of some housekeeping on our testing process. In regard to the TEEX Tests, currently candidates are given one hour per exam with three exams offered. Here are the breakdowns for each initial exam.

- **Firefighter I:** 50 questions
- **Firefighter II:** 50 questions
- **HazMat Exam:** 50 questions total, broken down as follows:
  - o Awareness - 10 questions
  - o Operations - 20 questions
  - o PPE - 10 questions
  - o Product Control - 10 questions

Should there be a need for a retest, the following are the make-up of the retest questions and each retest is independent:

- **Firefighter I:** 50 questions
- **Firefighter II:** 50 questions
- **HazMat Awareness Retest:** 25 questions
- **HazMat Operations Retest:** 25 questions
- **HazMat PPE Retest:** 25 questions
- **HazMat Product Control Retest:** 25 questions

Recently we were requested to review the method in which the HazMat test was graded specifically. Under the current TEEX grading process, if a person fails any one section of the HazMat Test, then they fail the HazMat Test. For example:

If a candidate takes the HazMat Test and scores a 70% in Awareness (missing 3 questions at 10 points apiece), 70% in Operation (missing 6 questions at 5 points apiece), 60% in PPE (missing 4 questions at 10 points apiece), and 70% in Product Control (missing 3 questions at 10 points apiece); they fail the HazMat Exam (Graded as

Pass/Fail). TEEEX is grading each section of the HazMat test as independent components of the overall test which have the weight of the overall test.

Another example is if a candidate takes the HazMat Test and scores a 100% in Awareness, 100% in Operation, 100% in PPE, and 60% in Product Control; they fail the HazMat Exam.

After meeting with Tim, Kevin, Andy, and Myself, we would like to make the following recommendation:

- **Firefighter I:** 50 questions (both initial and retest)
- **Firefighter II:** 50 questions (both initial and retest)
- **HazMat Initial Exam:** 50 questions total, broken down as follows:
  - o Awareness - 10 questions
  - o Operations - 20 questions
  - o PPE - 10 questions
  - o Product Control - 10 questions
- **HazMat Awareness Retest:** 25 questions
- **HazMat Operations Retest:** 30 questions
  - o Operations – 20 questions
  - o PPE – 5 questions
  - o Product Control – 5 questions

On grading the Hazmat portion of the test, we will only be grading sections: Awareness and Operations (Mission Specific & PPE rolled into Operations)

This will bring our HazMat Test in line with NFPA Standards, IFSAC Standards, and ProBoard Standards. Please review this and ask any questions you may have.

b. Motion Passed, 12 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

- II. Retroactive process for 2020 SFFMA Testing grading
  - a. Tim Rutland - Recommendation of regrading the test based on the previous adoption of the testing standard.
  - b. Motion by Clay Deatherage, 2nd by Kendall Hunting - Regrade all HazMat tests issued by TEEEX in the year 2020.
  - c. Motion Passed, 12 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.
- III. Discuss - NFPA 1002 – Driver Operator Wildland and Mobile Water Supply - Edwin Baker
  - a. Developing the SFFMA Objective codes which will fit into GrowthZone for tracking – Kevin Creamer
  - b. Develop skills sheets based on the JPRs – Edwin Baker
- IV. Discuss - Question Mark Test banks - Clay Deatherage
  - a. In SMEs validation of the test bank, using IFSTA and Jones & Bartlet publishers, and possible others referenced by the test questions in the question maker test bank.
  - b. Motion to adopt a language for where SFFMA questions have been validated from, Motion by Clay Deatherage, 2nd by Jimmy George
  - c. Dexter - Set aside for future agenda once draft language has been drafted.
- V. Motion to adjourn by Clay Deatherage, 2nd by Kendall Hunting

Adjourn at 1955 hours