

STATE FIREFIGHTER'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

December 17, 2022

SFFMA Office

1:00 p.m.

Austin, Texas

Meeting called to order at: 1:00 p.m. by President Richardson

Invocation given by: Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Roll Call of Board Members: Secretary Allen

Board Members present:

President Chuck Richardson
1st Vice President Donny Boggs
2nd Vice President Billy Tidwell
3rd Vice President Mark Wobus
Immediate Past President Richard Van Winkle
Secretary Brent Allen
Assistant Secretary Mike Richter
Chaplain Ben Kennedy

Non-Voting Board Members present: Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson

Board Members Not present:

Non-Voting Board Members Not present: Casey Johnston

Office Staff Members Present: Executive Director Tim Rutland

Guest: Past President Kyle Stephens, Alexander Smith, Jr. 4th Vice President Candidate, Hunter Tidwell 2023 Mascot Candidate, Kris Hester, Mid – West District Secretary, R. J. Thomas S.C.D.F.F. District Candidate.

Approval of minutes of the following June 24, 2022, June 29, 2022, and July 23, 2022 (November 5, 2022 were not placed for approval)

Motion to approve the minutes was by 2nd Vice President Tidwell and seconded by 1st Vice President Boggs, and motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

President Richardson discussed placing a paver on the front sidewalk in honor of Curtis Brown.

Motion by 2nd VP Billy Tidwell to purchase and install a large paver in memory of SFFMA 2nd VP Curtis Brown.

Motion seconded by Chaplain Ben Kennedy. Question was called; and the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

President Richardson discussed the Finance Committee Approval of the Budget.

2nd Vice President Tidwell made a motion to approve the budget as presented Motion was seconded by 3rd Vice President Wobus. Question was called; the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

President Richardson discussed the District Letters of Support.

A motion was made 2nd V.P. Tidwell to use a form that was developed for Districts to complete expressing their support for a candidate to run for the SFFMA Executive Board. The motion was seconded by Secretary Allen; after Board discussion; the motion fails with 7 members voting against the motion and with none abstaining. 3rd VP Wobus was asked to review the document and develop another form that better suits the needs of the SFFMA.

President Richardson discussed a proposed Constitutional Amendment to allow electronic voting. After some Board discussion; Chaplain Ben Kennedy made a motion to send Proposed Constitutional Amendment for Electronic Voting to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee for review. The motion was seconded by 2nd V.P. Tidwell; the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

The Board discussed aligning Industrial Membership with other fire departments membership.

2nd V.P. Tidwell made a motion to send Proposed Constitutional Amendment for aligning Industrial Membership with other fire departments. The motion was seconded by 1st V.P. Boggs; the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

The Board discussed an amendment to create an EMS Board. The idea failed for lack of a motion to proceed.

The Board considered an amendment to create a Junior Firefighter Membership

3rd V.P. Wobus made the motion to be tabled till the next meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by all present and voting.

The Board discussed suggested changes to the Racing Committee. 3rd V.P. Wobus was assigned the task of reviewing the Racing Committee duties and recommending changes..

Update on Officers Specific Duties

Immediate Past President Van Winkle, 2nd VP, 3rd VP, Assistant Secretary, Chaplin, and Mascot have been completed.

Executive Director Rutland discussed Conference Sponsorships. He discussed the need for sponsors for the following events.

- Tuesday Dinner/Banquet, Friday Evening Vender Reception, Saturday Breakfast with Venders, Pumper races, FF Gauntlet, Kid's Games
- Training Day Breakfast Buffet (Monday and Tuesday)
- Past President's Luncheon, Training Day Break Snack's (per break,4 total)
- Committee and Board Meeting Snacks
- Re-visit in January

Board members offered up-dates on their Capstone Projects

1st Vice President Boggs discussed issues with the Industrial membership.

2nd Vice President Tidwell discussed re-districting or possibly a regional concept to increase attendance at District meetings. 2nd VP Tidwell also discussed progress with the Marketing campaign.

3rd Vice President Wobus is currently collecting data on the feasibility of building out the upstairs portion of the SFFMA office.

President Richardson discussed issues in soliciting donors for the Education and Travel Grant.

The Board discussed the 2023 District Officer Symposium.

Kris Hester with the Mid-West Texas District made a proposal to form a SFFMA Honor Guard. The Board discussed the idea and will bring it back for more discussion.

1st Vice President Boggs asked if the Board would consider issuing a SFFMA patch to new members that join our organization.

Chaplain Kennedy made a motion when a new member joins, they get a patch. The motion was seconded by 1st V.P. Boggs; the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

2nd Vice Billy Tidwell discussed Executive Board clothing requirements. After Board discussion; 2nd VP Tidwell will bring back a proposal to the January Executive Board meeting.

3rd Vice Mark Wobus discussed membership benefits. Director Rutland stated that if anyone knew of additional benefits available to let him know and he would look into them.

3rd Vice President Wobus discussed the Board involvement in the Fire Chiefs Development Class. He suggested that Board members could be involved in the classes to show support.

President Richardson discussed the Legislative Day at the Capital set for April 5, 2023. It was discussed that the Board needs to approve the Line of Duty Deaths before the names can be put on the memorial. This will be discussed again at the January Executive Board meeting. Chaplain Ben Kennedy made a motion not to have a catered dinner. The motion was seconded by 1st V.P. Boggs, the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

President Richardson discussed the June Voting Ballot Options. After the Board discussed the issues; Chaplain Ben Kennedy made a motion that we do a resolution that you can only one run for one position and that they would announce by the end of January 26 at planning conference, seconded by 2nd V.P. Tidwell the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

3rd Vice President Wobus discussed the Training Officer Academy. He expressed concern that the focus of this program had shifted and maybe we should review the program to make sure the program is addressing target audience.

3rd Vice President Wobus discussed having a SFFMA Booth at more conferences to promote our organization.

President Richardson discussed Re-test Fees. The Certification Board is going to act on this and bring back a proposal to the January Executive Board meeting.

Audience Comments:

Hunter Tidwell announced he'll be running in 2023 for mascot in McAllen.

Kyle Stephens expressed his opinions on multiple vice president candidates and their districts support.

Kris Hester: I got nothing.

R.J. Thomas announced hi candidacy for 3rd Vice President and outlined his credentials.

Alexander Smith, Jr.: announced his candidacy for 4th Vice President and outlined hid credentials.

Board Member Comments:

President Richardson thanked the Board for their participation and drive to better the SFFMA. The next Executive Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 27, 2023 at 1:00 pm.

1st Vice President Boggs conveyed an invitation from Randy Parkinson to attend the Latium Wesley Greenvine VFD banquet and office installation.

2nd Vice President Tidwell talked about how good it was to see all of the members present and about keeping the organization moving forward.

3rd Vice President Wobus: I don't have anything,

Immediate Past President Van Winkle: I don't have anything.

Secretary Allen: I'm actually going to say something, we actually got a lot accomplish it's been a great day hopefully we are moving forward, not backwards.

Assistant Secretary Richter: Been a good meeting, like the others, it's a great day and glad to be here.

Chaplain Kennedy: Great Day, Good to see everybody

Parliamentarian Gibson: It has been great day, Glad to be back. We got a lot accomplished appreciate ya'll letting me be here. Glad to be back after missing the summer conference.

Executive Director Tim Rutland: Appreciate ya'll coming in for Barbara, it was important to her. Happy for Barbara, she was moved by the ceremony, Thank ya'll

Next Schedule Meeting: Jan. 27, 2023 1:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by 2nd Vice President Tidwell seconded by 1st V.P. Boggs all those in favor say, aye, those opposed, the motion carried with 7 members voting for approval with none against and with none abstaining.

Adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Brent Allen

SFFMA Secretary

1/10/2023