

## Certification Board Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2022  
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86565502426?pwd=bUZQS1VNa2tYS1IFL3IzbTVjMUkyZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 6550 2426

Passcode: 365430

Dial In: (346) 248-7799

I. Call to order 6:35PM

II. Roll Call

III. Acceptance of Minutes June and July Motion to table Clay Deatherage, Second William Tidwell

IV. Communications

- A. Executive Director/Board Tim Rutland, good evening, everybody. I guess the big news right now is the pending launch, or at least the start of the launch of the SMF and a portal new system. We're looking at about December 1. After talking to derail yesterday, we're probably going to give him that weekend. Right after the first which would be I guess, the third and the fourth to migrate all of the data over. So, we're probably looking at more like a launch weekend to get all of that done. And then we'll be we'll be good to go. You're going to notice up on the website. There's a quick explanation of what people are going to need to do. And we're also send an email out. There was a little bit more detail regarding the procedure. There will be at least one more email going out. There will also be information in the E newsletter that will come out early next week. It'll have more instruction on it. So hopefully we'll catch as many people as we can. Just as a kind of a quick overview for this thing. What has been and continues to be critically important. And again, I pass this on to y'all so that you can pass it on to anyone who might ask or who may have a concern about it. The most critical thing is for all members, all individual members to go in or somebody to go in and make sure that all of their basic information personal information is in growth. In particular last word social and birthdate. Those are the two most critical items. What will fail to occur if those are not there is they will not be migrated over their information. Whatever information exists for that individual won't be migrated over to the new thing. It doesn't that doesn't mean that it goes away and we lose it. It simply means it won't get migrated over and then we got go through the effort of doing that ourselves on the staff side. We really are pushing for everybody to get that information complete and grow zone before this thing happens after the first of the month. And for everyone including department administrators and every single individual member. This thing really, again is designed for the individual members to be able to go and do business. I know you all know that but I'm repeating again how important this is to empower individuals to be able to go in and manage their affairs. So those are really the two pieces that are going to happen at the beginning of December. Other components, like submitting training, or applying for certifications, that sort of thing. We're probably looking at some time very early in the year for those components. We are actually going to have a period of time in December where those kinds of activities are going to be kind of on hold. In other words, you won't be able to submit training, just hold on to it and once that those modules become active, you'll be able to go in and do it but he'll be working on those during the December timeframe. The first two things you're going to see are the ability to go in and register your account and get your account set up and handle the renewal process. And that renewal process is also being set up as a wizard a step-by-step sort of a thing. So again, can't

really go wrong. You can't you can't go off into a ditch on this thing. My hope at this point, we should be able to do this next Wednesday. We're going to go through that as a staff so we can see how it works and exactly what's involved. We've kind of seen it already pieces of it already. But we'll run through the live version of it. And then what I'd like to do between next week and the beginning of December I would like to take number one the executive board, we just do it via zoom call them through that so that they can see it. Then I'd like to also set you all up on a call at some point again before the end of the month. And take you all through that as well because I know a lot of the questions could come to you all as far as what to do and so we'll get you both of your groups through this thing hopefully before this thing launches. But the part of that y'all can really help with that in terms of departments in your zones, letting them know that if they haven't gone in and done this, don't be waiting on a mailed invoice because it's not coming. You must create your invoice in the new system. Anything you can do to help us get that word out. That it's an it'll be a new ballgame come December one in terms of annual renewal will be a huge help to us. departments will love it once I get when they just have to know to do it. So happy to answer any other questions.

- B. SFFMA Staff Kevin Creamer, I really don't have anything additional. And just following up on what Tim said the biggest thing that we're going to be doing through the month of December as far as certification is going through all the objectives and adding tags to everything so that when the certification module launches first part of next year, all that information going to be in there waiting for them. So, we're going to be fully up to up to our armpits and work while the certification module was closed. While certification is closed for the month of December. We will be busy.

Andy Dexter, So I made a recommendation that we did this with Brooks zone. And I think that we should do it for this project as well. You know, we make videos on how to do all the steps. Tim Rutland, that is a good idea we should do that. Let me know if you want some help with that.

Heather Lundy, setting up a zoom call for each of the Zone Coordinators is not a problem at all. If you guys want to host it yourself. I can set you up as host and send out notices to people and if you need some assistance with hosting if you need someone to you know, just be there on the computer, I can do that as well.

C. TEEX Staff Henry Perry, the only thing I have is both us and TCFP have made the Cancer Awareness mandatory by the end of December 2024 for TCFP and January 2025 for SFFMA. The classes are offered and out there. Also, we're in prep for spring school. I have seen during school; registration papers are out. I think they're out where people can start registering. But one of the things that's out there, there's probably going to be pretty high profile this year is the NFPA 1041 Live Fire Instructor.

## V. Old Business

### A. Committees

1. Testing – Board Chair and Executive Board Liaison, Heather Lundy, we had a slow down on testing. Across the summer. There was a real significant slowdown over the quest for testing. And now it has really ramped back up a lot since. Since we're getting towards the end of the year. We're getting a lot of requests for testing. I've had the opportunity to sit down with several of you and CO proctor a test with you. If I haven't been able to do that in your zone. And you know of any folks in your zone who need to test. I would. I would love to have the opportunity to travel to your zone and proctor a test and have you sat in and actually proctor

the test so you can see how it's done. And then you know I'm anxious to get to the point where we can have you zone reps started having the ability to proctor some tests when they're needed. So, you know, I think, I don't know if Tim wanted to speak a little more on that what we were thinking about that but

Tim Rutland, let me just say this was not from the very beginning and it continues to be not a requirement. If it's not something you want to handle for your site, your zone. That's fine. You know, we just haven't started reaching out yet to additional people out there beyond the certification board. We have folks out there all over the state and we would be able to consider trusted individuals to proctored exams, but we wanted to do this first within the cert board.

2. NFPA 1010 Update – Brian Scheffer, next NFPA 1010. So, a brief job on this. I sit on a committee. I spent this past spring doing reworking in 1001 NFPA 1010 is going to be a combination of driver operator firefighter, RF and marine, firefighter 1001, 1002, 1003 and 10005, they're combining that to 1010. You can go online. You can see it they are it's open now and I was looking at second draft opened up for public comment in October. It's going to end in January. So, if you've got it, we'll take a look at the second draft. One thing that is going to recommend it and this came from the NFPA CS is the big boys, not architectural committee, is to create a support firefighter certification so it's gonna kind of voice my opinion but I'm one little boy from Brenham, Texas that didn't get overwhelmed. It's going to be support firefighter one and firefighter two the support is going to be a lot of the non-evasive non skills meetings JPR is out a firefighter one and two. It's still JQRs for one or two objectives and that's the look that I've seen so far. More time to look at it and it's you know; it's supposed to go live in January 2024. We'll see what that looks like. There was some terminology that I know we talked about for specific equipment such as a thermal imaging camera versus other techniques. So, you're not going to see a whole lot of changes on the NFPA 1001 side of the house. You all know that 1072 is changing for hazmat it's going to go to be number 470. That's coming out in a couple of years. So yeah, we're just when we got 1072 where we thought we needed it. That's going to change here. That's going to be a new standard and 470 also 1006 is getting revamped, that we should see that soon also. I'm going to kind of keep an eye on that. They're going to hopefully correct the chapter five stuff to where our technical rescue apprentice thing would be actually included in each discipline. So, we wouldn't have the need for rescue apprentice. That's last had heard. Like to that's stuff that's, you know, being talked about. And hopefully that if that does, that'd be great. That is in place. NFPA is going a big consolidation project with multiyear project and you're consolidating a bunch of these standards into one. And the theory from what I've been told is instead of buying five books, you can buy one book with a lot of pages and so, you know, that's kind of what the theory is.

3. Policy Review – Brian Scheffer, Andy Dexter, Tim Rutland, Kevin Creamer Talking to Darrelle, one of the issues with programming around the current way we have hazmat awareness not stopped. Because we have two written exams for a single certification, it then makes it an exception to any of the programming. So your recommendation would be to split awareness and operations into two separate certifications. effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. The upside to that is pretty whose past awareness and past their skill exam could get that certification issued and get that box ticked. The downside would be, we would need them to apply separately for awareness operations. Firefighter one firefighter two. But if we're going to if rescue is or excuse me if rescue is going to be based on awareness ops technician, and we really should probably consider looking at aligning the hazmat the same way to have it aligned awareness ops and maybe sometime in the near future ad technician. If that's the way NFP is getting going.  
Separate Awareness and Operations

Brian Scheffer, So what you know and this is something Kevin had talked about, and we've talked about it too before I know Billy and I've talked about it when they're doing two tests anyways, one on awareness, one on ops, each one of our questions is just and then you know, instead of holding somebody up for a hazmat cert, they can get there up, you know, they can get there off so they get the awareness, but at least they can get their awareness once they pass awareness level. And, you know, so this is something that we've talked about in the past. I just want to get your thoughts. Now, Kevin, correct me if I'm wrong in and that will be another test and another application fee.

Kevin Creamer, yes, it would be an additional fee of \$25. The problem is right now we are paying for every test that they take for awareness and operations. So really the charging the \$25 for the separate hazmat certification is going to somewhat stem that tide of money going out. It's not going to fully ended, but it will at least go a little way toward starting that hemorrhage of funds that we're having right now with all of the tests that we're paying for that that they're not covering costs of anything about the testing fees.

Brian Scheffler, With that being said, you know, and this is an I think this is been addressed also is that your first you know, I know Billy a talked about this too, and we've all kind of discussed this. Adopt the national registry type of a system or TCFP. Were your first test attempt is your initial \$25 certification price. And so, then if you had to retake a test, there wouldn't be a charge to retake it just because SFFMA had to administer that test. And I don't know if the actual dollar amount has been addressed. Have we set that actual dollar.

Andy Dexter, we did all of this with the document on the proctor because it's it covers all of that already. It's currently we written as the cost of the exam.

Tim Rutland, Question mark charges as \$22 per exam.

Brian Scheffer, first test would have been included and the second one would be separate. Motion by Andy Dexter that we separate awareness and operations and our hazmat certification program to improve testing by January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. Second by Billy Tidwell. Motion pass not opposed votes.

#### Change workshop structure

Kevin Creamer, based on feedback that I've been getting from a lot of coordinators around the state and probably heard this as well, that there's they're coming to the workshops every year or every two years. And they're going through a lot of information that they already know. So, my suggestion is that instead of the current requirements of certification coordinators do a full workshop every two years if they're a full coordinator, and are going over. Here's what the certification board is here's what the zones are. We need to look at working up into a full Coordinator workshop and maybe push that to four years. Before coordinators for a full workshop. And then, on an annual basis, pick up the updates to the program and journal confirm program. We can program it in that when they log in, if there's been a programmatic change, it would pop up a window to say, by the way, be aware that this program change has been voted on by the certification board. You need to click here to acknowledge you have read this and understand and move forward. That way picking up that information as it happens. So that basically we're not taking up a lot of their time to go over this material that we've been going over repeatedly, repeatedly, over every two years that must have already held.

Motion by Andy Dexter, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make the motion that we reset the scheduling of workshops for full coordinators to five years for full workshops. Seconded Clay Deatherage. Motion carries not negative votes.

Motion by Andy Dexter, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make the motion that every new coordinator is required to attend full workshop every year until they are full coordinator.

Seconded Jimmy George

Motion carries no negative votes.

Andy Dexter, so we graduated our first training officer Academy, so it's called the Training Officer Program, training officer Leadership Academy that happened on October the 30th. We graduated nine. The pilot program is done. We got feedback and we're waiting on finalizing dates for both the Fire Chief Development Program and the Training Officer Program for 2023 or just waiting on getting a contract done for hotel dates and then we can start getting students but we got to get it done fast so we can advertise and get people in the classes. So that's where we're at on those programs.

## VI. New Business

### A. Master Firefighter Applications

Zone – Dept Rec'd Applicant Name Zone Rep 2 nd Approval 3 rd Approval

01 - Unaffiliated 08/17/2022 Patrick Edward Cates

01 - Unaffiliated 08/23/2022 Glen Allen Shoemaker (WS)

18 - Magnolia FD 05/25/2022 Christopher Warren Thornton

Motion by Henry Perry to accept the three Master Firefighter Application. Seconded by Billy Tidwell.

Motion passed no negative votes.

B. Firefighter I and II Skill Sheet integration – Clay Deatherage, nothing to report.

### C. Testing Validation Update – Tim Rutland and Heather Lundy

Heather Lundy, it's going slowly. Pretty slow process. One. One of our committees has met. I have we met twice or three times now by zoom. It's not finished yet. And one of our groups has not found a time yet to be able to even get together. So, one of the one of the groups has met and the other has not. Work continues

## VII. Announcements

Time Rutland, we're currently planning out a district leaders symposium, district leader's symposium, and what we'll be doing is getting an invitation out to all the district presidents. We're going to be inviting two representatives from the executive board. Basically, the two of your choice from the executive board from each district to come in and we're going to spend the day and a half going over all kinds of stuff. So, if you happen to be on an executive order, the district does know that that's coming, that invitation is coming. And again, that's going to be Saturday the 28th probably half the day on Sunday. It actually is going to be paid for because a lot of it is going to be some of the some of the you'll be grant. It will be great funded because some of us can be recruiting and retention. So we're going to be able to pay for people's travel and hotel and all that stuff. So be free to save the time the other thing is again, just so that everybody is aware we did get awarded. Next cipher grant so it's \$2.18 million to almost \$2.2 million. If you get the E newsletter, climate opinion that that you'll see next week. It definitely

expands on what what qualifies as grant. There are things like new recruit training can qualify for reimbursement and PPE. leadership development training will be under qualified for this and several other things has really expanded from currently begins December 14. It'll be a four year four year thing. We'll be adding more information out including an administrative guide to everybody so that you can start managing stuff. You have a kind of a quick reference on on how to go about applying for some of the funds

A. Next Meeting:

January – 18, 2023

B. Other

X. Adjourn

Motion by Billy Tidwell seconded by Andy Dexter.

Rev. 11/10/2022 8:06pm

DRAFT

Role Call

Chairman/Zone 01

Vice-Chairman/Zone 18/EMS Committee Liaison

Secretary/Zone 04

Zone 02

Zone 03

Zone 05

Zone 06

Zone 07

Zone 08

Zone 09

Zone 10

Zone 11

Zone 12

Zone 13

Zone 14

Zone 15

Zone 16

Zone 17

Zone 19

TEEX Representative

Texas A&M Forest Service Representative

Executive Board Representative

Non-Voting Staff Liaison

Michael Albert Zone 10

Chuck

Tim Rutland

Brian Scheffer

Andy Dexter

R. J. Thomas

Edwin Baker

Jimmy George

Ubaldo Perez

Kendall Hunting

Willo Sylestine

Patrick Dooley

Brad Hargrove

VACANT

Clay Deatherage

William Tidwell

Nicholas Barlow

Brent Allen

Jarrett Farris

Josh Constancio

Saul Pando

Joe Koch

Cary Roccaforte Henry

Raymond McDonald Heather Ludy

Donnie Boggs

Kevin Creamer