

Florida
Fire
Training
Directors
Association

Omni Resort Championsgate

July 19, 2012

MINUTES



Officers:

Chair.....Ron Williams, Lake Tech
Vice-Chair.....Bill Klein, Brevard CC
Treasurer.....Mike Dashosh, Indian River State College
Secretary.....Ray Jackson Jr., Gulf Coast CC
Trustee at Large...Michael M^cNally, Coral Springs Fire Academy
Trustee At Large...Larry Swartz, Manatee County

Present: Ron Williams, Bill Klein, Mike Dashosh, Michael McNally, Larry Swartz, Darrel Donatto, Mike Linkins, Frank Ennist, John Fish, Ty Silcox, Robert Clayton, David Utley, Kevin Granberg, Jim McAlister, Tim Beattie, Mike Hoening, Kerry Weiss, Benjamin Alderson, Scott Lane, Jack Jarrell, Wayne Watts, Kasie Crowe, Newell Branam, Geoff Brown, Michael Gilbert.

Meeting Called to Order at 10:08 AM by Chairman Williams:

Old Business:

Motion to approve March, 2012 minutes by Tim Beattie from Keiser University , second by Mike Hoening from Seminole CC , motion carried.

Treasury report March 2012 from Michael Dashosh

Beginning Balance as of July 18, 2012 : \$2,395.53

Expenses – \$934.49

Deposits – Dues collected \$1,490.00

Ending Balance: \$2951.04

Motion to approve treasury report by Ben Alderson from Broward Fire, Second by Tim Beattie from Keiser University Motion carries.

- Ron Williams asked the members if they wanted to keep spending the money on the social event that is held during the March Ocala meeting. The last turnout was a little better, however, only about 20 people showed up for it.
- Trying to determine what can be done to get more turnout. A vote was taken to continue with the social event. One suggestion was to have it on the first night. This will be looked into and will be coordinated with Susan Schell.

1. Discussion regarding the 450 hours. Several schools are being mandated to reduce their hours to 398 for minimum standards. Broward Fire Academy will be reducing their minimum standards class to 398 hours as of August. Flagler Technical Institute also advised that they were instructed to reduce their minimum standards class to 398 hours effective immediately.

2. Fire Officer 1,2,3,4 -Meeting on Saturday during the EFO meeting. There were no comments from Chief Baker regarding Fire Officer 1 & 2.

3. Discussion regarding the pilot retention testing that will be taking place in Hillsborough and Indian River. The discussion brought up concerns that the locations were chosen based upon geographics and test scores.

a. Discussion on the need for a retention test location in the south and north end of the State. To run the pilot program in the central part of the State may give false numbers whether there is a need to continue the program. Recommendation that the retention pilot program should take place in the south end of the State and the North of the State.

b. Discussed that the reason for a decline in individuals taking the retention test may be a result of travel distance and costs associated with travel to Ocala.

c. The retention exams that will be held at Hillsborough and Indian River CC do not have a State curriculum. The curriculum for the retention program will be up to the individual academy.

d. Kevin from Gulfcoast proposed that while we have the State examiners at the academy to conduct initial State tests, they should conduct a certain amount of retention testing.

e. There was additional discussion as to utilizing a retention class to satisfy the needs for re-certification and getting rid of the State exam being facilitated by a State Examiner.

f. Barry Baker discussed a proposed program that needs legislative approval. The program is a CEU based program to recertify firefighters and instructors. The system would require firefighters to complete 40 hours of CEU's during a 4 year period in order to recertify.

4. Larry Swartz - provided a report on test results.
 - a. The State Fire College just signed a new contract with Pearson Vue. Part of the contract will be that they need to provide a breakdown of the results from the testing.
 - b. Looking into the ability to pull the data from the practical testing.
 - c. One of the options through the Pearson Vue contract may do away with the State Examiner coming to provide a written exam and having the student go to a Pearson Vue site to take the State Exam for \$42.00. This cost will be in addition to \$30.00 to take the State Practical.
 - d. Pearson Vue will also be responsible for all test development. All other certification tests are done on Pearson Vue.
 - e. Discussion on why are we unable to gather reports on the current minimum standards tests. We were able to get detailed reports on tests in the past and now we are unable to. Response from the State was that the current system is antiquated
5. New Business - Ray Jackson will be retiring in October as Secretary of FFTDA. As of October, Michael McNally will be appointed to the secretary position and will resign as trustee at large. We are now accepting nominations for the Trustee at Large position. The vote will take place in October at the FSFC meeting.
6. Discussion by Ron Williams to Chief Baker to host a meeting with all of the Colleges and training centers on a yearly basis.
7. Finished the final rule hearing for Fire Code Administrator: there were minor changes that were needed to be made and they have to be posted for 21 days. This should be up and running by the end of the year.
8. Department of Financial Services: the entire department is changing how it manages crystal reporting which affects FCDICE. Due to the accounting process changes, the Bureau will no longer be accepting batch checking. As you process new students, have the students pay online electronically. The State is moving away from accepting any paper payments.
9. Next meeting will be in October at the Florida State Fire College. The exact date has not been set yet.
10. Motion to adjourn by Tim Beattie, Keiser University, Second by Kevin Granberg. Meeting adjourned.

