Minutes of Meeting held on January 29th 2016 At Castle Hills FD

**Meeting Called to Order:** President Chief Covington called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM, he thanked everyone for their attendance.

**Introductions;** The personnel in attendance went around the room and introduced themselves.

**Minutes from previous meeting;** The meeting minutes from last month were reviewed and accepted with no changes, Chief Daugherty motioned to accept the minutes, Chief Riedel Seconded the motion, none opposed.

**Treasurer’s Report;** Thereport was reviewed by Treasurer Chief Riedel, Chief Clarkson motioned to accept the treasurers report, Chief Wortes seconded the motion, none opposed.

**Dates Covered: 12/1/2015 – 12/31/2015**

**12/1/2015 Beginning Balance: 14,957.85**

**Income (Deposits**)

12/7 Deposits for Candidate Testing 1155.00

Total Deposits: 1155.00

**Expenses (Debits)**

12/4 Ergometrics Candidate Testing Check # 1059 (928.60)

12/10 & 12/15 Return Check charges (58.00)

**12/31/2015 Ending Balance: 15,126.25**

**Nomination Committee;** Chief Valdez stated he had not received any nominations for president nor the Ad-Hoc committee member positons. He did have one nomination for Treasurer, Chief Kade Long. The nominations were opened up to the floor; Chief Covington stated that he would run for president if there were no others, Chief Clarkson motioned to accept the nomination for Chief Covington as President. Chief Rodriguez seconded the motion. A vote was taken by a show of hands, none opposed.

Chief Daugherty made the nomination of Chief Kade Long for Treasurer, Chief Wallace seconded the motion. A vote was taken by a show of hands, none opposed.

Chief Daugherty made the nomination of Chief Meckel for the Ad-Hoc position, Chief Riedel seconded the motion. A vote was taken by show of hands, none opposed.

The 2016-2017 positions; President Chief David Covington

Treasure Asst. Chief Kade Long

AD-Hoc Member Chief Doug Meckel

**Committee Reports;**

1. **Texas Fire Chiefs Report;** 
   1. Chief Skinner reviewed the training calendar, he stated that the EMS Chief Officer Academy is full, and there is discussion to move this course around due to the demand.
   2. TFCA Executive Conference will be held in Galveston May 2-5 2016. <http://www.txfirechiefs.org/tfca-executive-conference/>
   3. TFCA Texas Fire Chiefs Academy will be held at the Wyndham gardens Hotel in Austin June 26-July 1st . <http://www.txfirechiefs.org/texas-fire-chiefs-academy/>
   4. Chief Skinner stated that if you happen to receive a call Russel Sanders from the ISO Committee asking for a review, if you could contact him direct. Chief Skinner’s recommendation is to not allow them to review in our region.
   5. The LODD conference was very successful; they have already created the agenda for next year and making plans to hold it again in Hurst Texas November 15-17, 2016. They have some very dynamic speakers lined up for this event. <http://www.loddconference.org/schedule---presentation-summaries.html>
   6. There was a question for Chief Skinner regarding the reduction of fees from $85.00 to $75.00 for TCFP. Chief Skinner stated that there will be a second reading at the next meeting. The commission expects that when the rider is removed that it could even see the fees being reduced to approximately $50.00.
2. **REPAC;** 
   1. Chief Daugherty stated that they are currently reviewing the applications for grants, the fire subcommittee has reviewed three grants,
      1. BXCO HazMat approximately $50,000.
      2. SAFD $213,000. multiple items
      3. Kerrville FD $27,000. For a Zodiac Rescue Boat and Trailer
   2. All of the applicants are within the application guidelines. They will be presented at the next meeting for discussion and approval. The next meeting is at the AACOG offices Feb 17th at 1330 Hrs.
   3. Chief Wallace made a comment that Mayor John Williams of Universal City in now the 2016 Chairman of AACOG Board of Directors, He is very approachable and willing to assist if needed.
3. **TIFMAS;** 
   1. Chief Clarkson briefed the group on their last meeting; the major discussion was the past responses, some agencies seemed to have an extended response time from the original callout time. They would like to see teams better prepared to respond and have quicker on scene times.
   2. They are looking to change the current response model to when two or more agency strike teams respond they would send a branch manager to assist, this will also increase the logistical support.
   3. Single resources are getting reassigned to other task forces. They would prefer to keep regional assets together as much as possible.
   4. The TIFMAS Symposium will be held in Round Rock this year, Siddons/Martin and the Round Rock Regional Chiefs will be hosting the event.
   5. Chief Clarkson stated that the required qualification to deploy will be a FF-1 on an engine; the engine boss will then be able to open a task book. This will aid in the process of obtaining a red card, but you would still need the accreditation.
4. **Communications;** 
   1. Chief Trevino stated COSA has posted the RFP for the new radio system, he will consider having Robert Alderman attending the next meeting to provide a detailed update for the radios system.
   2. Alex O'Rourke will provide the latest results from the Friday radio checks to Jeffery Dean he will work with Jeffery to determine the best way to provide an updated list to ensure the greatest response to these weekly checks.
   3. The City of Leon Valley will be participating in the station numbering provided by Bexar County. This is in direct response to the AAR from the Wedgewood fire in Castle Hills. Utilizing the numbering system will reduce the confusion on large working fires when the smaller municipalities all have common apparatus identifiers. Alex will obtain the latest most complete list and upload it on the TexCom Website.
5. **Hiring Consortium;** 
   1. Captain Vaughn will update the current list to find out what the sticking point is for trying to increase the number of participants, he is researching the possibility of going on the road to the other academy’s to advertise the testing process.
   2. Martin Davila from the SAC Fire Academy stated that he would provide his data base to send the information on the testing dates. He will have additional data available next year based on the placement of students from his academy.
6. **Training;** 
   1. Chief Clarkson was looking at bringing the Chief from Aurora Colorado fire department to review the AAR from the theater shooting event.
   2. Martin Davila with the SAC Academy would like to work closer with the AAFCA in the future to assist with bringing in specialized training opportunities and speakers. He would like to have additional discussions on the hot topics or training that is in great demand.

**Unfinished / New Business;**

1. **Old news;** Chief Covington discussed the upgrading of the current website, he reviewed the charges associated with the upgrade and read a letter provided by the STRAC IT Department in regards to the company providing the work and cost associated with the upgrade. Everything seems to be in line with the direction of the association and the future with the challenges we currently face with providing information to the public and receipt of payment for services.
   1. Chief Daugherty stated that the upgrade will deplete the current balance in the account by 50%.
   2. Chief Clarkson stated that the website would allow us to provide a better service to the end user with not have an overhead staff. If registration for courses or testing and the ability to receive the method of payment can be done without a staff this is the up side of doing business.
   3. Chief Wallace stated the new age of media based applications; Credit Card acceptance would greatly reduce the work necessary from his staff at UCFD. The secondary paperwork accepting payments is very time consuming.
   4. Chief Riedel stated that it is time to move forward and upgrade the website. Chief Clarkson made the motion to move forward with the current company that had provided the quote and pricing structure, with a follow up in the future to ensure it remains current with the times and the association’s needs. Chief Wrenn seconded the motion. A Vote was taken by a show of hands. All were in favor, none opposed.
2. Chief Daugherty stated that with the current retiring of Chief Wallace from the Universal City Fire Department he would like to honor his continued support of the AAFCA and provide him with an honorary Lifetime Membership. Chief Daugherty motioned to provide Wallace with an honorary lifetime membership, Chief Riedel Second the motion, all in favor with one Chief Clarkson opposed (a symbolic gesture).
3. Chief Wallace would like to introduce his successor Chief Manual Casterez; he will be taking over as the Fire Chief of Universal City FD this Monday morning at 0001 Hrs.

**Announcements from Departments, Agencies, Open Floor Commentary;**

1. Chief Valdez mentioned that a recent situation with a funeral of a local FF they were in desperate need of a casket sized flag for the service. These flags are usually on a two week back order due to the demand. He suggests that the AAFCA purchase two flags to have on stand by for services that may be needed in our region and replace as necessary. A motion was made by Chief Clarkson to purchase the flags and have the Leon Valley Honor Guard be the custodians of the flags. Chief Ward seconded the motion, none opposed.
2. Chief Trevino has purchased 30K in quick reference guides called “Ready South Texas” He will provide additional information in the coming weeks when they will be available.

**Announcements;**

*The next meeting will be held Feburary 26th at the EOC on Brooks City Base at 1000 Hrs.*

**Adjournment;** A motion was made by Chief Clarkson to adjourn the meeting Chief Riedel seconded the motion, none oppose meeting adjourned at 12:10 hrs.