*Minutes of Meeting held on September 25th 2015 at Helotes FD*

**Meeting Called to Order:**

Chief Covington called the meeting to order at 09:00 Hrs, welcomed all of those who attended the meeting.

**Introductions;**

Personnel in attendance went around the room to introduce themselves to the group.

**Minutes from previous meeting;**

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted with no corrections or changes. Chief Wallace made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as read; Chief Riedel Second the motion. None opposed motion carried.

**Treasure’s Report;**

Chief Riedel provided the update for the Treasures Report;

**Dates Covered: 8/1/2015 – 8/31/2015**

**8/1/2015 Beginning Balance: 15,329.99**

**Income (Deposits**)

Dues from Ata-Bexar, Live Oak, New Braunfels via paypal 120.46

**Expenses (Debits)**

Check # 1057 Payment to Elite Fire Command for TIFMAS Symposium (1,119.00)

**8/31 /2015 Ending Balance: 14,331.45**

Chief Daugherty made a motion to accept the report as given, Chief Wortes second the motion, none opposed, motion carried.

**Committee Reports;**

1. **Communications;**

Alex O’Rourke reported the radio checks has shown a slight increase over the last two months, please take a look at the current email list and make any necessary updates or changes to personnel that you would like to receive the notice. This may be helpful in increasing the participation. Shawn Lang with LCRA stated that there are 4 channels patched into SAFD’s radio system and they will remain, there are no additional changes they need to make to the current code plug in the communicator boxes. Kirk Boatright from Live Oak would like to update the Randolph-Metro TG’s that all our agencies share (Live Oak, Converse, UC, Cibolo, Selma, Schertz, and Judson ISD). Those need to go in there for sure. He will provide us with what we need to accomplish this task. I have reached out to Roger Garza and Bryan Lear with SAFD to follow up with Kirk to make this happen. Lastly we will need to review the VHF frequencies and then we will be ready to make any necessary updates to the communicator boxes.

1. **Hiring Consortium;**

Captain Vaghn stated that last month’s hiring process went well, there were approximately 100 applications sent out to local agencies, schools locally and regionally. He had 70 applications returned. Of the applications returned 60 personnel tested with 23 of them passing.

Capt. Vaghn stated that he is looking at testing again in November to add to the current list, based on the increase hiring of personnel with the participating municipalities. If they advertise now they can run another test in mid-November. There was additional discussion on the candidates do they get removed from the list once they are hired? Vaghn stated that he provided updates when forwarding the list to the participating agencies. Trevor motioned to advertise for an additional testing date to be held Mid-November. Chief Ward second the motion, none opposed, motion carried.

Chief Ross asked how is the consortium working for the other agencies, Vaghn stated that Live Oak was the last municipality that hired from the list. Trevor stated that it makes it much easier for them to hire folks that have already passed the testing process. It streamlines their application process.

1. **Training**

Chief Clarkson is looking at dates for next year to bring in specific training opportunities. If anyone has any specific training suggestions for speakers or instructors that they would like to see please forward their contact information to him for evaluation.

1. **Texas Fire Chiefs Report**

Chief Skinner forwarded the following minutes from the Texas Fire Chiefs;

There is still an opportunity for those that missed the conference to see the speakers. To view the videos, you must be a member of TCFA.

<http://www.txfirechiefs.org/tfca-executive-conference-2015/>

Password: TXFIREc

**Legislative update:**

The TFCA Board has already begun working on the next legislative session, working with TML on streamlining our process.

**Committee Report:**

* Reminder that the annual executive conference will be held in Galveston May 2-5 at Moody Gardens.

**Academies**

Texas Fire Chiefs Academy – Garland (over 60 registered)

October 25 - October 30, 2015 - Garland Fire Training Academy

Work is being done on developing an EMS Chief Academy. More info as it develops

**Company Officer Symposia**

There were 6 successful company officer courses held throughout the state this year.

 See web site for future classes and registration

**Interested in Hosting a Company Officer Symposium?**

We are looking for additional sites for Company Officer Symposia due to the high demand.  If your fire department would like to host an event, please contact Betty Wilkes (bwilkes@txfirechiefs.org).  Requirements include classroom with a/v equipment, room for up to 40 individuals and 2.5 day block.

**Texas Fire Chiefs Retreat**

AKA Texas Fire Chiefs Workshop: Advanced Topics in Leadership - San Antonio

November 2-4, 2015

See web site for information and registration

**Other Important Information**

Vance Riley, TFCA’s representative on GTAC, is not seeking reappointment to the GTAC Board. If you or you know someone that would be interested in serving, contact Betty (This position requires a strong commitment).

The FY2016 budget was approved. See me if you wish to view it

TFCA Board meeting calendar was set:

January 8, College Station

May1, Moody Gardens

October 6, During TML

**Not a TFCA event but good information:**

LODD Conference: Different Departments, Same Outcomes - Hurst

October 13-15, 2015

1. **REPAC Sub-Committee Report;**
	1. Chief Daugherty reported Repac meets every 3rd Wed. of the month at 13:30 Hrs, he suggests that everyone participate the sub-committees. If you want to have a say in the distribution of funds and how they are spent you should participate. Kerrville and New Bruanfels were the only two departments represented in the last meeting. Training monies will be available in the future if they meet the Terrorism criteria. They are looking for additional members to fill some of the other positions:
		1. Chief Daugherty- Fire Chair
		2. Dudley Wait – Haz Mat Chair
		3. Vacant- IT Chair
		4. Vacant- Public Health Chair
		5. Vacant- Law Enforcement Chair
2. **Board Meeting minutes;**
	1. Chief Covington reviewed the minutes from the Board Meeting that was held this morning.
		1. The Web Page contract was reviewed; there is some verbiage that needs to be updated on the current version. The provider will be contacted and should make the necessary changes. The new web page will allow personnel to sign in directly to class offerings, testing opportunities and Accept Pay Pal. The Designer will be looking for pictures from all agencies covering all disciplines or events, these pictures must be owned by the department and non-copyrighted.
		2. Elections Update; The AAFCA will be looking for nominee’s for the upcoming elections, the positions that will be open include President, Treasure and the Ad-Hoc position.
		3. There was discussion to move the meeting back one hour to 10 am to accommodate the daily shift change and traffic. This would also give the outlying agencies the ability to host meetings. Chief Daugherty stated we should give this a try starting next month and evaluate it.
		4. Discussion to have the hosting agency provide any demonstration on specialized equipment that they may have recently purchased and discuss the relevance to their agency. (Not to become a sales pitch). Chief Daugherty stated
		5. Look to offering dynamic speakers to the agenda to increase participation and provide additional information to the local municipalities.
		6. Potentially hosting an active shooter program, with multi-agency participation. Chief Wallace suggested that Chief Covington work with SAPD to have them invite us to their meeting and possibly start up an exercise.

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

 **Daugherty; Helotes FD**  mentioned the scholarship recipients that attended the municipal school in college station this year, the paper work has been submitted and he is just waiting on the reimbursement.

 **Covington; Schertz FD** Mentioned the mandatory Traffic Safety Course that all agencies will have to complete, he would be willing to come out and teach the class if some agencies would like to host an offering to contact him.

 **Valdez; Leon Valley FD** Mentioned that he received little feedback on his in prompt to survey about departments that would like to participate in the Fitness Trainer Program that is recognized by the IAFF/IAFC. This program covers the NFPA 1583 for fitness wellness program. They are currently looking to have a minimum of 25 students in order for them to send an instructor to do a train the trainer course in San Antonio. Luis will post it again on TexCom for those departments that would be interested in participating. The fee is $1000. 00 per student and must be paid prior to the course.

 **Davis; BXCO Dispatch** Mentioned he is developing an Emergency Text Messaging Notification he currently is using the BXCO Fire Marshalls office as a test bed. He is looking for additional personnel that would be interested in becoming part of his beta testing for multi-agencies. There is no cost associated with this program. If you are interested being part of this program, contact Dorian Davis at ddavis@bexar.org for additional information.

 **Daugherty; Helotes FD**, Asked the participating members if they have been receiving the participation certificates put out by his office. If someone does not receive a certificate to please contact him direct.

**Announcements of next meeting;**

 ***Octobers Meeting will be held October 30th at Leon Valley FD***

 ***Starting at 10:00 Hrs***

***Note the new time change***

**Adjournment**

With no further items to discuss, Chief Wallace motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chief Meckel second the motion; no objections were heard; motion carried to adjourn the meeting.