



East Central Florida Fire Prevention Association



Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Volusia County Training Center- 3889 Tiger Bay Rd

Members Present

1. Sharon Shivers- Deltona
2. Lisa Nadeau- Deltona
3. Ajorie Bailey- Deltona
4. Richard Beauregard- Holly Hill
5. Kyle Crider- Port Orange
6. Dan Deckers- Volusia County
7. Mark Edgil- Volusia County
8. Ken Gaines- Ormond Beach
9. Fred Godawa- New Smyrna Beach
10. Eric Hill- Wiginton Fire Systems Orlando
11. Jeff Humphrey- Edgewater
12. Chip Johnson- Volusia County School Board
13. Steve Lane- New Smyrna Beach
14. Shane Lanoue- Volusia County
15. Fred Link- Deland
16. Brian Sievertson- Daytona Beach
17. Tom Smith- Wiginton Fire Systems Orlando
18. Don Wiech- New Smyrna Beach
19. Rebecca Whidden- Deland

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Sharon Shivers, President at 2:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Approval of July minutes with June 1-30 financial reports. Motion made to approve meeting minutes by Shane Lanoue and second by Richard Beauregard.

President's Report

- *Fire Chief's Group Meeting*
 - I attended the upcoming Fire Chief's Group meeting on Wednesday, July 24, 2024; and inquired if the Red Book needed to have a MOG created? There were a couple of members from the MOG review committee present at the meeting and asked if I could

send them over a preliminary draft for them to discuss at their next meeting. I sent the preliminary draft to Chief Allen. Waiting to hear back for direction.

- I really need help with developing and reviewing the Red Book. This is a group effort and shouldn't be the efforts of just a handful of people. The more eyes on it the better, so please send me the changes asap and/or if you have any changes specific to your agency.
- *Hilti CEU Update*
 - I heard back from Tyler who was working with Phillip Oaks to try and get CEUs after the fact for the Hilti Penetration class we attended a couple months ago, but unfortunately, he was unsuccessful.
 - Shane Lanoue offered to be a point of contact for any future classes since he has a direct connection with Phillip Oaks.
 - Fred Link brought up the fact that our association is already established through FCDICE, so we have the ability of getting CEUs for classes taught through our association. We would just have to get it approved before the class.
 - Richard Beauregard advised the group that he and Terry Griffith are registered with the state through our association; however, he has been trying to remove his name and pass the responsibility onto another group member since he is no longer president of the association.
 - Fred Link advised the group that we could remove Richard Beauregard and Terry Griffith, but it may require a trip to Ocala. We would also need a couple of association members to step up and volunteers to be added as their replacements.
 - Shane Lanoue and Kyle Crider volunteered to be the two new association members.
- *Fire Investigation and Origin Course*
 - I forwarded an email from Shane Lanoue advertising an upcoming Investigation of Origin and Cause of Structure Fires class which is being hosted by the Florida Fire and Explosion Investigations Association (FFEIA). The class is free for FFMIA members and 1-800-Boardup is providing lunch.
 - Shane Lanoue advised they will be doing this on a quarterly basis through the FFMIA and will move around. We are trying to get the next one in Volusia and then move over to the West coast.
- *Food Truck Checklist and Decal*
 - The checklist and decal were sent to the printers; however, they are still not available for pick-up before our meeting. While the checklist is ready, they are waiting for the decals to come back which were sent out to be UV protective coated.

- In the meantime, you can still use the current decal you will just need to cross out the 6 month and replace it with a 12.
- *BDA's & P25 Update*
 - Trent Skille has confirmed that he will be here next month to discuss BDAs and P25. Specifically, we know what to expect with a new system, but we do not know what the county's expectations of us are for systems that are due for reassessment.

Vice-President's Report

Not present- nothing to report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

- *Financial reports for July 1-31*
 - Checking- \$6,297.32
 - Deposits- nothing to report.
 - Expenses- nothing to report.
 - Savings- \$1,000.82
 - Deposits- nothing to report.
 - Expenses- nothing to report.

Important Notes:

- *Sign-in sheets.*
 - Please do not forget to sign-in on both sheets (ECFFPA and VCFR)
 - Please remember to include your FDICE number when signing the VCFR sheet.
- *ECFFPA Contact Sheet*
 - Please review your information for typos, corrections, etc. If changes are needed, please make them and initial.
 - If your information is grayed out, then your information is up to date.
 - The contact sheet will be used for emails, contact information, and future classes so it is important to keep your information current.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

Chip Johnson

- *BDAs*

- Two new schools opened, Tomoka Elementary and Small. Small does not need a BDA, but Tomoka Elementary does. This was confirmed by Greg Kelly who tested and did not get a signal.
- Woodward Ave Elementary needed a BDA and it passed the test with Greg Kelly and Trent. They tested with their radios for buildings 3 & 4 with a nice clear signal through the building. The main existing building does not need a BDA because they could get a signal. The two new buildings in the back did get a BDA.
- Pine Ridge HS and Deltona HS and did BDAs, but Greg Kelly and Trent said to turn them off because they interfered with the County P25 signal. Sam Schaller visited the schools and did a radio test to show that he was getting a good signal.
- The new schools in Orange City and Edith Starke will need a grid test as they near completion.

New Business

Sharon Shivers

o Public School Walkthroughs

- We have started to receive requests from the middle schools to schedule their fire department walkthroughs so felt the need to bring this up since last year Howard Bailey had some concerns with the schools asking his firefighters to sign off that they completed the walkthrough. I was hoping Ken Mitchell would be present so that we could get some insight into whether Chief Bailey's concerns, which I do not recall what they exactly were, had been adequately addressed.
 - Ken Mitchell did forward me an email between him and Brian Sievertson which clarified that the firefighters are not obligated by Florida State Statute to provide their DL during these walkthroughs since they are exempt from disclosing their personal information such as home address and DOB.
- Steve Lane inquired about how are other agencies handing these walkthroughs since they are new to him since moving to Florida.
 - Sharon Shivers advised that Deltona treats them like a pre-fire plan and sends the first due engine crew to complete the walkthrough and a complete pre-fire plan. The walkthrough still poses confusion to the principals and assistant principals who look at you with confusion when we arrive because they do not have a clear understanding on what they need to do then ask us to sign this piece of paper saying that the local fire department completed the walkthrough.
 - o Chip Johnson advised that the schools should not be calling the local fire department to complete the walkthroughs, they need to go through Ken Mitchell who will complete it since the VCPS has their own fire inspectors.
 - o Sharon Shivers respectfully corrected Chip and advised him that the walkthroughs required by the state statute VCPS referenced years ago shall be completed by the local fire department and local law enforcement agencies every three years. Ken Mitchell cannot complete them on our behalf. This is why there is so much confusion!

- The group reiterated to Steve Lane that should anyone come across a problem while completing the walkthrough to kindly report it to Ken Mitchell for corrective action, since they are their own AHJ.
- Brian Sievertson reiterated that the walkthrough as presented in the state statute is not an inspection.
- Shane Lanoue advised that they are no longer inspecting schools since the VCPS is their own AHJ.
- Brian Sievertson mentioned that it was his understanding that by that same state statute there is language that suggests that any building that undergoes alterations or reconstruction that the local AHJ being notified, and a revised floor plan provided.
- Fred Link and Sharon Shivers recalled they're being a presentation made by Ken Mitchell a few years back which suggested uniformity on what documents and information was supposed to be provided during the walkthrough. Fred Link recalls the minimum information being gates, gas valves, fire hydrants; however, what we are getting is a layout of the school buildings only.
 - Sharon Shivers inquired with Chip Johnson on if there is still a move toward providing this uniformity and consistency since it seems that each school is different in what they provide or don't provide. They do not seem to have a clear direction when it comes to expectations of these walkthroughs.
 - Chip Johnson advised that he would look into that since it is his understanding that the district is developing a program but that is through the security department.
 - Sharon Shivers asked if it would be worth having a conversation with the security department to better understand where they are heading? Chip Johnson referred me to reach out to Captain Smith.
 - Ken Gaines then brought up the fact that the security department doesn't understand the fire side of things so who is speaking on our behalf?
 - Sharon Shivers assumes that Ken Mitchell is involved but reiterated the importance of forming an open dialogue and to begin communicating with them on these issues/questions.
- *Florida Youth Firesetters Intervention Network*
 - I received information in the mail concerning the Florida Youth Firesetters Intervention Network. Does anyone know what this is? It is asking us to provide information about of local JFS program, provide statistics, etc.
 - Shane Lanoue advised that this is a private entity, and the program has not been vented through the state nor the FFMIA.
 - The consensus of the group for now is to not complete any paperwork and we will see if anymore comes of it later.
 - Sharon Shivers inquired with Kyle Crider if Port Orange still had any interest in assisting as an instructor for the JFS program on the east side of the county? This was brought up when Beau Gardner was here as he indicated there were some qualified people in Port Orange. At the time, we were seeking help on the east side of the county since Lisa Nadeau is currently the only instructor and acts as the coordinator for the program.

- Kyle Crider advised that Beau Gardner, Kelly and myself were lined up to assist but with Covid it kind of fizzled out, but is happy to re-visit it and is more than willing to help out.
- Shane Lanoue advised that he is going to visit with Amelia who has started holding classes on the state side, so it sounds like there might be more opportunity for help. Their new Bureau Chief is also about inter-cooperability with other agencies, so things may be changing. I have a meeting with her, and I'll see if I can bring something back.

Presentation

Yolanda Buckles

- *County Emergency Management on CEMP's*
 - Shane Lanoue advised that the only way that the CEMP letter is sent out, is if you reviewed the CEMP and provide their last inspection.
 - Steve Lane respectfully disagreed and advised that there is a disconnect because we have a facility, and they have been running to the County and saying that everything is approved.
 - Shane Lanoue suggested then they are using either last year's letter or something. Yolanda will not give that letter out. She must go by law. Somewhere, somebody is getting an approval letter through an inspection form or something and giving that to her. Deltona, no offense, was not doing anything. She has to call and chase down the inspector to get an approval.
 - Steve Lane they will be given an approval letter by us saying that their fire inspection is clean.
 - Shane Lanoue advised that this is why we want to go to this system and stop all of that. You can see the CEMPs as a City. You can see and review the CEMPs. There is a lot of information in there that will shock you as to what is required for the ALF's. This is why we want to move to one system. It is all uploaded in the system to review and approve. Per the State side, if they are not approved Yolanda will call AHCA, she has as much power if not more than us.
 - Sharon Shivers advised that she would like to bring this up at the Chief's Group meeting in September to let them know this is the format that we are going to provide for consistency throughout the County, so that everybody is on the playing field, getting the same information out, and asking for the same information.
 - Shane Lanoue advised Steve Lane that if he has one that he knows of, that got the CEMP letter, and he doesn't think they got an approval letter from you then she can go back and check to see where and when they got approval.
 - Sharon Shivers requested the templates so that she can push them out to the group to agree on the verbiage for both the approval and denial letters.

Roundtable

Sharon Shivers

- ***Study Guides***

- Norman Medders is looking for any test guides for Fire Officer for I, 2 and 3, you can send them directly to him. I sent the email out yesterday. Also, if anyone has Fire Inspector II test guides, Ajourie is looking to sit for his test soon.

Lisa Nadeau

Nothing to report.

Eric Hill

Nothing to report.

Tom Smith

Nothing to report.

Sharon Shivers inquired if Sam Schaller ever got him that letter on behalf of the ECFFPA regarding the information signage. Tom indicated that he had not received a letter.

Ajourie Bailey

Nothing to report.

Brian Sievertson

Nothing to report.

Shane Lanoue

○ ***State Reporting System***

- The website/portal that I sent the other day with the interactive dashboards, I met with the state a couple of days ago, they will be putting a link to the page so you can update your data. The state portal is up and running. You can see how many fire fatalities, NIFIRS, all the way down to street level, all that stuff is coming from our data that is being collected. Make sure that your crews are putting in good data, right addresses and will be used heavily in the Community Risk Assessment that the State is going to be using. Everyone from the Governor down is now looking on a daily basis. The information is from 4 different sources – Dept of Health, NIFIRS, State FM and the States Reporting. They do not think that they are capturing it all. They are still missing information. If you see that your numbers are not right, please call them and they will update your information. If the NIFIRS reports are wrong, they are sending it back to the responsible party who sent them (email on file). Because a lot of the reports are being sent in by a 3rd party, they are going back into la la land. Through the FFMIA we are working on getting a list of all the FM's in the state and municipalities, to provide that list to them, so they will have a list of who to send the reports back to. Get on the website, use it as a tool.

Rebecca Whidden

Nothing to report.

Mark Edgil

○ **Red Book**

- Looked it over and there were only a couple of things that need to be clarified, but overall, it looks good.

Dan Deckers

Nothing to report.

Kyle Crider

Nothing to report.

Richard Beauregard

○ **Contractors**

- Daytona Fire and Safety sold after 50 years. The Kings are still there for another 6-12 months, helping Summit, the new owners. You will still see the Daytona Fire and Safety signs on the trucks and tags on the fire extinguishers.
 - Sharon Shivers advised that group that Lee Powell with Powell Fire Sprinkler passed away. The family plans on keeping the company going.
 - Richard Beauregard advised that Todd Buckner with Gulf Coast passed away and the company closed.
 - Shane Lanoue advised that JD Weber, Sr. passed away. They are using Andy Johnson with Mastercraft as their qualifier until little Joe gets his Class V License.
- Shane Lanoue mentioned that he recalls there being a list of fire protection contractors that had phone numbers and contacts for their companies; however, the list is outdated and inquired if it would be beneficial to update it?
 - Tom Smith advised that he can get with Adam because he believes he has one put together already.

Don Wiech

Nothing to report.

Steve Lane

○ **Landmark Building**

- Major victory this month, it took us 2 ½ years but we finally got the building sprinkled for a landmark restaurant that we shall remain unnamed. The total bill was close to a quarter of a million. They had electrical issues. They kept coming back saying that they did not have enough power, and the power company said that they had plenty of power. As I was doing their fire sprinkler final, they had a small electrical fire.

○ **Ocean Breeze**

- They have a cigar bar with an existing Chickee Hut. They added a Chickee Hut to the front of the building and I informed them not to put electricity in there; however, they did not listen. As a result, all the electric and plumbing had to be removed.

Fred Godawa

Nothing to report.

Ken Gaines

○ **Red Tagged Systems**

- We have been running into and getting phone calls from customers whose fire sprinkler companies have red tagged their system but did not provide them any type of written documentation. They are being told that they don't have to. Some are trying to say that the information you are looking for is written on the red tag. Would it be of any value that we try to establish some kind of report.
 - Shane Lanoue advised that are technically supposed to red tag it and notify the AHJ within 72 hours.

Fred Link

○ **Conference**

- During the conference in Tampa, they brought up the whole issue of 3rd party reporting and they are looking into opening the rules, they could do better. Maybe one place that everyone can download into a system that we would all have access to. This is down the road. Who is going to pay for the personnel to run and do it.

Jeff Humphreys

Nothing to report.

Projected Project Goals

Create a Countywide Redbook

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 3:59 PM. Motion was made by Chip Johnson and second by Shane Lanoue.

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 2:00 PM

VCFR Training Center located at 3889 Tiger Bay Rd. Classroom TBD