

November 14, 2023
Executive Committee Minutes
Edventure Museum

Attendance: Malcolm Burns, Randy Arant, Brian Christmas, Pierce Womack, Jason Dennis, Josh Holzheimer, John Bowers, Ross Vezin, Terry Sheriff (via zoom), Brad Kavetski, Charles Lamoreaux, Matt Tidwell, Jamie Caggiano, Zorrina Harmon, Jamie Helms, Brick Lewis, and Joe Palmer

Guest: Bradley Anderson and Andy Marquart with Edventure and Sam Gaither with C&B Fire Department, Coastal ESINet Cooperative

10:01AM Call to Order by President Malcolm Burns.

Bradley Anderson spoke on Dalmatian Station. He thanked the SCSFA for helping in securing funding through legislation for the exhibit. He discussed the 2013 and 2022 upgrades to the exhibit. Bradley introduced Edventure's CEO, Andy Marquart. Andy thanked the committee for their partnership and support over the years. He discussed continued collaboration of their myrtle beach location on Fire Rescue. Bradley and Andy took committee on tour of Edventure.

11:10AM Meeting reconvened

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance by Joe Palmer and President Burns

President Burns gave welcome and introduced our next speaker Sam Gaither with C&B Fire Department and representative with Coastal ESINet Cooperation.

Sam Gaither gave presentation on 911 communication issues and technology sharing involving supplemental location services. He discussed the 911 fund and how that is collected and dispersed throughout the state. The goal of the cooperation is to simplify the tax on phone bills to a standard \$1 all over the state regardless of county you reside in, move from three to two ESINets and work with the RFA. The cooperation is asking SCSFA to help educate legislators and the public on their goals and to engage local 911 centers. Sam will make sure to send a flyer with talking points to the association to disburse to committee.

A motion was made by Brian Christmas to accept the minutes from October 17, 2023 as presented; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.

Committee Reports

Training & Education – Terry Sheriff – Fire Rescue had several instructor applications. The committee is working hard to make it a well-rounded conference to suit career and volunteers along with family classes.

He presented numbers for Fire Service Improvement. (Joe's slide). Classes are filling up. The committee along with EC will be given tasks during the conference to help make it successful. The numbers of registrants show that our members want training. This is the starting point to show us how to proceed without acquired structures.

State advisory meeting update. Ora Staley will be retiring December 14, 2023. The academy will continue to do regional training. They discussed how to hire more instructor and ways to remove the rehire cap. The academy is looking at more online classes and online testing. Overall, the communication line is open with Jason Pope holding conversations with SCSFA and their clients all over the state. Joe Palmer spoke on his take aways from the meeting.

12:21PM lunch was provided

1:01PM meeting reconvened

Finance & Audit – Randy Arant – See committee report

Legislative – Brian Christmas – The Committee met last week to strategize for the upcoming session. April 17, 2023, is Legislative Day and the same week as FDIC.

Advisory – Pierce Womack – Committee meets tomorrow to hold in person LI interviews. 13 scheduled.

4th VP – Jason Dennis – He was able to sit with the T&E committee at their last meeting and will continue to follow T&E committee.

Past President – Josh Holzheimer – continues to work on past president section by laws. He sent completed past president information to bylaws committee.

Supervisory – John Bowers – Discussed last regional meeting and the great attendance. Went over upcoming events. John and Jamie Helms discussed the timeframe for making Retirement survey questions mandatory. There needed to be clarification in the form of a motion on when survey will be mandatory. John gave update on heritage committee.

A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to extend the deadline for retirement questionnaire/survey to August 2024. Seconded by Brian Christmas. All in favor, motion approved.

Health & Safety – Brad Kavetski – Committee met last week. They purchased a yeti cooler for the Bingo prize on the first campaign. November 29 the cancer coalition is meeting. He showed the results to committee on the PSAS Foam questionnaire that was taken on November 13th. (See Joe's slide)

Member Benefits – Ross Vezin – Thanked Jamie and Brick for serving at the Beaufort County cookout at Lady’s Island. Gave report on mattress firm and the usage since partnership began. Shows the benefits make a difference. He continues to work with Will on Active 911 to get a group discounted rate for all departments. A letter was sent to the CEO of Active 911. He continues to work on Top Golf and DNR.

By-Laws – Charles Lamoreaux – The Committee will be Reviewing past president recommendations. See report

Recruitment & Retention – Jamie Helms – This group has scheduled Kurt Varone for February 23, 2024, for a R&R seminar. It will focus not only on career but those departments that are combination and volunteer on how to navigate FSLA. Location TBD

NVFC – Malcolm added that the Quarterly was great and the speakers were excellent.

Officer Section – Matt Tidwell – He discussed they received 42 applications for Officer Academy and 4 applications were from Georgia. What they are doing is spreading and they have got the next class preparations underway.

Foundation – Jamie Caggiano – The Children’s Burn Fund Group signed an agreement with the Foundation and hopes to have the finalization with MUSC by the end of the year. They continue to work with MUSC to make the finalizations. Ross added that he reached out to Taylor’s Tins and they would like to give to the foundation.

SCFIS – Zorrina – Mark your calendars for February 3, 2024, for the Memorial Service to be held at the Riverland Hills Baptist Church in Irmo. Letters have already been sent to departments and families. She also discussed MASA becoming an insurance product and they have become the agent in SC for that product. She also encouraged those in the room to add dependents to their policy and Marcia will be updating all information for the conversations.

Administration Team Report – Brick Lewis

- Jana continues to receive and input membership dues.
- Jeff has been on the road.
- Brook is working on the style guide for marketing dos and don’ts to include social media and other context outlets.
- Kim Bowman will be joining our staff first of the year and staff is excited. February 1, 2024, is her official start date at this time but if the rollover is completed early that date could change.
- The week after Thanksgiving the association roof is being replaced.

Operation Team Report – Jamie Helms –

- Jeff Allen is delivering the last cancer bucket next week.

- Patti's team has been very busy. She is working on policies and procedures. She will be working with Kevin Henson on a strategic Plan for FAST.
- Carter is traveling with the group to NY to visit the retirement home and strategize for a future home idea in SC
- Ashley went to VCOS, and the highlight of her trip was Keith D. from Horry County, now Chief in PA. She is looking at bringing him to speak at an association event.
- Kim V. is working on database cleanup.

Deputy Director Jamie Helms-

- EMS association approached Jamie about working with them and the Healthcare Coalition for a \$40,000 program that trains the trainer to teach FF's and EMT's self-protection of the unknown on responses.
- Staff attended the Metro Chiefs meeting last week and they had a discussion of becoming a section of the association. Joe added this is important in the larger picture of the future of the association.

Executive Director Joe Palmer- Went over playbook for December and discussed the next meeting will be our Christmas meeting, a time to relax and have good fellowship. It will be at Camp Cole.

Old Business

Discussed offer made on a new building and there is a tour of the building for all those who can attend immediately after the meeting today.

New Business

A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Seconded by Randy Arrant.

President will provide staff Christmas bonuses to executive director next week.

A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to adjourn; seconded by Randy Arant. All in favor.