

**Executive Committee Meeting
January 9, 2024
Zoom**

Attendance: Malcolm Burns, Randy Arant, Brian Christmas, Pierce Womack, Jason Dennis, Josh Holzheimer, John Bowers, Ross Vezin, Terry Sheriff, Brad Kavetski, Kevin Henson, Charles Lamoreaux, Mike Norket, Billy Dillon, Jack Kirlin, Matt Tidwell, Jamie Caggiano, Rickie Jenkins, Joe Palmer, Jamie Helms, Brick Lewis, Zorrina Harmon, Ashley Boltin, Rick Dunn, Carter Jones, Jana Kassianos, Jeff Oswald

10:00 am Call to order and Welcome by President Burns

Invocation By Rickie Jenkins

President Burns welcomed everyone, in the interest of time and with the bad weather rolling in, please raise your hand if you have something to bring forward to the group. We will not be going through traditional roll call for reports.

A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer to approve the minutes of December 12, 2023, as presented.; seconded by Brian Christmas. All in favor

Committee Reports

Training & Education – Terry Sheriff – We need to address and discuss nonmembers being able to participate in training hosted by the association. We want to make it fair and allow members to have first opportunity. President Burns ask if you have an idea of what this process should look like please send it to Terry and we will look at it at a later time. John Bowers gave some historical background. The Training & Education Committee is down a member, President Burns and 1st VP Arant will get together on filling this position.

Finance & Audit – Randy Arant – The committee meet yesterday to review the numbers from First Citizens Bank on the 1400 Browning Road Property. We as a committee are excited and comfortable that we can afford the building. Joe interjected that he envisions one day soon a meeting will be called to include executive committee, staff, real-estate agents, and bankers for one final layout of the plan before we sign a contract moving forward. We meet on January 11th with Green Finney to discuss payments and tenant income. Deputy Director Helms ask that everyone keep one of our real estate agents George in your thoughts and prayers as he has suffered a stroke. There are efforts now to try and get him in at the Shepard Center rehab in Atlanta.

Brian Christmas – Today will be my last Executive Committee meeting, I have accepted a position in Youngsville, NC as their Fire Chief. I will conduct my last Legislative meeting on Friday and will be moving on Sunday to North Carolina. Thank you for everything you all have done for me. I will keep in touch.

President Burns congratulated Kevin Henson, on his new position as deputy chief at St. Johns Fire District.

Advisory – Pierce Womack – ***A motion was presented out of the advisory committee meeting to move forward with 10 candidates for 2024-25 LI to phase 3. All in favor.***

1. Britt Blackmon
2. Eric Burwell
3. Cory Chinn
4. Sean Collins
5. April Conyers
6. Peter Dontje
7. John Galganski
8. Richard Long
9. Micah Rains
10. Joshua Yale

A motion made by Pierce Womack to include 2 additional candidates to move forward to phase 3; seconded by Randy Arant.

Discussion

A motion by Randy Arant to table the vote; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.

CFSI – Ashley informed the group that the original dates of April 23 – 26, 2024 that have been published by CFSI for over a year, were changed last week to April 29 & 30th. After discussion with President Burns, we are going to continue with the original dates. This means we will not be attending the CFSI Dinner, but we will still support their efforts and donate just not purchase a table for this year. Our travel arrangements have already been made and our work is more so with the staffers, we feel that we can still get the same amount accomplished by sticking with the original dates.

A motion by Randy Arant to donate \$2,000 to CFSI efforts in a sponsorship; seconded by John Bowers. All in favor.

Operations Team Report

Rick Dunn and Team have been working hard for FSI Conference we look forward to quality training.

Fire-Rescue - The initial draft schedule was completed and approved. 43 classes were added. All 25 selected presenters were notified, and Teaching agreements sent by email.

Patti Graham – SCFAST

- Very busy, Mile in Our Boots Clinician Academy is sold out for April 4 -7, 2024 we look forward to supporting her in her efforts.
- They have several trainings coming up in Pickens and Spartanburg, if you would like to host a training in your area, please reach out we would love to get you set up.
- Patti will be meeting with Strategic Planning committee soon and looks forward to that.

- She continues to meet and work with Peer Connect.

Jeff Allen – Sprinkler Coalition

- Just completed the North Charleston Home Show in Ladson 5th, 6th & 7th.
- Getting ready to head to Greenville for the Home Renovation Show this weekend, 12th, 13th & 14th.
- planning on attending the Chesterfield County FC meeting in Cheraw, Wednesday the 10th.
- planning on attending the Charleston County FC meeting; Wednesday 17th.
- Assisting with whatever is handed to me during the FSIC 18th, 19th & 20th.
- Assisting however I can with the memorial service on Saturday February 3rd
- planning on attending the Pee Dee FC on Tuesday February 13th in Lee County
- Lower State on February 19th and Pickens County in Norris on the 22nd.
- Columbia Home Show February 23rd, 24th & 25th.

Carter Jones

- Guest speaker at Newberry FD Appreciation Dinner
- Visited Fort Lawn FD to help w/ history research.
- Current research: History of State Fire for inclusion in “Fire Marshal’s Handbook” ...Role of F. H. McMaster (former Insurance Commissioner and 1% Fund...assisted Joe Palmer w/ History project narrative...working w/ Coxsackie FD (NY) Historian in solving mystery of the Star of the West incident...wrote 2 articles “NY – SC Connection” for FASNY magazine

SCFIS – Zorrina Harmon

The Memorial Service will be held February 3, 2024, everyone is invited. We will do rehearsal on February 1st time to be announced. Day of we will have a run through at 10:00 am, families will start arriving at 11:30 am and Memorial Service will be at 2:00 pm.

Administration Team Report

Database Project:

Kim is Working on the departments to get 6,631 of our 17,728 plus roster members that are either missing or have incorrect social security numbers corrected and input into the database. Along with correcting roster members social security information, we are also correcting all other information such as incorrect address, date hire dates, birth dates, and roster member status that has resulted in departments updating/correcting department rosters and claims to the benefits department.

Other Projects Completed:

Voting members by department and county and total voting members by county onto state map for information for those that are running for the vacant 4th VP Seat.

1% ACCOUNTING SERVICES

As of this morning:

- January 1st deadlines
 - 81 Departments that still owe dues
 - 226 Departments that have not confirmed their Voting Members
- January 31st deadlines
 - 375 Departments that have not submitted their Form 206
 - 340 Departments that have not submitted their Form 207.

Jana sent email reminder on Friday to departments that have not confirmed their voting members.

She sent an email this morning to departments who we have not received payment for dues.

COMMUNICATION CORRINATOR

Brook working on several projects to include continuing to communicate upcoming events, 2023 Year in Review, FSIC survey, AFFF foam survey, foundation success stories, recent awarded fire service personnel stories, etc.

Deputy Director Helms Report

Retirement, Jana is working on spread sheet to combine with Toledano's information for Milliman. If you want to send your money, send it to the normal Charles Swab deposit and your typical paperwork can be sent to Toledano attention to Kim Bowman and she will make sure it gets processed after the changeover.

We have FLSA event coming up February 23rd currently we have 34 registered & a LAST Team training the end of January and currently we have 9 people registered.

Recruitment & Retention - Billy Dillon – We are excited to be able to bring Curt Varone to host the FLSA Class we look forward to packing the room. The R&R committee continues to work with Will Vaigneur on a section in the Fire Chief's Handbook. Billy Dillon & Bryan Riebe are working on a presentation showing the toolbox that is being built with the different efforts. This can be presented at future events.

Joe Palmer the Chaplain search chairman has stepped as side because he has decided to put his name in the hat. We will be appointing a new Chairman.

Playbook Review for February – Joe Palmer

Old Business

None

New Business

None

A motion was made by Brian Christmas for Executive Session to discuss personnel matters to include the Executive & Deputy Director; seconded by Randy Arant. All in favor.

The committee came out of Executive Session with no action taken.

A motion made by Randy Arant to accept the two additional members to move to phase 3 of the Leadership Institute process. Seconded by Pierce Womack. All in favor. None opposed.

1. Austin Keith
2. Daniel Smith

A motion made by Josh Holzheimer to accept President Burns recommendation of Tres Atkinson to fill in the position of 2nd VP since Brian Christmas will be resigning; seconded by Randy Arant. All in favor. None Opposed.

Joe Palmer had one more announcement, we have another individual that has submitted and announced his running for 4th VP, that is Kevin Henson.

President Burns thanked Brian Christmas for his participation and friendship and sends his best wishes for his new chapter as Fire Chief of Youngsville FD, in North Carolina.

A motion by Randy Arant to adjourn; seconded by Brian Christmas. All in favor.

Addition Addendum

Approved names for 2024 Leadership Institute phase 3 Provided after the meeting by Vice President Womack on 1/9/2024.

Below are the applicants approved in today's Executive Committee Meeting for Leadership Institute:

Electronic Reports Submitted for January 2024

Finance & Audit - The committee looked at several loan options provided by First Citizens for 1400 Browning Road. Our main goal was to look at the loan numbers given and make sure that we could afford the monthly payment amount with or without current tenants within the building. Everyone on the committee feels very confident, with the budget and numbers provided, that we can afford the monthly payments.

Supervisory - Regional classes: January 29, 2024, Calhoun County March 4, 2024, Fairfield County April 30, 2024, Union County February/March 2024 Surfside Beach (Tentatively) Jeff is working on audit list for this year's 1% audits. Will have completed week of January 8-12, 2024

Strategic Planning - Next meeting is on 1/18 & 1/19 (mini planning session prior to the improvement conference). This meeting will be focused on planning for the Spring Retreat and working on strategic initiatives. The committee will also be creating a mission and vision for the recommended "Technology Committee" Chairman Henson will be meeting with the Officers' Section on 1/10 to discuss strategic planning for their session.

Legislative - Our next meeting is scheduled for this Friday January 12, 2024, at the Association Office.

Training & Education - Last official meeting was held in October but the Committee has been emailing and discussing FSIC 2024 and F/R 2024. FSIC registration classes are looking good and 4 of 11 classes are full with 3 additional nearing full. 3 classes have several slots, but the remaining class Lithium-ion has 29 registered with additional slots due to the type of class. Besides Lithium, all other classes have a max number of students @ 30. Staff has processed 256 total registrations (212 career/44 volunteer) with 289 total students registered for classes. The difference in total registrations and students registered, students are able to take multiple classes for the weekend @\$50.00. 112 have registered for the Friday round table. 15 students are non-members registered for classes. Members have taken precedence on registration. Will need to discuss future registration and cost for non-members. F/R 2024 Committee selected presenters and a draft has been created along with notifying instructors that have been selected and instructors that were not selected. Personalized emails and communication have been provided to instructors, which shows the professionalism of our Association. Once instructor agreements are received, class descriptions will be released on website.

Member Benefits - This was our first committee of the new year. We discussed the success we have had around the state with our membership using the Mattress Firm discount. We are still working with Active911 to try to offer a discount to our membership for those departments that use Active 911. We are working on trying to secure a discount and/or fundraiser with Top Golf but it has been proven to be difficult. We are working to get in touch with DNR to offer a license to our volunteer firefighters similar to the state of North Carolina. As a committee we will be brainstorming on trying to finish the year with one or two more benefits.

NVFC - The AFG Application period opens on January 29, 2024, and is expected to close March 8. OSHA proposal changes may have an effect on smaller volunteer departments. I have not looked into this enough yet to have any opinion on how it will affect South Carolina, but other states are concerned. NVFC's annual awards are still open. If you know of any deserving volunteer or Jr. Firefighter program to nominate. Nominations are due January 19. NVFC and our fire service sister orgs are still working diligently to obtain reauthorization of AFG/SAFER/USFA. It is quick and easy to reach out to Congress asking them to support this effort using NVFC's Legislative Action Alert:

<https://www.votervoice.net/NVFC/Campaigns/98446/Respond>. CFSI has changed dates to April 29 – 30th. Dinner on the 29th. This is right after the spring meeting of the NVFC. •

Trainings/Events: upcoming trainings include: • January 10 | Staying Strong and Aging Well in

the Fire Service 2:00 EST | Webinar Join fitness instructor and firefighter Roy Smalley, in a conversation on staying strong and healthy in the fire service. • January 17 | Cancer Risk Prevention 2:00 EST | Roundtable Talk Join NVFC for a conversation on preventing cancer in the fire service. • January 24 | Tesla Lithium-Ion Batteries Part I 2:00 EST | Webinar Join Mike McConnel, Technical Lead on Emergency Response with Tesla to learn more about Tesla's Lithium Ion batteries.

Health & Safety - Our first H&S Bingo campaign ended Jan. 1st. We did not receive any complete bingo cards. We do believe however, the campaign to be successful with the weekly social media posts sharing important H&S topics. Committee met and discussed a few changes to next Bingo campaign with hopes to get more involvement. Have shared this with Brook and next Bingo starts Feb. 1st.