

Executive Committee Meeting  
November 12, 2019

**Attendees: Charlie King, LaQuasha Jefferson, Brian Christmas, Joe Palmer, Jamie Caggiano, John Bowers, Malcolm Burns, Gary Rogers, Tres Atkinson, Ryan Eubanks, Tracy Williams, Billy Dillon, Patti Graham, Will Brocious, Paul Cromer, Jana Kassianos, Brick Lewis, Carter Jones, Marcia Greer, Ashley Boltin, Rick Cramer, Zorrina Harmon**

Call to Order- 10:01 am

Prayer- Gary Rogers

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

*Approval of meeting minutes*

***A motion was made by Tres Atkinson to approve the meeting minutes on September 12-13, 2019; seconded by Jamie Caggiano. All in favor.***

***A motion was made by Jamie to approve the meeting minutes October 15, 2019; seconded by Tracy Williams. All in favor.***

***A motion was made by Jamie Caggiano to approve meeting minutes October 23, 2019; seconded by Brian Christmas.***

*Staff Highlight*

Patti Graham- SC FAST: Patti talks about the FAST evolution and how the team leadership has come to the discussion of a PTSD summit. She then talks about how FAST was born in 2012. Patti goes on to speak about the Behavioral Health Awareness, Finding Balance, Suicide Awareness, and Understanding Grief programs and why they have these specific programs. Patti explains what the FAST team is working on now and that includes renewing family programs, lesson plans for each program, instructor course development, updating programs, as well as new programs. Patti offered the numbers of firefighters and EMT's that have committed suicide. As of today, the numbers are fairly high but over the years, the numbers increased. 2012-90 (80 FF & 10 EMT), 2013-77 (68 FF & 9 EMT), 2014-127 (94 FF & 33 EMT), 2015-152 (116 FF & 36 EMT), 2016-143 (105 FF & 38 EMT), 2017- 120 (103 FF & 17 EMT), 2018-108 (87 FF & 21 EMT), and this year 2019-106 (91 FF & 15 EMT). SC Suicide Stand Down Day was brought up by Chaplain Gary Rogers, and the preliminary date will be March 25, 2020. The partnerships will include the Fire Academy, Fire Marshall, and clinicians statewide willing to participate. The FAST team does have a website that is available, and Patti talked more on that.

Consultant Joe Palmer gave his insight on what he thinks about the FAST program. He encourages the Executive Committee to go out and tell their department how important it is to get everyone on one accord. He stresses the importance of letting people know about the classes, courses, and other resources for SC FAST.

## *Committee Reports*

**Finance & Audit** - Marquis Soloman: No report

**Legislative** - Keith Minick: No report.

Keith Minick is on target with conversation with Jamie Caggiano and Tracy Williams for the Cancer Coalition and what they are gearing up to start.

**Strategic Planning** - Josh Holzheimer: There will be a Strategic Planning Committee meeting on December 2, 2019.

**Advisory** - Malcolm Burns: Notifications of Acceptance and denial letters for the 2020 Leadership Institute class have been sent out all applicants. Applications are currently being accepted for awards.

**Supervisory** - Chief Bowers: The 1% classes that we have been conducting are a long-term investment. Chief Bowers and Jeff Oswald have been taking great questions about how to spend the 1% money. They were also able to do a presentation in front of Consultant Joe Palmer in which he gave back constructive criticism. There will be an internal meeting at the SCSFA on December 9, 2019 to lay out any issues concerning 1% funds and departments.

**Member Benefits** - Rick Cramer: The Member Benefits Committee met October 23, 2019 and November 8, 2019. In the January meeting there will be a couple guests coming in, One Test Cancer Screening Company Representative will speak us, Frank Myers (Veterans State Rep) will also speak with us in January. Zorrina presented to the committee in October a booklet with information for our members, this should be a resource to educate and answer our members questions. Zorrina gave more detail on the booklet and passed around a draft copy. A one sheet hand out to include a QR Code was handed out for folks to share with their home departments and neighboring departments. This is a simple way to educate our member of the benefits of the association.

Rick Cramer mentioned that the committee has been in discussion and working on the potential increase in SCSFA insurance policy premiums for our members. Zorrina Harmon has been notified that Provident Insurance have agreed that we will not have an increase in premiums for the next two years.

**EMS** – Ryan Eubanks: The EMS committee next meeting will through teleconference. Date is TBA.

**Life Safety Educators** - Will Brocius: No report

**Training & Education** - Billy Dillon: The Training and Education Committee met a couple times throughout the month. Billy Dillon along with LaQuasha and Ashley are in discussions about the Fire Service Improvement Conference in January 24 -26, 2020 and 2020 Fire- Rescue Conference June 8 -13, 2020 and how they are helping throughout the process of each conference.

## **Lunch Off Site**

### **Trip to the Columbia Convention Center/USC Alumni Center**

**By-Laws** - Brian Christmas: The By-Laws Committee Met on October 3, 2019. Brian Christmas handed out two documents. The first document was the current By-Laws. The second document included the proposed changes. Brian Christmas talked about the first proposed change of the By-Laws. The committee had discussion on the packet.

**A motion was made by Jamie Caggiano to accept all changes as presented with the addition of duties to the Fourth Vice President and the change of duties of the Advisory Chair to a standing committee. Tres Atkinson seconded. All in favor.**

**Legislative** - Jamie Caggiano: Rep Wooten from Lexington, is organizing a First Responder Caucus. Law Enforcement/Fire's first meeting will be Thursday November 14, 2019 at 8:30 am. An email was sent out about this specific group. Part of our purpose will be to support LLR/DSL with getting \$850,000 in equipment for Task Force 1 and to also ask for recurring funding of PTSD funds. Legislative Day is March 18, 2020. Tracy Williams then spoke on the cancer legislation. On October 18, 2019 a meeting was called. Another meeting has been scheduled for November 23, 2019. Tracy then encouraged the Executive Committee to go out and do the cancer survey. An email was sent out about the cancer survey.

**A motion was made by Tracy Williams to support the approach to firefighter cancer coverage from the perspective of an insurance policy versus direct workers compensation coverage presumption. Seconded by Jamie Caggiano and approved by all.**

**Foundation** – Jamie Caggiano: Jamie Caggiano sent a letter of official notification of his resignation as the Foundation Chairman to President Charlie King on November 7, 2019. Jamie offered his appreciation of the chance to serve and that he will continue to be here to help. Charlie King ask Tres Atkinson to serve in the interim Chairman for the foundation. 5 applications for foundation scholarships are being considered. These will be given out at the Fire Service Improvement Conference in January. Chief Caggiano publicly thanked Zorrina and the Insurance Board for the contribution to the foundation.

**Insurance Services** – Zorrina Harmon: No report.

**SC FAST** – Patti Graham: SC LEAP host Post Critical Incident Seminar (PCIS) quarterly for the Law Enforcement side of the house, in the past they have allowed firefighters or EMS works to attend if they had open seats in the seminar. They now are at capacity with Law Enforcement and cannot accommodate Fire/EMS in there PCIS. Patti mentions we need to get a good understanding of these Post Critical Incident Seminar and think about hosting our own for Firefighters and EMS. There will be lots of logistics that need to be sorted out. This is a big undertaking that we are not ready for yet, but we will need to support of the Executive Committee.

**History** – Carter Jones: While traveling, Carter has had a lot of positive feedback. A nursing home has asked to have a hallway dedicated to the firefighters. Carter also has a number of invites to speak for a lot of Christmas events. Don't forget the book A Legacy that Lives On will make a great Christmas Gift!

**Sprinkler Coalition** – Jeff Allen: No Report

**Digital Content Manager** – Rick Dunn: No Report

*Old Business*

**Traffic Incident Management Discussion-** Research was done by Jeff Allen for the Lexington firefighter who died in a line of duty. In his absence, Consultant Joe Palmer gives his insight on what he thinks about the idea in which is shut the roads down. Charlie King gives his insight on what he thinks about being safe during accidents on the highway. He mentioned that classes or seminars may be helpful for those firefighters who know their county numbers are high.

**Fire Service Improvement-** A handout was given regarding the tentative schedule for Fire Service Improvement Conference. LaQuasha asks the board if the registration fee was going to remain the same or change. The board decided that the cost will stay at \$25.

**Executive Director search-** Executive Director search- Jamie Caggiano presented the latest on work and process.

Jamie Caggiano gives an idea that we should go ahead and get out of the CLA Contract.

**Jamie made a motion to cancel immediately the CLA contract and to allow Ashley Boltin to research to see if she can make it work with the Fire- Rescue Conference be June 14-18, 2020. Malcolm Burns seconded. All in favor.**

President Charlie King encourages the Executive Committee to get out and visit 5 departments each and have those talking points ready.

**Jamie Caggiano made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters to include Will Brocious and Consultant Joe Palmer. Seconded by John Bowers. All in favor.**

Will Brocious left the Executive Session after the first discussion.

The Executive Committee came out of session with no action taken.

A motion was made to adjourn at 3:45pm.