

# Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board

Minutes from June 28, 2012

Meeting held at the Hot Springs Convention Center in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

## Members Present:

Larry Brewer	Chris Jones	Chad Mosby
Stacey Caplener	JP Jordan	Rachel Nix
Shane Dallas	David Kirkpatrick	Jim Sierzchula
Bob Davis	Rob Medford	Jim Tolewitzke

## Members Absent:

David Maxwell	Mike Scrima	Fred Taylor
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## Ex Officio/Reporting Guests:

Kendell Snyder, ADEM	John Blackburn, ex officio	Amanda Gibson, Legal Consul
Tina Owens, Deputy Director-ADEM		

Meeting called to order by Chairman JP Jordan. Chairman Jordan thanked all members and guests for their attendance. Chairman Jordan asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Chad Mosby made motion to approve the minutes. Second was made by David Kirkpatrick. Motion was approved.

## DFA REPORT:

Kendell Snyder gave Richard Drilling's report that the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter payments have been made.

## ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION:

John Blackburn reported that Arkansas Forestry Commission has distributed 2439 DoD and loaner vehicles and 197 generators, to date. The 2012 VFA grant package has been approved and they are working on the grant development process now.

## ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Kendell Snyder introduced ADEM Deputy Director Tina Owens and reported that as of yesterday there 503 fire departments certified. There were also 4 fire department's certified that have not been certified in more than 1 year. And there are 5 more fire departments that are being processed. They are working on a redistributions clause in Searcy County. And Ouachita County did a 1 time redistribution clause to clear the books. Kendell has also attended 6 local county meetings.

## ARKANSAS FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY:

Director Rachel Nix said she thanked everyone for coming to Camden for the last meeting. The report from May 2012 is: January-May has been 593 off-campus classes/5831 off-campus students and 18 on-campus classes/209 on-campus students. Also the Academy has added some additional parking, bought a truck and trailer for the LP gas prop and the new Rescue Technician classes are up and going in several locations.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Jordan updated the Committee on the tabled command trailer request by recognizing Legal Consul Amanda Gibson. She reported that command trailers and architectural fees are not allowable items of Act 833 funding. There was discussion on whether professional fees are unallowable as stand-alone expenses or can they be included in the total project of construction. This type of request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Jordan and Kendell Snyder discussed reviewing the SCBA standards. The old application stated that SCBA follow the NFPA 1500/1971 edition. The standards dealing with SCBAs were reviewed. All SCBAs purchased new must meet all current standards and all SCBAs purchased used that meet the 1992 standard are allowable. There was discussion about the number of SCBAs required on the application form. Chad Mosby made **MOTION:** The minimum number of SCBAs at a department is four (4) to comply with the 2 in / 2 out rule, then it is one (1) SCBA for every 5 firefighters on the roster. Motion was seconded by Larry Brewer. All were in favor of the motion.

Chairman Jordan and Chad Mosby discussed allowable expenditures and the Allowable Expenditures committee findings. The responsibility of determining the if the item is allowable is placed on the Fire Chief and the Committee is recommending that authority be given to Kendell Snyder, Fire Service Director, to make some approval decisions. Also some unallowable items include: interest only charges and penalties. Bob Davis said that we need to allow Fire Department's to send firefighters to the National Fire Academy to help with retention of firefighters. Shane Dallas made **MOTION:** To give Fire Service Director the authority to make decisions about the allowable and non-allowable expenditure items and inform the Board at the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Jim Tolewitzke. All were in favor of the motion. Chairman Jordan and the Board had discussions about non-allowable expenditures and funding. Bob Davis made **MOTION:** To give the Fire Service Director the ability to hold the amount of any non-allowable expenditure from the previous year's application and to deduct said amount from the fire departments next year's allotment of Act 833 funding. The affected funding amounts will be adequately documented in the fire department's file. Motion was seconded by Rob Medford. All were in favor of the motion.

Rob Medford asked about the physical requirements for the Arkansas Fire Training Academy. There was discussion about the need for a standardized physical form in the AFTA packet that a Doctor would complete stating that the person is able to perform the activities included in the AFTA curriculum. Director Nix stated that there is a need to develop guidelines for physicals. Asst. Director Rubow added that the AFTA is looking at a check off sheet that a doctor would complete and he could submit this form to the AFPS Board to review. Chad Mosby said that NFPA 1582 identifies and outlines 11 essential job tasks that a firefighter must be able to do. After more discussion, the issue was sent to a committee to include: Chairman JP Jordan, Chad Mosby and AFTA Director Rachel Nix for a proposal.

Kevin McMaster, President of Arkansas State Firefighters Association, gave report about progress of on-line fire classes. He said we are waiting on Valerie, with SAU-Tech, about cost issues. SAU-Tech uses a program called Blackboard for their on-line training and the addition of fire courses to this program would generate additional expenses. Information is still being gathered on the complete development of this project.

David Kirkpatrick asked the Board if physicals are an allowable Act 833 expense? Chairman Jordan asked the Board to think about this issue and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.

Rachel Nix reported that the Training Committee, which consists of Chad Mosby, Chairman Jordan and Director Nix, have discussed the possible need of extending Rookie school to follow the required standards to attend specific training before live fire training. Also there are additional training topics that have been included, which leave less time to teach firefighting, i.e. Terrorism, Forcible Entry, Ventilation, Firefighter Survival, Wild land, NIMS, etc. Currently, there is one (1) week of First Responder and eight (8) weeks of Rookie School. Chad Mosby said that we would look at the issues and develop a pros and cons of the proposed changes.

Chairman Jordan announced that the next AFPSB meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2012, at 10AM at the Arkansas Fire Training Academy in Camden.

Chad Mosby made **MOTION:** To adjourn meeting. Second was made by Shane Dallas. All were in favor of the motion.