

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT TRADERS ASSOCIATION
HELD AT 9AM ON 13TH NOVEMBER 2014
VIP BOARDROOM ~ SCI-BONO CENTRE ~ NEWTOWN**

Present:	A. Wright	Chairperson	East Rand Fire
	M. Gabeni	Vice Chairperson	Mega Fire
	L. Davel	Treasurer	Atlas Fire
	J. Caird		Phoenix Fire
	T. Dreyer		Fest Fire
	M. du Plessis		Occupational Suppression Systems
	M. E'Silva		European Fire
	P. Kruger	SAESI	
	A. O'Hare	FDIA	
	B. Wolff	IFE	
	R. Cowan	Administrator	
	B. Ridgway	Assistant Administrator	
Observer:	M. Botha		Dumela Diamond Fire
Apologies:	Jeremy Kellett		FES & S
	James Nunnerley		Boss
	Johan Pretorius		SafeQuip
	Brett Jones	Chairman	SAQCC Fire Mancom

Absent: S. Batsuba Chubb

	ACTION	DEADLINE
<p>1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES</p> <p>The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting and apologies were tabled as per the attendance register.</p>		
<p>2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th September were confirmed as correct, proposed Mr Dreyer and seconded Mr Caird.</p>		
<p>3. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING</p> <p>Replacement of Powder: Mr Dreyer said replacement of powder must take place, you cannot just top up. SABS and DOL are working on the life span of power. Mr Dreyer said he believed it was necessary to introduce the use of neck rings into the standard. This was up for revision next year. Mr Dreyer said we needed someone to sit on these meetings full time. He believed it was necessary to look at an ad hoc person to do this for it to be dealt with successfully. Mrs Davel said this did make a lot of sense because of the number of meetings and standards involved. Following lengthy discussion, Mrs Davel said Mr Dreyer should put a written proposal together with an estimate of costs involved and then FFETA could revisit its budget to make provision for this.</p> <p>PER Guidelines: Mr Dreyer said this still had to be finalized and he would then forward for inclusion in the news letter.</p> <p>FFETA Representative/Road Shows: Mr Whitehead had provided assistance with the Bloemfontein Road show.</p> <p>IFTA Letter: The letter had not been sent as yet awaiting the outcome of the discussion on the letter that had been received from Mr Kvale. It was agreed a letter should now be written to IFTA</p>	<p>TOM</p> <p>TOM</p> <p>ROSEMARY</p>	

withdrawing the invitation to sit on the committee as per the Constitution.

Mr Gabeni asked the reason behind this – and his attention was drawn to the fact that despite letters sent to IFTA, FFETA had been unable to get any response from them as to their membership, their constitution and no information was available on their website. FFETA had been unable to establish if they were a legally constituted body.

3.1 Letter from I. Kvale: This tirade had been sent to all committee members. Following discussion, it was agreed this should be dealt with at the 1475 meeting despite the fact that he had cast inaccurate aspersions on various FFETA committee members.

4. FINANCE

4.1 Financial Accounts/Payments to be Authorised: The income and expenditure report had been circulated and were accepted proposed Mr Dreyer and seconded Mr Caird. The payments for October had also been circulated and Mrs Davel advised the meeting that she had queried the audit fees and was happy with their response that the costs had risen because of the due diligence that now rests with auditors. These were then also accepted, proposed Mr Dreyer, seconded Mr Caird.

4.2 Unpaid Subscriptions – cancellation of membership: A list of all those members who had not yet paid their subscription was circulated. It was agreed that with the exception of the two companies that still had payments for neck rings outstanding, the others would all have their membership cancelled with immediate effect as due process had been followed in reminding the companies of the outstanding amounts due.

4.3 Subscription fees for 2015/16: Mrs Davel had raised a provisional budget as it was difficult to decide an increase when only halfway through the preceding year. This had been circulated and she outlined the proposed 5% increase in income and 7% increase in expenditure. Following the discussion earlier on appointing someone to attend all the various Standards meetings – and to pay them as a consultant, it was agreed that the annual subscription fee should be increased by 10% to assist with these costs. Fees would then be as follows:

Corporate Members: R880
Association Members: R550
Branch Members: R220
Affiliate Members: R220

This would then be tabled at the Annual General Meeting for approval by the members present.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1. Coast 2 Coast: This company, having paid their outstanding amounts were now ratified as a Corporate Member of FFETA.

5.2 Mhlobo Fire: Corporate membership ratified.

5.3 Pro-Fire: Corporate Membership ratified

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PORTFOLIOS

6.1 SABS Liaison: Mr Dreyer advised that 2015 would see many changes. Unfortunately, it appeared that everything in the fire industry is up for revision, much was already happening but nothing had been finally approved. Mr Wolff said anyone involved with the SABS must make sure they are on the E-committees as everything goes by email. Both Mr Dreyer and Mr Wolff said this was an extremely long job to download the essential information and goes towards his suggestion earlier about a paid person appointed to deal with these committees.

ROSEMARY

<p>Powder Extinguishers with Aluminium Valves: Mrs Wright raised the question of extinguishers that were being supplied with Aluminium valves that had been approved by the SABS.</p> <p>Her concern is that as aluminium is softer, the threads could become damaged and this could become a safety issue. Mr Dreyer said the mines had already rejected the use of these. Mr Kruger said it would depend on the composition of the aluminium. Following discussion, it was agreed that advice could be put into the newsletter, to ensure the technicians checked the thread – which they should do anyway – and to remind training centres to inform the technicians of the importance of checking the threads as well.</p> <p>6.2 Government Liaison: Mr Dreyer said he believed they would call a meeting shortly.</p> <p>6.3 Regional:</p> <p>KZN: Nil</p> <p>Limpopo: Mr Gabeni advised there was a meeting in the pipeline.</p> <p>Eastern Cape: Mr Caird advised there had been a 46% increase in sales, and two of the new members ratified today were both from the Eastern Cape. With reference to Lawrence Stevens, a person he had discussed before with regard to illegal servicing, this person had now been arrested and it will be going to court. This had come about because the Fire Department, SAQCC Fire and the SABS had all worked together. There was now another company that looked as if it may well be going the same way and Mr Caird would keep FFETA advised.</p> <p>Mr Caird raised the question of the metal industry bargaining council (MEIBC) and distributed a letter to the committee with reasons as to why Phoenix Fire did not belong and other fire protection companies should not belong to this council. He gave details on the new equity law where like jobs should have the same wage and this would have a huge impact particularly on small business. Phoenix were going to arbitration shortly and Mr Caird would keep FFETA informed as this was a test case. The members of the committee wished them well.</p> <p>Western Cape: Mrs Davel reported on a large site where the instruction labels had all been removed and replaced – a report and photos had been submitted and this was being dealt with.</p> <p>6.4 SAQCC FIRE:</p> <p>6.4.1 1475: Nil – meeting to follow.</p> <p>6.4.2 D&GS: A letter had been sent to Mr Kielty, but no response received. D & GS were holding a meeting today and if nothing was forthcoming, this would be followed up.</p> <p>6.5 Marketing Strategy:</p> <p>6.5.1 Website: Statistics had been circulated and it looked promising. The newsletter had reiterated the use of the website.</p> <p>6.5.2 Newsletter/Leaflet: This had gone out and was also on the website. As mentioned above, use of the website had been stressed. The call for cell numbers had also been made, without any response so far.</p> <p>6.5.3 Exhibitions/Road Shows: - See 3.</p> <p>6.6 Other Association Liaison:</p>	<p>LIZL</p> <p>TOM</p> <p>JOHN</p> <p>JOHN</p> <p>ROSEMARY</p>	
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6.6.1 IFTA: Dealt with under 3 – and remove from the agenda.

6.6.2 IFE: Following the letter to IFE, they had appointed Mr Wolff as their new representative. Mr Wolff said he had only learnt of his appointment a few days earlier. He said the entire fire industry has a lot of interest and many issues. It is important that IFE have representation here and contact with the broader industry. The dynamics of the IFE were changing as it had been split into two parts. A business driven sector and a member based organization where he was more involved. The business driven sector was running the training courses. IFE still remained affiliated to the UK body.

6.6.3 FDIA: Mr O’Hare advised there was little report. Membership was still increasing and he believed this is through the education of the insurance companies and consultants.

6.6.4 SAESI: Mr Kruger advised that SAESI held many workshops through the year and these were dealt with by Interact Media. The editor Sean Macnamara actually sat on their committee. With regard to hose reels, Sean was dealing with Mr Dreyer in this respect. The recent workshop with regard to ventilation had been sent to the SAQCC Fire admin office who had distributed details to all the committees.

6.7 Events & Venues: Quite obviously, today’s event was on track – and would now need to find somewhere different for next year.

6.8 SANAS: Mr Pretorius had not yet submitted his details. Mrs Cowan would follow this up **URGENTLY** with him. It was believed the first meeting was scheduled for March 2015.

**JOHAN/
ROSEMARY**

7. CONSTITUTION

It was believed there were a few changes to be made to the Constitution so these would be dealt with by the incoming committee.

EXCO

8. CORRESPONDENCE Nil

9. GENERAL

9.1 Nominations to Committee: There being 14 nominations and only 12 spaces on the committee as per the Constitution, a secret ballot would be taken at the AGM.

9.2 Appointment of Office Bearers: Mrs Wright raised the issue of the appointment of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer. Historically, this had always been dealt with at the first meeting of the new committee. However, in terms of the Constitution, this was supposed to be done within 7 days of the Annual General Meeting. Mrs Wright suggested this be dealt with at the AGM following the nomination to the Executive Committee. This was agreed by all present, subsequent to the agreement of those members present at the AGM.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.55

The next meeting will be held at 9am at the BOARD ROOM ~ SAQCC-FIRE on Thursday 12th February 2015.

CHAIRMAN **DATE**

CALENDAR 2015

**All to be held in the SAQCC Fire Boardroom unless otherwise indicated
ANY CHANGE TO DATE, TIME OR VENUE WILL BE NOTIFIED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

Thursday 12th February	9.00	FFETA EXCO
	11.00	1475
	13.30	D&GS
Thursday 16th April	9.00	FFETA EXCO
	11.00	1475
	13.30	D&GS
Thursday 11th June	To be notified as SAQCC FIRE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS	
Thursday 6th August	9.00	FFETA EXCO
	11.00	1475
	13.30	D&GS
Thursday 15th October	9.00	FFETA EXCO
	11.00	1475
	13.30	D&GS
Thursday 12th November	To be notified as FFETA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	