

## **Minutes for March 26, 2011 FEDOT Spring Meeting**

Location: Austin, TX

### **9:10am**

Phil Foster, President, opened with greetings & salutations.

He introduced the first speaker of the day: Dennis Brohmer from ANSUL. Dennis talked about UL, NFPA, safety and Ansul. He told the interesting history of Ansul. He also presented a "refresher" on the fundamentals of fire, including classifications & symbols, types of fires & effective agents. Dennis talked about UL & ULC standards and the changes which resulted from the combined compliance (Feb. 14, 2011).

An NFPA 10 overview followed. It was noted that the standard has been revised making it uniformly easier to read and use. Additionally, we learned that stored pressure fire extinguishers, manufactured prior to October 1984 are to be phased out in an orderly manner while educating the end user of the need to replace obsolete extinguishers. There was much discussion on this point. But the biggest change is Chapter 5: Selection of Fire Extinguisher (Specific Hazards) We must be sure to make the right selection of extinguisher for specific needs of the consumer.

### **11:20am**

Phil introduced Vickie Garrett, owner of Austin Brokerage Company. She talked to us about Health Care Reform, potential needs and opportunities pertaining to employers.

### **11:50am Lunch Break**

### **1pm**

Phil introduced Susan Light from the TX State Fire Marshal's Office/ TX Dept. of Insurance. She talked about the new license software program and the changes resulting in license holders & applicants receiving their renewals by mail directly at their homes. The company name will no longer be shown on the individual's license. However, there is a place for the licensee's home address & a mailing address. If desired, the mailing address can be the company address. It was noted that the licensee is still under the employer's umbrella as an employee, making the employer responsible for said employee. Susan answered as many questions as possible before leaving but said she'd be available through the office if we ever needed her help.

### **1:30pm**

**HB 979 & Senate Bill 1598** were addressed.

License requirements for TX FE licensing could be eliminated. Larry Angle & Phil Foster have been doing extensive research and gathering information for FEDOT. After discovering who it was, Phil called a very active lobbyist for information about the hearings on these bills. He said the committees make the amendments and amendments are definitely needed.

**To find out who is on the committees responsible for the needed changes go to:**

**[www.texashouse.org](http://www.texashouse.org)**

Lively discussion went on for several minutes regarding the wording/language of **HB979** and the outcome of said changes proposed.

Phil made an impassioned plea for all current FEDOT members to recruit new members.

**"There is strength in numbers!"**

### **2:15pm**

The business meeting was called to order with a 1<sup>st</sup> motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Larry Wilson. A vote, by a show of hands, was unanimous for: Larry Angle as Treasurer and Travis Joliff as Vice President. A resolution was adopted to change signers at the bank by a unanimous vote after a 1<sup>st</sup> motion was made by Larry Wilson and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by BJ Irvin.

The time and place for the next meeting were discussed with San Antonio being the most popular place & October being the most desirable time. It was suggested that we bring in Bruce Carter for a special training day on Friday of that meeting weekend.

The new website needs were discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Smith with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by BJ Irvin.

3pm Meeting adjourned.