

Minutes
Western Fire Chiefs Association
Wednesday, April 22, 2009
Embassy Suites
Napa, California

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Aleshire, President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Wendelsdorf, Idaho State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Critchley, Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brett Waters, Montana State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Perry, International Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Douglas Stevens, Nevada State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Johnson, Past President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul LeSage, Oregon State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren Cummings, Alaska State Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> John Evans, Utah State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Adams, Arizona State Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Broman, Washington State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Williams, California State Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Weigand, NCSA Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Silva, Hawaii State Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Griffin, Executive Director |

Staff and guests in attendance: Crosby Grindle, Kay Johnson and Samantha Simpson. Other guests were Kelly Nicoletto (Alaska Chief Deputy Fire Marshal), Randy Simpson (Oregon State Fire Marshal), Ray Bizal (NFPA Western Regional Manager), James McMullen (NCSA Executive Director), Ted Kunze (OFCA President), and David Ulbricht (Wedbush Morgan). Roll Call taken – quorum established.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Doug Williams, seconded by Warren Cummings to approve the February 26, 2009 minutes. Motion carried.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. WFCA Year-to-Date – Kay Johnson reviewed the financial reports. Kay also mentioned that by using Solberg & Adams to audit the WFCA telephone system we were able to save \$4,500 per year on telephone expenses. Kay indicated that Bookstore royalties are now being paid to every state. **Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Paul LeSage to approve the financials. Motion carried.**
- B. NCSA 2009 1st Quarter Report – James McMullen reviewed the 1st quarter financial report provided. James anticipates the 2nd quarter class revenue to be \$13,000.00. Currently there are four cities in California lined up to sponsor classes: Compton, Chico, Davis, and Alameda.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Strategic Plan – Jeff Griffin advised that we will update the current strategic plan and benchmark each of the goals to remain on point. The President's Forum event will help gather information from our 10 states on how we refine our six major goals and define major action items. Jeff stated that ESCI will assist us in the Strategic Plan process. Crosby reminded the Board that this process is to lay the groundwork for the formal strategic plan process later in the year.
- B. ESCI Partnership Agreement – Crosby gave a brief summary of the Partnership Agreement with ESCI and the work on developing a business relationship to promote their consulting services and to develop professional workshop series to benefit our members. Ideally, we would partner with the State Chief Associations (primarily our 10 western states) to identify host locations and make the workshops cost effective. Jeff Johnson briefed the Board on the IAFC's business decision with ESCI through Global Public Safety Solutions. **Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Mark Wendelsdorf to have the Executive Director execute and finalize the Strategic Partnership Agreement with ESCI. Motion carried – with one abstention (Jeff Johnson: perception of potential conflict of interest).**

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NCSA Listing Service – James McMullen discussed types of listing services and his proposal that WFCA and the McMullen Company form a partnership and develop a Western listing service for tested products. James is confident that we can provide a service and generate revenue. Following a lengthy discussion, the Board asked Mr. McMullen to provide a written proposal addressing the elements discussed.

- B. 2010 Presidents' Forum – The Hawaii Fire Chiefs have offered to host the 2010 President's Forum. Gary Aleshire discussed that the intent of the President's Forum was to rotate through all 10 of our Western States to capture them as true partners and viable participants in the WFCAs. To date, the President's Forum has been held in NV (2006 & 2007), AK (2008) and CA (2009). Gary thanked Jeff Johnson and Jeff Griffin for their vision in creating a great networking event. Staff will draft a schedule of future States and President Forum dates. **Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Jeff Johnson to accept the Hawaii's Chiefs offer to host the 2010 President's Forum in Hawaii.**
6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Gary Aleshire reported on the meetings and issues discussed on Capitol Hill.
 7. **INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Joe Perry indicated that a more detailed report will be provided tomorrow. He did want to state that Mark Light and Bill Metcalf deserve credit for keeping items within budget and are doing a wonderful job with the issues that have been raised at the National level.
 8. **STAFF REPORT** – Crosby reported on the organizational diagrams that were developed from the Internal Strategic Staff Review that he and Jessica Heintz had recently completed.
 9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Jeff Griffin discussed the agenda for the 2009 President's Forum, indicating that each state would give a report on the "state" of their association (needs, financial picture, revenues and services they provide). Friday will focus on gathering information needed for our strategic direction for the next two years. Jeff thanked Informed for hosting our Board dinner. Jeff reported on his two trips to DC, and thanked Gary Aleshire and Ted Kunze for their work and efforts in DC. Jeff stated that the helmet presentation to Senator Wyden was well received. Jeff also discussed working with Barbara Boxer and discussing the inequitable division of the SAFER Grant to the states. He reported that we are continuing to see a profit in the Bookstore and that it is one of our financial mainstays along with the Daily Dispatch. Jeff asked the Board members to encourage everyone in their departments to subscribe to the Daily Dispatch. He also encouraged the Board to book their rooms for FRI.
10. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**
- VICE PRESIDENT** – Jim Critchley reported on NFPA 1710 and the impact it is having on Tucson. He also wanted to thank Ray Bizal and Paul Adams for bringing the issue to light.
- PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Jeff Johnson reported on the IRS issue as it relates to volunteer compensation. The IRS is actively auditing departments in Washington and Oregon and a number of them have been fined. The IAFC has made it their top legislative priority. A group of legislators led by Representative Wu are collectively sending a letter to the IRS in response to this issue. Jeff also discussed the Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to exempting the private living quarters of the fire station from ADA requirements. He also provided a brief discussion on the Public Safety Spectrum Trust and the possibility of the Metro Police Chiefs joining the efforts.
- ALASKA** – Warren Cummings passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- ARIZONA** – Paul Adams passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- CALIFORNIA** – Doug Williams passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- HAWAII** – Ken Silva – absent (no out-of-state travel).
- IDAHO** – Mark Wendelsdorf passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- MONTANA** – Brett Waters passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- NEVADA** – Douglas Stevens – absent.
- OREGON** – Paul LeSage passed and will report at the President's Forum.
- UTAH** – John Evans – absent.
- WASHINGTON** – Jim Broman reported on the Professional Credentialing Chief Fire Officer Designation Program and indicated that this Spring a pilot program was approved for a Fire Officer Designation. It will be rolled out at FRI and he asked that if anyone has a BC or Captain that is on that track – please let him know.
- NCSA CHAIR** – Jim Weigand passed
- GOOD OF THE ORDER** – Gary recognized and thanked our long-time partners, David Ulbricht and Ray Bizal.
- ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is scheduled for **May 28, 2009, 3:30 p.m. PST.**

Minutes recorded/submitted by:
Samantha Simpson, WFCAs Administrative Staff