

Minutes
Western Fire Chiefs Association
Thursday, October 22, 2009
Teleconference

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

- | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Aleshire, President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Wendelsdorf, Idaho State Vice President |
| <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Douglas Stevens, Nevada State Vice President |
| <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Evans, Utah State Vice President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Adams, Arizona State Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Broman, Washington State Vice President |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Williams, California State Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Weigand, NCSA Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Silva, Hawaii State Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Griffin, Executive Director |

Staff and guests in attendance: Jessica Heintz, Crosby Grindle and Samantha Simpson. Roll Call taken – quorum established.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Paul LeSage, seconded by Warren Cummings to approve the September 24, 2009 minutes. Motion carried.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. WFCA Year-to-Date – Jessica Heintz reviewed the financial reports. Motioned by Brett Waters, seconded by Mark Wendelsdorf to approve the financials. Motion carried.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Strategic Plan – Gary Aleshire stated that Jim Critchley is still working with various Board members on their strategic plan task assignments.
- B. IAFC Affiliate Membership Update – Jeff Griffin explained the current affiliate membership dues structure and the need for a unified affiliate dues structure. Jeff will notify the other Division Secretaries that WFCA supports a unified dues structure of \$95.00 annually for affiliate members. This plan would effectively sustain the current \$75 IAFC portion and would contribute \$20 for the respective divisions. Motioned by Joe Perry, seconded by Paul LeSage for staff to support and encourage other Divisions to come together and form a unified affiliate member dues structure, encourage IAFC to adopt a \$95 per affiliate member, and provide for a \$10.00 revenue share to the specified Division. Motion carried.
- C. Division Best Practices – Gary Aleshire asked the Board to review the documents provided and advise if there are any comments or questions.
- D. IAFC Hosted Lunch Proposal – Jeff Griffin discussed the Great Lakes proposal about Divisions sponsoring a Friday lunch for IAFC. Staff's recommendation is that a recognition meal/or snack be done in concert with other activities when WFCA staff and representatives are at the IAFC. Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Doug Williams for staff to meet with Great Lakes and further the dialogue of a strategy. Motion carried.
- E. Grant Writing – Jeff Griffin stated that at the last Board Meeting it was agreed that grants not in scope or mission would not be pursued. WFCA will only apply for grants that are in mission and scope and have a direct purpose. Jeff advised of a Safety Grant that deals primarily with strains and sprains that is within mission and scope and could assist with technology development. Staff's recommendation is to move forward with this grant opportunity. Staff was directed to continue with the grant process.
- F. FireRescue GPO Associate Program – Crosby stated that the plan has been finalized and reiterated that the program is designed as a business to business group purchasing program. The revenue share structure is not geographically based and should generate significant revenue. Crosby will be reporting this information to the Divisions and the GPO Advisory Council. The partnership with the IAFC and the GPO is solid. IAFC is fully engaged and has the professional staff needed to promote these programs. Crosby also addressed the NPP Agreement and indicated that a new agreement should be ready in the next couple of weeks. Motioned by Paul LeSage, seconded by Warren Cummings to authorize Jeff Griffin to sign the NPP Agreement when completed. Motion carried.

- G. ISO Update – Paul LeSage reported on the positive meeting with ISO in New Jersey. Paul indicated that ISO anticipates sending out a list of bullet points that covers the substantive changes within the next couple of weeks. Paul went on to detail some of the changes including: credit for community risk reduction activities; standard of cover and deployment analysis; and new language that encourages mutual and automatic aid. Paul mentioned that the IAFC has agreed to provide ISO a list of 20-30 departments that are using cutting edge data for a three-five year evaluation to assist with guiding future deployment measures. Paul stated that this would be the ideal time for WFCAs to encourage departments and states to develop and/or write their standards of cover (SOC).

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. IRS Form 990 – Jessica Heintz indicated that the Board has been provided a copy of the 990 and that upon Board approval it will be filed on November 15th. **Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Brett Waters to accept the 990 Form and authorize signature and submittal. Motion carried.**
- B. 2010 Budget – Gary Aleshire advised that a preliminary draft will be distributed to the Board for consideration and input will be presented at the November meeting for discussion. Gary advised that there will be a capital investment recommendation for Daily Dispatch. A cover letter will be drafted to outline the capital investment proposal and distributed to the Board.
- C. David Campbell Memorial Fund Contribution – Jeff Griffin advised of the request to support the David Campbell Fund. Jeff provided a brief history on David Campbell. Action – continued to next meeting.
- D. WFCAs Contribution Policy – Staff drafted a sample policy for the Board's consideration and input. Following a brief discussion, it was recommended that this be brought back to the November meeting. Staff will work on a document that captures thoughts and ideas presented.

6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Gary Aleshire reported that he is currently in Salem working on the budget with staff and advised of the staff's cramped working environment.
7. **INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Joe Perry stated that things have slowed down a bit now that the Fire Act Grant issue has been resolved with the 25/25/25 split. The policy for Junior Firefighter programs (teenagers) that VCOS put together was reviewed and will be distributed at the VCOS Conference in Florida.
8. **STAFF REPORT** -- Crosby reported on conference traveling for WFCAs and the hospitality from California, Montana and Alaska. He inquired about initiating conversations with the California Training Officers' section to support the Bookstore. Doug Williams and Joe Perry will follow-up on his request. Crosby discussed meeting with IAFC and the possibility of phone answering and bookstore fulfillment. Crosby also reported on the FEMSA meeting and Chief Johnson's roundtable presentation on group purchasing. Crosby concluded by thanking Chief Wendelsdorf, Chief Waters and President Aleshire for their willingness to work on the ESCI Workshops.
9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Jeff Griffin thanked Chief Perry for leading the way to a better relationship with IAFC and WFCAs. Jeff stated that he and Crosby visited the IAFC and felt there is a good working relationship. He is excited about future prospects. Jeff described a meeting with physicians from Oregon Health Science regarding a study of firefighter health and wellness. Jeff also discussed his meeting with National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the 16 initiatives. Jeff advised the Board of the URL that LN Curtis filed that is just one letter off of our bookstore website. They have secured the listing www.fireservicebook.com and the Bookstore listing is www.fireservicebooks.com. A request has been made to legal counsel Bob Blackmore to get his recommendation on any recourse that the Bookstore may have. Jeff also advised that Hank Clemmensen from the Great Lakes Division is running for IAFC 2nd VP.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

VICE PRESIDENT – Jim Critchley reported that he is staying busy.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jeff Johnson was absent.

ALASKA – Warren Cummings asked if WFCAs had a Red Flag rule (for protecting the identity of creditors). Warren stated that he would send the information he had to Jeff Griffin. He reiterated the statistical information regarding Fire Safety Prevention Grants advising that only 134 grants were awarded to fire departments totaling almost \$8M; 86 grants were awarded to non fire departments for about \$27M. Warren also stated that Alaska's grant history has gone from 11 grants awarded for \$815,000 down to one grant for \$16,000.

ARIZONA – Paul Adams gave a quick report on the IAFC Elections Committee – February 1st is the deadline for the 2010 Election and currently Chief Hank Clemmensen from Illinois is the only announced candidate. David Daniels has an exploratory committee for 2011 but has not yet filed paperwork to officially announce.

CALIFORNIA – Doug Williams reported that California held its conference and the attendance was down slightly. With Crosby and Joe Perry in attendance, WFCA was well represented.

HAWAII – Ken Silva discussed the current work on their legislative package and indicated that session starts soon. He further described budget and cost considerations as they relate to their legislative package. Ken indicated that their conference will be held in November and he hopes that those attending will bring their families.

IDAHO – Mark Wendelsdorf stated that they are currently working with their Fire Marshals office on the implication of the fire code and its interpretation. He further discussed how some volunteer department interpretations had been causing “issues”. The message has been sent to “either fix the problem or it will be fixed at the next legislative session”. They have been working to move it forward and have received some positive comments back from the legislators and the building community. It has been the main focus over the last couple of months.

MONTANA – Brett Waters stated that they just held their conference and attendance was slightly low. He thanked WFCA staff members Crosby, Jessica and Jennifer as well as Chief Johnson for attending. Brett reported that the IAFC VCOS Symposium will be in Clearwater Florida and that he has been appointed to the National Fallen Firefighters Board of Directors to help represent the IAFC VCOS. Brett also stated that the Board restructure is complete and everyone is interested in keeping the organization strong. He was reappointed as the WFCA VP.

NEVADA – Douglas Stevens reported that Ken Riddle is working hard on the Fire Shows Reno which will kick off October 27th and 28th in Reno. The latest attendee numbers were 207 as of October 2nd. Ken is happy with the vendors’ response and the show should be a success despite the difficult economic times. Doug is working with Chief Cummings on a PERS analysis. They are working on the Western State analysis to determine trends and the impact on recruitment. All of the State VP’s were asked to put together an analysis of their current PERS or recent PERS changes. Once the data has been collected, Doug anticipates the results would be distributed within 60 to 90 days.

OREGON – Paul LeSage reported that the Joint Conference with the District Directors will be held the first week in November.

UTAH – John Evans had nothing to report at this time.

WASHINGTON – Jim Broman was absent

NCSA CHAIR – Jim Weigand was absent.

GOOD OF THE ORDER – The next meeting is scheduled for **November 19, 2009**.

ADJOURNMENT – **Motioned by Warren Cummings, seconded by Paul LeSage to adjourn the meeting.** Meeting adjourned.

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