

Minutes
Western Fire Chiefs Association
Thursday, November 20, 2008
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 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"/> Jim Madden, Nevada State Vice President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Johnson, Past President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul LeSage, Oregon State Vice President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warren Cummings, Alaska State Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J. Kevin Nalder, 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: Manny Neves (representing HFCA), Kay Johnson, Crosby Grindle, and Samantha Simpson. Roll Call taken – quorum established.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Doug Williams, seconded by Paul LeSage to approve the October 23, 2008 minutes. Motion carried.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

- A. WFCA Year-to-Date – Kay Johnson reviewed the financial reports. Motioned by Manny Neves, seconded by Jim Critchley to approve the financials as presented. Motion carried.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Strategic Plan – Gary Aleshire reported that he and Chief Wilson will be preparing a draft for the Business Plan. No other Strategic Plan updates were provided.
- B. Association Position – Leave Early / Evacuate or Stay and Defend (LEOSAD) – Doug Williams indicated that Chief Bob Roper is looking for support from WFCA. Additionally, Chief Roper has raised “seed” money and continues to work on this project. Following further discussion it was agreed that Doug Williams would remain as the lead contact and Jim Broman offered to contact Chief Roper in regard to LEOSAD. Staff will circulate the comments received from the Alaska Chiefs regarding LEOSAD. The next venue where LEOSAD discussions may take place would be at the IAFC WUI event on March 22nd in Reno, NV.
- C. NCSA Update – Doug Williams indicated that he had talked with the Fire Prevention Officers regarding NCSA. Joe Perry stated that he accompanied Jim McMullen to the Fire Marshal's office for a productive meeting. At the meeting, discussions took place regarding how certification tests were designed, how challenges are addressed, and who the subject matter experts are. The State Fire Marshal's office is pleased with the process. Currently, NCSA is the only organization providing certifications in the Cal Code. ICC does certification on the Model Code - not on the Cal Code. NCSA is the only organization in California certifying the Cal Code itself, and offers a variety of code classes. Joe addressed the Board's concern with McMullen's proposal for start up money. Rather than giving start-up money, WFCA could provide assistance in links and updates on the website. Joe's recommendation is a 50/50 split in the revenue received from the training classes/certifications. Staff will work on drafting a proposal.
- D. Building Proposal – Jeff Griffin advised the Board that we received a counter offer from the Seller and that we will no longer be in negotiations for said property.
- E. 2009 President Forum Update – The confirmed date for the 2009 President's Forum will be April 23 -24, 2009, in Napa, CA. Staff will send out a “Save the Date” announcement to invited attendees.
- F. NFPA Meeting Update – The December 4th meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts; staff will schedule a meeting with NFPA the first part of 2009. Joe Perry will contact Jim Shannon directly and set a meeting.
- G. Insurance Co-op – Jeff Griffin reviewed the discussion about group purchase of an insurance policy. WFCA would act as the main policy holder and additional states would be signed on as “additional named insured”. The ability to purchase one master policy would eliminate a series of minimum premium charges. The policy would cover sections of the associations as well as the association themselves with some minor underwriting requirements.

Most Western states should be able to benefit from this type of a policy. Grouping the policies together would be a cost savings realized by WFCAs and the State Associations. Jeff will provide additional information to the Board at the next meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. New Board Members – Gary Aleshire welcomed Chief Paul Adams (AZ) and Chief Brett Waters (MT) to the Board.
- B. Committee Appointment – International Code Action Committee (Western/Canadian) – The Board was asked to select three names from the list of candidates to appoint to the International Code Action Committee. Kevin Nalder gave the recommendation for Blair Camp. Brett Waters gave the recommendation for Greg Megaard. Paul Adams indicated Arizona's recommendation would be for Mike Iacona. **Motioned by Joe Perry, seconded by Jim Critchley to appoint Blair Camp and Mike Iacona with Greg Megaard as an alternate. Motion carried.**
- C. Novelty Lighter Resolution – **Motioned by Jim Broman, seconded by Jim Critchley to adopt the Novelty Lighter Resolution (08-01).**

6. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Gary Aleshire stated that he was approached by the Washington's Public Educators (Fire and Life Safety) regarding their EMS section and starting sections under the Western Division. Gary reported that he attended the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Conference and thanked them for their hospitality.

7. **INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Joe Perry attended the IAFC Strategic Planning session in Washington, DC and stated that attendance was down. Joe gave a presentation at the Hawaii Chief Conference covering the past legislative issues at the Federal level and gave a preview of the major targets set for the coming year.

8. **STAFF & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** Crosby reported that FireRescue GPO is seeing an increase in activity and has been receiving increasing support from departments with RFP's - with special thanks to Fairbanks (AK) and Tualatin (OR). We are trying to take advantage of this momentum by expanding our national communication efforts through the divisions and states. One of the tools we will be using is an educational video that we are producing with the help of TVF&R that can be shared electronically and by DVD. He is also working on Bookstore items with Jeff Griffin. Jeff Griffin reported on the meeting in Washington, DC and mentioned the Bookstore meeting that was held with the Great Lakes Division while in DC to work through a potential competitor partnership in that Division. In general, we are working with all U.S. Divisions to create a revenue sharing promotional relationship with our bookstore program. Jeff is very excited with the direction of growth in the Bookstore. Jeff also reported the status of the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PS-OB) claims to date and stated that about 1/3 of the claims are being denied.

9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

VICE PRESIDENT – Jim Critchley reported that the Tucson Fire Department welcomed their new Fire Chief.

PAST PRESIDENT – Jeff Johnson - Absent.

ALASKA – Warren Cummings - Absent.

ARIZONA – Paul Adams expressed the Arizona's Chiefs appreciation of the Board's support.

CALIFORNIA – Doug Williams reported there was another fire in Southern California.

HAWAII – Manny Neves reported on the Hawaii Chief's Conference and stated the 2009 Conference will be held the week before Thanksgiving. He commented that Hawaii is preparing for their Legislative Session in January.

IDAHO – Mark Wendelsdorf indicated nothing to report.

MONTANA – Brett Waters reported that they are preparing for their legislative session in January and that the State Chiefs Association is looking at restructuring into sections and committees similar to the IAFC.

NEVADA – Jim Madden – Absent.

OREGON – Paul LeSage indicated that the Joint Conference went well and that one of the topics was LEOSAD. The Chiefs are preparing for the legislative session that begins in January.

UTAH – Kevin Nalder reported that he is on the Joint Council Fire Service and has just finished a presumptive cancer study. They are trying to put together legislation to help subsidize families of any potential future victims. He mentioned that they have some good results and if any of the other states would like to view those, he would be happy to provide them. Also, if any other states have prepared anything addressing presumptive cancer he would appreciate receiving that information as well.

WASHINGTON – Jim Broman stated that the Washington Fire Chiefs just completed their Strategic Direction. He mentioned that their Fire Officers Section is beginning to increase. The Washington Chiefs are preparing for their legislative session and much like other states, are facing a deficit. One of the principle legislative issues will be banning novelty lighters and trying to get a statewide network program set up.

NCSA CHAIR – Jim Weigand had nothing to report.

12. ADJOURNMENT –The next meeting is scheduled for **December 18, 2008, 1:30 p.m. PST.** Meeting adjourned.

Minutes recorded/submitted by:

Samantha Simpson, WFCAs Administrative Staff