

**MINUTES OF THE  
WYOMING FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION MEETING  
June 13, 2001  
Lander, Wyoming**

Association President, Brad Sarff, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

•A roster sheet was passed around for signatures of those attending today's meeting (attached herewith).

•Ken Sutton made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 7, 2001 meeting as written. Bob Taylor seconded. Motion carried.

**MOTION #1**

•Gene Diedtrich gave the Treasurer's Report for the period April 1, 2001 through May 31, 2001. The beginning cash balance was \$9,053.08; deposits of \$103.46; expenditures of \$504.44; resulting in an ending balance of \$8,652.10. There is a balance of \$2,460.28 in the Recruitment and Retention grant and a balance of \$1,222.12 in the web site grant. There are unrestricted funds of \$4,969.70. Lanny Applegate made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ray Weidenhaft seconded. Motion carried.

**MOTION #2**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**State Fire Council:** Mark Young stated he had attended his first meeting last month in Cheyenne. In July there will be a meeting in Casper. They will be adopting their new rules. There was a variance request for the Wyoming Girl's School in Sheridan to limit some egress windows. We are working with the State Fire Marshal's Office on that issue and came up with a compromise option for them. Brad Sarff asked whether the Council is dealing with this issue on the certifications for extinguishers. Mark said the Council is not directly involved, but the State Fire Marshal's Office is.

**Missouri Valley:** Mark Young said they are getting ready for their conference in Casper in July. Currently there are about 95 registrations, but the majority of these are out of state. He stressed that we need to get our Wyoming registrations in. A good program of speakers is lined up, including Daniel "Boone" Gardiner, Dr. Denis Onieal, Sir Rodney Slaughter and John Buckman. Chief Smokey Dyer, Kansas City Fire Department, will be the keynote speaker. Mark thanked everyone who has offered to help already. If you can help with the hospitality room, please let Gene Diedtrich know. Bob Taylor mentioned how important it is that Wyoming is represented well since we are hosting the conference. It would be pretty embarrassing if Missouri "kicked our ass" when it's in our own state. Get the word out that we need some folks there.

**Certification:** Ken Metzler reported that the new Firefighter I testing is out -- so far so good. The Origin and Cause Investigator is also out. The applications have been mailed. There will be a Train the Trainer for Origin and Cause Technician on June 30-July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Legislation:** Lanny Applegate stated there was nothing new to report. Ken Sutton mentioned that a letter was sent out to all county fire wardens and selected chiefs requesting sponsors for the license plate bill. The chiefs around the state need to contact their legislators regarding this bill. Lanny stated in reference to the mail everyone had received from Secretary of State, Joe Meyer, he as turned that over to Gene Diedrich for handling.

**WFIRS:** Ken Sutton simply stated, "fill out some reports and send them in". Elaine Codianne reported that some departments were lagging behind on reporting. Currently 88 departments have requested the free version 5.0 software. Elaine stressed she will offer training to any department that needs it. Brad Sarff mentioned a discussion with Firehouse on upgrading by adding more modules. The price they quoted was stock, off the shelf pricing. Firehouse was not following through with their "sales pitch" of working with the departments on special pricing for additional modules. Elaine also said she had finally received a quote from Firehouse for the Training module, which many departments had expressed interest in. A starting supply of 50 copies would be \$20,000 and we are looking at some possible grant money to purchase these with.

**Fallen Firefighter Memorial:** Brad Sarff mentioned the discussion that was brought up at the Foundation Board meeting concerning possible additions/changes to the memorial. It was decided to continue adding the names to the backside of the existing memorial, making it a walk-around.

**Constitution and Bylaws:** No report.

**Officer Development:** Nothing to report. Bob Taylor asked if he could discard the manuals and slides from the Hazardous Materials program, which is now obsolete. Ray Weidenhaft said to throw them in the dumpster.

**Wyoming Fire Academy:** Larry David reported there have been over 500 students since January 2001. There was a demonstration on natural gas fire suppression the previous night, 6/12/01. There are six buffalo hunts scheduled in September.

**National Volunteer Fire Council:** No report.

**International Association of Fire Chiefs:** No report.

**Haz-Mat:** Lanny Applegate stated that Chief Scott, Campbell County, had called him to say he would not be able to attend this meeting, but to pass on that his cadet program was just elected #1 cadet program in the United States. Brad Sarff reported that Keith Lynn with WEMA is working through the 23 counties to establish the need for terrorism money...what they need to put in grant applications to earmark the money. The Haz-Mat

Technical Committee is working from the hazardous material side of things to establish some baselines of what a response team should look like. One glitch is that people are having trouble understanding the regional concept. We keep having jurisdictions pop up with "what about me". In order to make that money work it needs to get focused into the six regions that were originally proposed. That is concept that is being worked toward. The application itself needs to be finished by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Recruitment and Retention:** Brad Sarff stated there was a discussion from the previous meeting about the 800# and that the number should be cancelled. Gene Diedrich said he had talked to a rep from AT&T and that it will be cancelled.

**Arson:** No report.

**Fire Investigation Task Force:** Brad Sarff stated that no other meetings have occurred since the Certification meeting and there is nothing new to report.

**State Fire Marshal's Office:** Ken Metzler reported that the Training Division had investigated 26 incidents. There is a new position open for an electrical inspector/fire investigator. That person will work from the southern part of the state. The Training Division worked on the FIRE Act grant process. Nancy Kubalanza was selected to participate on the grant review process in Emmitsburg, Maryland. We also have 2 grants coming in. One is a Training grant for \$30,000 through the USFA. We will be doing one 1-week class and several 2-day classes through the Academy. We also received another \$80,000 Terrorism grant, which will be used for the Haz-Mat program. Ken just returned from the TRADE convention, which is comprised of training officers from across a region. Dr. Onieal was there and outlined some visions that the National Fire Academy was going to do. There are some simulation programs available that are free. Contact Ken Metzler or Ron Smith at the Academy. Jim Noel mentioned that the SFMO staff would be meeting with legislators in all 23 counties to explain the vision of our agency. Brad Sarff asked if Jim would update the group on the issue of certification for fire suppression system installers. Jim said there is no statutory authority to regulate that industry. The whole program is now up in the air.

**State Forestry Division:** Ray Weidenhaft stated that during the last legislative session, Forestry went after a new Honor Conservation Camp program at the Wyoming Honor Farm in Riverton, and were successful in getting that. They are currently screening applicants for the staff for that location. He reviewed the National Fire Plan and said there had been 79 grant applications statewide and the money had been allocated based on the applications. All departments, except one, that applied received funding. Anyone wishing to see the actual stats on this grant should contact Ray Weidenhaft. Lanny Applegate mentioned there would be an on-site/video-conference in Casper, tentatively set at the Wyoming Outreach Center on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m to 1:00 pm, concerning the National Fire Plan and the drought issues.

**WEMA:** No report.

•Mark Young mentioned that he would like to also recognize and thank the Wyoming State Fire Advisory Board/Wyoming Rural Firefighters for the large amount they gave to help sponsor theme night at the upcoming Missouri Valley Conference.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

•Brad Sarff read a letter from the International Association of Fire Chiefs concerning their Award of Excellence. Any departments doing something out of the ordinary can apply. The form can be downloaded from the IAFC web site.

•Lanny Applegate stated that Senator Thomas and Enzi have signed on to the \$300 million Fire Act. Barbara Cubin will also be signing on. There will be a Haz-Tech conference in Lander. Contact Kim Lee for information.

•Mark Young stated that the Casper Fire Department recently purchased new SCBA's throughout their department and have approximately 30-35 old ones available for donation. He asked that the fire chief write a letter requesting how many are wanted. They are going on 12 years old, and the only issue would be the 15 year hydro.

•Jim Noel mentioned that he was recently in Washington, DC attending a NASFM meeting in conjunction with the fire caucus meeting. There was no representation on the caucus by Wyoming chiefs. Lanny Applegate made a motion that the president of the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association would write a letter requesting our congressional delegation to sign on to the caucus. Mark Young seconded. Motion carried.

**MOTION #3**

**NEXT MEETING:** September 28, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. at the Buffalo Hunt at Graham Ranch

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Elaine Codianne, Wyoming State Fire Marshal's Office.

WYOMING FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION  
 ATTENDANCE ROSTER  
 JUNE 13, 2001

YOUR NAME	DEPARTMENT	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Ken Metzler	Fire Marshal	Kmetz1@state.wy.us
Peter Logue	LANDER FIRE	<del>PLOGUE@Wyoming</del> PLOGUE
BILL HENNINGER	LANDER FIRE	
Larry L. David	Riverton, WY	wfca@wyoming.ca
RAY A. WEIDENHAFT	WSFD	rweide@wy.state.us
Dennis Estes	Torrington Vol Fire	destes@prairieweb.ca
Mark Young	Casper Fire	myoung@cityofcasper.wy.ca
Ken Sutton	Jackson/Teton County	KSUTTON@Tetonwyo.com
Bob Taylor	Worldwide Fire Dist	WFD@TEB.COM
LANNY APPLEGATE	LANDER CITY FIRE	lvfdfire@wyoming.ca
COWN Astle	Alton, Fire Dept	None
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Jim Noel	WFMCO	jnoel@State.wy.us