

**Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association
Meeting for April 3, 2004**

- I. **Call to order:** The April 3, 2004 meeting of the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association was called to order by President Don Huber.
- II **Roll call:** Twenty-nine individuals signed the roster.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes for January 10, 2004 meeting as written.
Motion #1: Lanny Applegate moved to accept the minutes as written.
Second: Rich Hauber
Motion Carried.
- IV. **Public Comment:** No public comment from the audience.
- V. **Treasurer's Report:** Gene Diedrich gave the treasurer report from December 17, 2003 through March 17, 2004. The time frame started the with a balance of \$7,020.32, added to that is the total income \$126.00 and expended a total of \$4,422.00, this leaves and ending balance of \$2,703.64 as of March 19, 2004.
Motion #2: Brad Sarff moved to accept the treasurer's report.
Second: Jim Wingert
Motion Carried.

Committee Reports:

State Fire Council: Mark Young presented this report, the next meeting of the Fire Counsel will be April 15, 2004 in Casper, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Missouri Valley Chiefs: Brad Sarff introduced the President of the Missouri Valley Chiefs Association, Chief Andy Rocca, of Iowa City Iowa, to the audience. Chief Rocca presented information on the Missouri Valley Fire Chiefs'.

1. Policy statements and the Strategic plan for the Missouri Valley Fire Chief Division can be found on the at: mvdiafc.org
2. The Missouri Valley Conference meeting will be July 14, 15, 16, 2004 in Sioux City Iowa.

~~Chief Mark Young 2nd Vice President, Chief Brad Sarff State President.~~
 Chief Sarff and Chief Young did attend the Kansas City Conference. Safer Act, and Fire Act, Firefighter Fatalities, Wellness Committee, housing at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, are just a few of the more important issues being discussed at the conference level.

Certification: Training Officer Lyle Armstrong, Chairman of the Wyoming Firefighter Certification Committee gave the Certification report.

- All of the Task Books for Certification are now posted on the Wyoming State Fire Marshals website at wyofire.state.us.
- There were a total of 278 tests proctored this quarter, and 155 Certificates were issued for certification.
- The Certification Committee is currently working on National Accreditation for the State of Wyoming; this is a lengthy process that will take two to three years to complete the process. The certification committee will keep the Association members updated as this process moves along.
- The Certification Committee members approved the change of by-laws to change the term limits for the Chair and Vice Chair of the committee to a three-year term.
- Firefighter I curriculum from Cheyenne Fire & Rescue was reviewed by the, Cheyenne Fire and Rescue will have their own fire fighter 1 academy, the students will test on State Wyoming Firefighter tests and the certificates will be issued the State Fire Marshals certification Office.
- There will be a letter from the Certification Committee to all Fire Departments in reference to Proctors, it is not the intent of the Certification Committee to have a proctor for every fire department, but to place these proctors regional for the proctoring of tests.

Legislative Report: Lanny Applegate presented this report. Member of the Legislative Committee worked on six bills during the budget session of the Legislative Session, these are a few of the bills addressed:

House Bill 14, Joint Transportation Bill – Act relating to the Emergency Response fees imposed on transportation of Radioactive Materials -- Bill Failed.

House Bill 188 Emergency Vehicle Operations: Act that would exempt Emergency Response personnel from being required holding a Class B license to operate an Emergency Vehicle. — Should maintain the requirements we have today. This Bill failed.

Senate File 72 Plan A Pension Benefits Amendment: Annual adjustment to firefighters benefits and adjustment to firefighter s monthly salaries. This Bill passed and was signed into law.

House Bill 144 – Joint Transportation Bill: This bill created the Emergency Response Act creating the State Emergency Response Commission for procedures for response to Hazardous Materials incidents and Weapons of Mass Destruction incidents. This Bill was passed and signed into Law. This Bill will help with the creation of the Regional Emergency Response Teams, which has been an on going endeavor for the last ten years and has finally been accomplished.

Big thanks to all the Fire Chiefs who helped during the Legislative Committee for their time and commitment.

NFIRS Committee: This committee has been disbanded.

Office of Homeland Security: Kim Lee reported that the law signed into effect creating the State Emergency Response Commission would create six regional response teams for hazardous materials incidents. The new trucks and trailers are in and they should be delivered to sometime in May. Kim reported he has accepted a position with Homeland Security, as Division Chief, and he will be working on the regional response teams.

The SERC has been disbanded, those individuals who were on the SERC Committee have submitted their resignations to the Governor, and anyone wishing to be on the new SERC needs to submit their applications to the Governor for appointment.

Fallen Firefighters Committee: Jerri Dewy^F presented this report. The new addition to the memorial has been completed; everything is ready to go for the day's events.

Constitution and By- Laws: No Report.

Wyoming fire Academy: Larry David presented this report. There has been and new equipment upgrade for the classrooms.

The new addition plans are proceeding along, and hopefully will be breaking ground for construction in June.

The addition the Fallen Firefighters Memorial is completed and everything is in place for today's ceremony. Thank you to Ken Metzler, Ron Smith, and Bill Hitt for their help in the construction of this phase of the Memorial.

National Volunteer Fire Council: No Report

IAFC VCOS: No Report.

Nomination and Elections: Chief Duane Stolns advised the Association Members that the Executive Board wished to bring forward for consideration the nomination of Chief Jim Mench^{ov} from Lovell as Second Vice - President for the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association. Chief Duane Stolns will then move into the position of First Vice-President of the Wyoming State Fire Chiefs Association. Tabled.

Wyoming Association of Arson Investigator: Dale Anderson presented this report. The spring conference will be held in Casper on April 5, 2004.

State Fire Marshals Office: Nancy Kubalanza presented this report. Wished to thank the members of the Certification Committee and the Fire Chiefs for their support of the Certification Committee and its members.

- The State Fire Marshals Office has procured a total of two million dollars in grants for the fire service this year.
- SFMO has reorganized of the Training Division, Steve Skoranski is now the Grant Program Coordinator, which in turn frees up the Trainers to be out in the field meeting with departments and addressing training needs.
- Ron Smith advised that the SCBA equipment from the Homeland Security grant will be arriving shortly, the equipment will be handed out on May 4,

through May 8, at the Wyoming Fire Academy, training will also be provided on the use of the new equipment.

- \$28,000.00 grant from the United States Fire Academy for NFA Challenges for Training Officers, a six-day course scheduled at the Fire Academy.
- \$75,000.00 grant Homeland Security Grant, HMP Grant for Training Officers in February and purchased student manuals for hazardous materials for awareness and operations through this grant.
- A \$212,000.00 grant from Homeland Security grant for training for awareness operation and technician. Technician class will be held the first week in May.
- Received a \$19,000.00 grant from Homeland Security that will be used to purchase a new training data base software.
- Advised the Fire Chiefs that the Certification Office will be moving to Cheyenne. Rita Lee's husband has accepted a position with Homeland Security in Cheyenne.
- SFMO Office is currently updating the Fire Service Directory please send in the updates from the individual departments so project can be completed.

Assistant State Fire Marshal, Terry Phillips, reported that two additional Fire Inspector positions were approved during the legislative session and the State Fire Marshal Office Budget had been approved as submitted, thanked the fire chief for their support and help with the lobbying effort during the legislative session.

- Current programs and grants that are being developed through the National Association of Fire Marshals that are would be helpful to the state are:
- The development of a School Safety Committee used for critical assessment of hazards in schools.
- The development of a Program for Pipeline Safety, for firefighter safety and training.
- A Fire Marshal Council Forum for fire prevention and code issues is being held April 14th in Casper, hopefully this will become a quarterly forum.
- June 9 and 10th, there will be a Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program in Casper; Rich Hallcroft is the person to contact on this.

Rich Hauber presented a review of the WYOLINK System a new statewide radio system that will probably be on line by 2006. There is a paging issue; voice paging is not available on this digital narrow band system; this may very well be end up being a system that you have to read the page rather than hearing the page. Mark Harshman has been attending these meetings, this is an important issue and input from the fire service is needed. The governor will select applications for the Public Safety Communication (PSCC) 17 member board. The WFCA will need to select a fire service representative to be on this board before July 1st.

Motion #3: Chief Randy Vickers moved to recommend Chief Mark Harshman as the representative from the fire chiefs association on the PSCC, Wyolink System.

Second: Jerry Munger.

Motion Carried.

State Forestry: Ray Wiedenhaft introduced Bill Crasper, State Forestry Director. Bill reported that the legislature has fully funded the following items:

- Forestry's budget was fully funded, Wild land Fire Suppression was forwarded funded for this year, and the Emergency Fire Suppression Account was also fully funded.
- State Forestry will also be involved with the Community Wildfire Protection Plans, part of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, which involves the local government, local fire and State Forestry to do active management to reduce fire danger around threatened communities.
- State Fire Assistance Grant money for \$30,000.00 will be available shortly; this will be available to the Fire Academy for Wild land Training courses.

VI. **Old Business:** Jim Wingert addressed the members; he has accepted a position as Fire Chief for Chaffee County Fire Protection District, Buena Vista, Colorado. He will resign his position as Vice-president of the State Fire Chief Association.

Motion #4: Mark Young moved to accept Jim Wingert's resignation from the Wyoming State Fire Chiefs Association.

Second: Lyle Armstrong

Motion Carried.

Nominations and Elections: This item was brought forward from earlier in the meeting. Members the Executive Board wished to bring forward for consideration for nomination are:

Chief Duane Stolns as First Vice-President of the Wyoming State Fire Chiefs Association.

Chief Jim Mencha^{owj} from Lovell as Second Vice-President for the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association.

Chief Don Huber to fill the position of President of the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association.

President Don Huber opened the floor for any other nominations.

Motion#5: Rich Hauber moved the Secretary cast a unanimous Ballet for the three individuals nominated.

Second: Brad Sarff.

Motion Carried.

VII. **New Business:** Don Huber has received a letter from State Fire Marshal, Jim Narva, requesting three names for submission for the State Emergency Response Commission. President Huber suggested that one candidate each be selected from the Wyoming State Fire Association, Wyoming State Fire Chiefs Association, and the Rural fire Association. All three associations have submitted Don Huber's name.

Motion #6: Bob Symons moved that the selection from all three Associations for the State Emergency Response Commission will be Don Huber.

Second: Brad Sarff.

Motion Carried.

Banquet: Don Huber called for show of hands of those attending the Association banquet. Rich Hauber suggested that because of the decreasing attendance of this banquet, that maybe a luncheon would work better for everyone. Don Huber advised that he would visit with the Chief of the Riverton Fire Department, which hosts the event on this issue.

Next Meeting:

Date: June 16, 2004

Place: Lingle, WY (FIREHALL)

Time: 4:00 P.M.