

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association
Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2016
Riverton Volunteer Fire Department Station #1

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Hannum at 3:02. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the group.

Roll call: Board members present were President Scott Hannum - Rawlins, 1st Vice President Chris Kocher - Worland, 2nd Vice President Nick Hudson - Lander, and Secretary/Treasurer Gene Diedtrich – Newcastle. Thirty members were present.

Minutes of last meeting: President Hannum asked for the approval of the minutes as sent out for the April 2, 2016 meeting.

Motion #1: Jim Wamsley motioned to accept the April 2, 2016 minutes.

Second: Jeff Kehl

Motion Carries.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Gene Diedtrich reported the following for the dates of March 1, 2016 through May 31, 2016. Beginning Cash \$30,946.11, Deposits of \$21,972.90, Expenses of \$14,049.36, leaving an ending balance of \$38,869.65. Recruiting and Retention Grant Income restriction is \$761.22 and the L.A.S.T. account was \$20,383.10 leaving a total restricted amount of \$21,144.32, which leaves an unrestricted balance of \$17,725.33.

Motion #2: Shad Cooper motioned to accept the treasurer's report.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Association Bills: Gene Diedtrich reported that there were no outstanding bills at this time.

Presentations:

Firefighter Cancer Support Network: Shad Cooper introduced the group to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. There was a conference call with Matt Pigeon from the Idaho chapter. Matt explained that there are 36 chapters in 36 states. The organization has a mentor program, an electronic tool box of information to help firefighters that have been diagnosed with cancer. The organization gives cancer awareness classes and meets annually in California. To get more information on the organization go to: www.FirefighterCancerSupport.org.

Committee Reports:

Nominations & Elections: Gene Diedtrich stated that there was no report.

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Jim Wamsley stated that the annual conference is on July 20-22, 2016 in Springfield, MO. They have discussed the dues structure and by laws and whether they should be the same across divisions. In the next 6 months a line card will be coming out that will talk about services they provide, the divisions goals, and provide information on how to access materials, etc.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Dan Johnson reported that local jurisdiction should be in the final stages of adopting the new ICC codes which need to be complete by July 1, 2016.

IAFC-VCOS: No report

National Volunteer Fire Council: Rusty Dunham stated that he and Eric Quinney attended the meeting in Alexandria, Virginia. Cancer is big in the fire service and they are working on putting together a National Registry for Volunteer Firefighters. They had a round table with people from the National Firefighter Cancer Support Network. The NVFC has started a cancer task force. They are going to start working on getting a state presumptive disability law in Wyoming. Rusty reminded everyone that any size wildland fire needs to be reported. They are going to amend the VFA grants to see if they can get more money nationally and hopefully get more money for Wyoming. Eric and Rusty are members of many committees. The International Relations committee is working on best practices and getting information from other countries. The NFPA 1700 committee is writing a structural firefighting guideline. Rusty mentioned that fire departments need to get on the Make me a Firefighter website and join it is free.

Wyoming Fallen Firefighters Memorial: Mark Young said that the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in April was a success and is growing in numbers of attendees. They are looking for opinions on maybe changing the date of the memorial.

WYO-Link Update: There was no update.

WFCA Legislative: Jeff Kehl stated that a task force is being created to study special districts. There should be a report from the task force by the end of December. The next task force meeting is on June 24, 2016 in Casper.

WFCA Residential Sprinkler Committee: No Report

Wyoming Volunteer Fire Pension Fund Report: Tracy Brown reported that the total number of participates is 7084, the termination number is 2073, and the number of deaths was 301. Survivor pensions came to 223 with retirees numbering 1093. Monthly pension totals were \$444,888.41 with the smallest pension being \$44.88 and the largest pension being \$719.70. The total fund balance is \$70,146,413.00.

Wyoming Fire Academy Training Report: Ian Kraft stated that the academy had a strong training season. There is going to be an 80 hour IAFF Hazardous Materials Technician Class at the academy at the end of October. If you have any questions you can call Ian Kraft at 307-856-6776 or email him at ian.kraft@wyo.gov. Rita Lee our Certification Coordinator is now at the academy. You can reach Rita at 307-856-6776. The address to mail rosters to Rita is, 2500 Academy Court, Riverton, WY 82501. At the end of July to the beginning of August repairs to the academy's roof will begin and could last 4 to 6 weeks. The staff will have to be moved into temporary offices.

Section Reports:

Wyoming SERC: Chief Huber reported that they are working on a website for the reporting of chemicals that are used and produced by industry in the state which must be filed annually. This will help fire departments plan and train for the hazardous materials in their area. Each county and the 8 Regions of Emergency Responders will have a password to the site. They are looking for someone interested in chairing the CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) defense committee. If you are interested in that position contact Chief Huber. The next meeting is in Saratoga sometime in September.

NFPA: Dennis Estes the NFPA Public Education Representative is looking for firefighters to take pictures of Sparky the Fire Dog in different places around Wyoming. He would also like some of those pictures to be with Smokey Bear. Please contact Dennis if you are interested.

Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee: Ian Kraft reported that the new standards for ADO Pumper & Aerial, Fire Officer I & II, and Fire Investigator are ready. Candidates finishing the 2009 edition of these standards have until July 1, 2016 to complete their requirements. After July 1st all written exams and training records for these standards must reference the 2014 edition of the standard.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals: Nick Hudson stated that new officers have been voted in via conference call. They are always available to help with prevention issues. They will help with legislation whenever needed.

State Fire Association Reports:

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Scott Walters reported that the State Convention is just kicking off. There are 13 teams from 6 different departments this year.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: Willy Watsabaugh stated that the next meeting is December 1-3, 2016 in Cheyenne.

L.A.S.T. Team Update: Mark Young said that the L.A.S.T Team has had 3 missions. They have had 1 level 1 and 2 level 2's. Dan Johnson has been very supportive to the survivors. They have started to outfit the trailer and order equipment with the donations that have been received. They are putting together a table top class at the WFA for sometime this fall along with a possible honor guard training.

State Agency Reports:

Wyoming State Forestry: Bill Crapser introduced the group to Anthony Shultz the WSFD's new FMO. The WSFD is doing more interviews for the Rural Trainer position. Dan Perko has retired and the position has been advertised. The Helitack is up and ready to go. SFA and VFA formulas have changed. Wyoming's SFA was down about \$85,000.00 and the VFA is down about \$20,000.00 to our historical level. The SFMO and WOHS are working with Shelia on making IQS work for all training records. The SFMO has a new version of Firehouse that is easier to use for wildfire but you have to fill it correctly for all wildland fires to be counted. They have been talking to the SFMO about funding a move to the web based version of Firehouse which is easier to utilize.

Fire Marshal's Office: Lanny Applegate reported that he has resigned as the State Fire Marshal. Lanny wanted to thank the fire service, his staff, the Fire Council and the Electrical Board. Scott Hannum thanked Lanny for his service.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security: Guy Cameron stated that the spring flood season was very active in May. Guy thanked Nick Hudson, Craig Haslam, Mike Bournazian, and all local fire departments for their help and support. The flood season was a total of about 3 weeks in Fremont and Carbon counties. The All Hazards guides and task books are being worked on. On June 22 in Casper there is a meeting including Guy Cameron, Craig Haslam, and Spencer Pollack to continue the work on the All Hazards guides and task books. It is estimated to go live in 3 to 6 months. Thank you to Chris Kocher for his help with the grants.

Continuing Business:

WY 2011 Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Grant Update: Ian Kraft reported that the grant has been closed and he has not heard on the new one yet.

New Business:

Discussion of format for December 1, 2016 meeting in Cheyenne: Willy Watsabaugh stated that the RFA would like to join meetings with the WFCA at their meeting in December. Then the reporting would be done during one meeting instead of two. It was discussed. There was a discussion about having the 3 day event start on Thursday instead of Wednesday.

Motion #3: Willy Watsabaugh motioned to have the RFA meeting in December start on Thursday the 1st and be a 3day conference.

Second: Mike Bournazian

Motion Carries.

Sample newsletters from Blaze Publishing were handed out. It was discussed whether any agencies would like to have a newsletter for the state of Wyoming. Willy Watsabaugh said it was worthwhile to pursue on a quarterly basis. More information is going to be gathered and given at the December meeting. It is also possible to get the newsletter in electronic form. Gene Diedtrich will check into the publication.

The committee looking into a State Fire Chief's Convention discussed the possibility. They are moving forward and will have a report at the December meeting.

Scott Hannum asked for a motion to join the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.

Motion #4: Willy Watsabaugh

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Motion #5: Shad Cooper motioned for a liaison for the Firefighter Cancer Support Network to be appointed, possibly someone from the L A.S.T.

Second: Willy Watsabaugh

It was discussed and decided to do this at the December meeting. If interested contact Shad Cooper.

Motion Carries.

Willy Watsabaugh called for an executive session.

Adjournment:

Motion #6: Scott Hannum motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Second:

Motion Carries.

WFCA Meeting Schedule:

The meeting will be in conjunction with the Rural Fireman's meeting in Cheyenne on December 1, 2 and 3, 2016. Time will be announced at a later date.

The meeting will be in conjunction with the Mid-Winter Fire School in Riverton on Friday January 6, 2017 at the Wyoming Fire Academy, at 12:30 PM.