

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association

Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2018
Wyoming Fire Academy

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Hannum at 12:06 pm.

Roll call: Board members present were President Scott Hannum – Rawlins, 1st Vice President Chris Kocher – Worland, 2nd Vice President Byron Matthews - Cheyenne and Secretary/Treasurer Gene Diedrich – Newcastle. Thirty-five members were present.

Minutes of last meeting: They were not sent out as of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Gene Diedrich reported the following for the dates of November 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Beginning cash \$54,613.00, Deposits of \$19,028.00, Expenses of \$12,466.00, leaving an ending balance of \$61,175.00. A total restricted amount of \$42,280.00, which leaves an unrestricted balance of \$18,895.00.

Motion #1: Lanny Applegate motioned to accept the treasurer's report.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Association Bills: Gene Diedrich reported that the NVFC for \$500.00 is coming due with the Chief's paying half and the Association paying half. If we get 500 members from Wyoming they will forego the dues. The second bill is the lobbying effort in Cheyenne. It was discussed and it was decided the amount would be \$4,500.00.

Motion #2: Brent Godfrey motioned to accept the association bills.

Second: Craig Haslam

Motion Carries.

Committee Reports:

Nominations & Elections: Gene Diedrich reported that the meeting in April is the election. If you would like to serve on the board please let Gene know as soon as possible.

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Craig Haslam stated that the conference is in Davenport, IA on July 18-20, 2018. The details are on the website. Nebraska is working on being added to the twelve states that will enable EMT's to cross state lines. Get involved with Missouri Valley Division, IAFC. Craig talked about the Special Districts Association.

Motion #3: Craig Haslam motioned to create a section for special districts. He was nominated to be chairman.

Second: Jeff Kehl

Motion Carries.

Motion #4: Craig Haslam motioned that the WFCMA pay for the President to attend the Annual Board meeting in Kansas City.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Dan Johnson reported that there were no appeals. The council voted to accept the 2018 International Fire Codes. When it is finalized they will let everyone know.

IAFC-VCOS: Ron Smith stated that the Symposium of the West is on May 3-5, 2018 in Phoenix and the Symposium of the Sun is in November in Florida. There is a Frog Class which is an officer development class coming up if interested contact Ron Smith.

National Volunteer Fire Council: No Report

Wyoming Fallen Firefighter Memorial: Randy Vickers said that the Fallen Firefighter Memorial is on Saturday May 19, 2018 at 1:30. There was a discussion on adding the LODD cancer deaths to the memorial wall. The National Memorial does not put cancer victims on their wall but in Colorado Springs they do. How far back do you go? Let Mark Young or Randy Vickers your opinion. Legislation states service for 10 years. Recent LODD cancer deaths will be put on the Memorial wall.

Motion #5: Jim Wamsley motioned that the Memorial Committee is to set a criteria, do the vetting and review old LODD cancer cases.

Second Craig Haslam

Motion Carries.

WYO-Link Update: Mark Harshman stated in a letter that the strategy at this time is to ask the Joint Appropriation Committee to extend their foot note and cover cost for one to two years with the MRG grant funding.

WFCA Legislative: Jeff Kehl reported that the budget session begins on February 12, 2018 and adjourns March 9, 2018. They are reserving March 12-14 if needed. Sign up to come to Cheyenne. One bill that will be watched is SF 44 which is using the state revolving account to pay for in state fire bills. The Legislative Committee discussed the possibility of getting mill levies increased. They are going to look at old bills that did not make it to a vote and see if they can be reintroduced or rewritten. The Appropriations Committee is looking at three LSO drafted bills concerning pension plans. Scott Hannum is going to talk to Mr. Burkhart about them. It was discussed and alerts will be sent out. Randy Vickers stated that the Legislative Committee's computer needs to be replaced.

Motion #6: Jim Wamsley motioned to support SF 44.

Second: Brent Godfrey

Motion Carries.

Motion #7: Randy Vickers motioned to get the Legislative Committee a new computer and software not to exceed \$2,000.00.

Second: Brent Godfrey

Motion Carries.

WFCA Residential Sprinkler Committee: No Report

Wyoming Volunteer Fire Pension Fund Report: Tracy Brown reported that the total number of participates is 7,427, the termination number is 2,498, and the number of deaths was 367. Survivor pensions came to 169 with retirees numbering 1,259. Monthly pension totals were \$488,978.09 with the smallest pension being \$44.88 and the largest pension being \$719.70. The total fund balance is \$80,392,161.03.

Wyoming Fire Academy Training Report: Ian Kraft stated the academy and training hours were 3499.5, with 2612 students in 264 classes and 62 event hours. The instructors used 41.9% of their time instructing classes. Fire investigation used 15.5% of the time which included travel time, scene and report time. There were a total of 41 investigations. Thank you to the Fire Services for using the fire investigation team this year. We are always trying to improve this service with continuing education and equipment. Keep checking the state website, <http://wsfm.wyo.gov> for classes scheduled. We are doing more blended classes with the online class and practical applications, which are done by your training officer or one of the state trainers. Total certifications issued were 824 and out of those 294 were Pro Board accredited. This year there have been many classes in Firefighter I and Fire Officer. The academy is in for some upgrades inside

and out. Inside we are getting new ceilings and technology. Outside is concrete and drainage. Make sure to go to the Wyoming Fire Academy Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=wyoming%20fire%20academy>. It contains information including training. If you have any information or training you want to advertise we can put it on our Facebook page and/or the state website. The state has switched over to Emergency Reporting as of January 1, 2018. If you do not have your license for Emergency Reporting contact Ian Kraft to get it. We are planning some more Emergency Reporting training for this year.

Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Grant Update: Ian Kraft reported that the Chief's Grant is only 16% used. Training portion can be used for Mid-Winter, Wheatland and Cody fire schools. There are 45 fire departments signed up. Please sign up and use this opportunity. Currently there are 50 firefighters utilizing the college scholarship portion. Out of the fire departments signed up 100% are using the training, 82% are using the physical & immunizations and 73% are using the college scholarships.

Section Reports

Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee: Aaron Zent reported that the committee reviewed many standards. There are two new members Jake Ribordy and James Burghard. End of term plaques were given to Tim Cortez and Ron Smith. Fire Officer III was approved and the task books for Fire Life and Safety Officer I & II and Inspector I were also approved. Regaining of certificates after they are expired through process of continuing education was also approved. Track one for Fire Officer has ended as of December 31, 2017. The NFA has ended Leadership I, II, and III and as of April 1, 2018 they will no longer give certificates. The state will give certificates for Leadership I, II, and III until the end of 2018. The next meeting is in April, 2018.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals: Sam Wilde said that there has been a changeover in officers. Sam Wilde is the new President, Eric Action – Vice President, Kathy Clay – Secretary, Bryon Matthews – Treasurer, and Nick Hudson – Past President. Spring training is May 16-19, 2018. Classes in Community Risk Reduction, Crowd Management, and Fire Prevention on Construction Projects are included. We are trying to improve their numbers if you are interested contact Mark Young.

State Fire Association Reports

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Dalton Sanders announced that the convention is June 14-16, 2018 in Lander. Raffle tickets are on sale. We are looking for new members if interested contact Dalton Sanders.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: Wally Watsabaugh reported that at the meeting in Buffalo the association worked on the Red Card Handbook. They discussed bringing back Wyofire and formed a subcommittee and it was decided that Wyofire will be April 26-28, 2018 in Johnson County. Mike Hostetler gave a great presentation on risk management and transfer risk. The next meeting will be in Sweetwater County on November 28 – December 1, 2018.

L.A.S.T. Team Update: Randy Vickers stated that they had 15 missions: 2 at Level II, 8 at Level III, 4 - LODD (3 cancer) with a cost of \$11,245.00. Thank you to the Chief's Association and the Rural Fire Associations for their donations.

State Agency Reports

Wyoming State Forestry: Chris Kocher gave report for Anthony Shultz which read that State Forestry is trying to support Wyofire fiscally.

Fire Marshal's Office: Mike Reed related that there is one committee for the Medal of Valor and the Hall of Fame. Lanny Applegate is the chairman of the committee. The committee discussed policies and procedures. Image Trend for electrical licensing is 3 to 6 months from being up and running. The Emergency Reporting module for inspections, fire & electrical, is also 3 to 6 months from going live. We are hopefully going to electronic plan reviews this year. Meeting with the Joint Appropriation Committee made no reduction in our budget. They needed a plan on how we will raise fees. Brad Carroll, Fire Inspector & Public Education, retired in December. We are looking into training for wind generators and putting props at the academy. We are looking at improving the training grounds to be more like a city block. Medal of Valor nomination forms will be on the state website soon. There will be a plaque for the Hall of Fame at the Wyoming Fire Academy unless there is some place better. It was discussed to change the Hall of Fame to Hall of Honor and it was given to the committee to discuss more. There has been a grant request for equipment from Sinclair Fire Department.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security: Scott Hannum reported on a letter from Guy Cameron which said that there were two Presidential Disaster Declarations, Natural Disasters. One was in Teton County in February which involved downed electrical power poles. The other one was the spring flooding in Teton Valley, Park, Fremont, Washakie, and Wind River Reservation. We would like to thank the WFCA and First Responders across the state for their preparedness efforts during the Eclipse in August. The 2018 First Responder Agencies grant application opportunity is currently open until March 23, 2018. Projects require a threat of terrorism. Agency contact for grant information is Lynn Budd can be emailed at lynn.budd@wyo.gov and phoned at 307-777-4917. We are keeping an eye on weather patterns to plan for the next flood season. Scott Hannum said that there is a new group that has formed called the Wyoming Industrial Fire Chief's Association. They are trying to bring together many types of industry. They discussed how they can work with fire departments and districts better. They talked about Homeland Security grants that might cover foam for petroleum fires.

Continuing Business: No continuing business.

New Business:

Wingspread VI: Jim Wamsley stated that Wingspread VI has been around since the 1960's and has put out six reports. You can download the report from wingspreadvi.com. The report has a lot of great information. Read the report and start a discussion.

WFCA Grant Wildland Courses Coverage: Chris Kocher stated that there might be a possibility of amending the Chief's grant to include wildland classes. It was discussed.

Motion #8: Mike Bournazian motioned to submit an amendment to include wildland 310-1 required courses FFI and FFII to up the Engine Boss level.

Second: Brent Godfrey

Motion Carries.

Motion #9: Willy Watsabaugh motioned to work on writing a new grant at the April meeting.

Second: Scott Hannum

Motion Carries.

WFCA Dues: Gene Diedtrich reported that the revenue is down for the association. The amount of dues was discussed. Gene recommended that the dues stay the same for 2018.

Motion #10: Brent Godfrey motioned to leave the dues at the same amount for 2018.

Second: Craig Haslam Motion Carries.

Proposals: Bryon Matthews put in a proposal to host the Missouri Valley Division in 2020. Bryon Matthews also proposed the making of a Chowder Fireman group. A Chowder Fireman is an inactive or

honorary fireman kept on social rosters of the fire department organizations and noted for attending social functions rather than participating in firefighter duties.

Motion #11 Scott Hannum motioned to make Bryon Matthews chairman of the Chowder Fireman group and bring information to the April meeting.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Cancer Coalition: Shad Cooper reported that there is a new page on the State Fire Marshal's website called Firefighter Health & Safety. Check it out at <http://wsfm.wyo.gov/firefighter-health-safety>. The coalition has representatives from 6 of the 23 counties. The remaining counties can contact Shad Cooper to participate.

Missouri Valley Division President Travel: Craig Haslam asked that the WFCM pay for the President of the Missouri Valley Division to attend the Firefighter Memorial and the April meeting.

Motion #12: Craig Haslam motioned to have the WFCM pay for the President of the Missouri Valley Division to attend the Firefighter Memorial and the April meeting.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

WFCM Meeting Schedule:

The next meeting is election of officers and is scheduled for April 7, 2018 at 9:00 am at Riverton Station 1. Lunch to follow.

The WFCM meeting at the WSFA convention is scheduled for June 13, 2018 at Lander City Fire Hall at 3:00 pm.

The Wyoming Rural Fire Association Convention is scheduled for Rock Springs November 29, 2018 meeting time and place to be announced. The WFCM is also meeting at Rock Springs at the Rural.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:56.

Wyoming Fallen Firefighter Memorial: Randy Vickers said that the Fallen Firefighter Memorial is on Saturday May 19, 2018 at 1:30. At the Wyoming Fire Academy in Riverton.