

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association
Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2016
Riverton Fire Station #1

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Munger at 9:04. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the group

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

Minutes of last meeting: President Munger asked for the approval of the minutes as sent out for the January 8, 2016 meeting.

Motion #1: Jim Wamsley motioned to accept the January 8, 2016 minutes.

Second: Nick Hudson

Motion Carries.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Gene Diedtrich reported the following for the dates of January 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016. Beginning Cash \$36,049.01, Deposits of \$61,493.00, Expenses of \$66,606.93, leaving an ending balance of \$30,946.11. Recruiting and Retention Grant Income restriction is \$1.35 and the L.A.S.T. account was \$11,806.51 leaving a total restricted amount of \$11,807.86, which leaves an unrestricted balance of \$19,138.25.

Motion #2: Jerry Munger motioned to accept the treasurer's report.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Association Bills: Gene Diedtrich reported on the wyomingfirechiefs.org website. Craig Haslam showed the WFCAs website to the members. Craig stated that if you want any pictures on the website than you can put them on the Facebook page, which Scott Hannum handles, and the President will approve them to be put on the website. The website and upkeep costs \$479.40 a year. It was decided that the website would be paid for.

Presentations: None

Committee Reports:

Nominations & Elections: Gene Diedtrich reported that April is Annual Elections, he presented a list of nominees that agreed to serve the Association. Scott Hannum agreed to move up to President. President Munger asked if there were any other nominations for President and there were none. Scott Hannum was move up to President seat. Chris Kocher agreed to move up to the 1st Vice President seat. President Munger asked if there were any other nominees and there were none. Chris Kocher was moved to the 1st Vice President seat. There were seven nominees for the 2nd Vice President position: Mike Liberty-Green River Fire, Mike Bournazian-Sweetwater County Fire, Eric Quinney-Uinta County Fire and Ambulance, Shad Cooper-Sublette County Unified Fire, Austin Baker-Newcastle Volunteer Fire, Duke Lashmet-Lusk Volunteer Fire, and Nick Hudson-Lander Volunteer Fire. Nick Hudson from Lander Volunteer Fire was elected to the 2nd Vice President seat. Gene Diedtrich formally installed the new Board members. President Scott Hannum awarded Donny Munger a past president's pin. The new Board members took over their new positions for the rest of the meeting.

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Craig Haslam stated that they had their annual face to face board meeting in Kansas City and a strategic plan was made which has been placed on the division website. The conference is in Springfield, MO on July 20 – 22, 2016. It was mentioned to them that this time of year is bad for most of the west because of wildland fire season. The 2017 conference will be in Breckenridge, CO on June 28-30. Craig Haslam

presented the President of the Missouri Valley Division, IAFC Chief John Paul Jones from Kansas City and mentioned that Jim Wamsley was the 1st Vice President of the Division. John Paul Jones stated that the Missouri Valley Division is looked upon as one of the strongest because of the commitment to establishing relationships and communication. The division embraces technology and using it to getting information from the IAFC out to the states. They are completely overhauling the website. John Paul Jones encourages you to become a member of the Missouri Valley Division, IAFC if you are not already. Kansas is working on legislation in that state for Ground Emergency Medical Transport Reimbursement. They will help any state that would like start on some legislation for partial reimbursement for first responders and/or Ground Emergency Medical Transport by giving them the information they need to get started. Jim Wamsley mentioned that as a member you can access Knowledge Net which is great resource. There is a VCOS "Symposium in the West" scheduled in Reno, NV on May 13 & 14, 2016. Take a look on the IAFC and the VCOS websites for resources and information in varies areas.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Dan Johnson stated that he, Justin Smith, Kathy Clay, and Chris Kocher attended the Vision 20/20 fire prevention conference. There was a lot of good information given. Dan Johnson will get the information from the conference on to the WFCA and the SFMO websites. The IFC codes were adopted by the state. The SFMO is giving until July 1, 2016 for the various state entities to adopt the IFC codes. There are two vacancies on the Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety. One is the Public at Large seat and the other is the Architect seat.

IAFC-VCOS: Craig Haslam encouraged everyone to attend the conferences. The conferences have a lot of good information. He also encouraged everyone to become a member of the Missouri Valley Division, IAFC and the VCOS.

Wyoming Fallen Firefighters Memorial: Mark Young reminded everyone that the Fallen Firefighter Memorial was today at 1:00. Ian Kraft said that the memorial wall at the academy has been updated and everyone should come and take a look.

WYO-Link Update: Scott Hannum stated that WYDOT will continue to fund Alcova, Bondurant, and Northern Goshen County for 2017-2018 fiscal year. The few remaining console replacements will be funded by a 50/50 local/state during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The hardware and software costs are being funded by the Mineral Resource Grant fund for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The funding request for portable enhancement in Rock Springs, Newcastle, Evanston, Jackson, and Buffalo for the 2017-2018 fiscal year was defeated. Gene Diedtrich thanked Shad Cooper for his work on the bill.

WFCA Legislative: Russ Wenke reported that one bill that passed stated that retired firefighters can obtain their Fire Fighter license plate by not having to give a yearly letter to the county treasurer, after July 1, 2016. WSFD's new shop has been approved. Thanks to everyone who spent time in Cheyenne during the Legislative session. Senator Hicks put in an amendment for two additional Special District members to be added to the task force. If there is any more information that comes up Scott Hannum will get that information out.

WFCA Residential Sprinkler Committee: Mark Young stated that this committee is a diverse group and their goal is to educate the public. They meet once a month and if you would like to join the conference call contact Mark Young for the phone number. Bryon Matthews will be doing some sort of education presentation at the beginning of each meeting.

Wyoming Volunteer Fire Pension Fund Report: Jerry Munger reported that the total number of participates is 7048, the termination number is 2011, and the number of deaths was 293. Survivor pensions came to 214 with retirees numbering 1085. Monthly pension totals were \$439,602.93 with the smallest pension being \$44.88 and the largest pension being \$719.70. Employee contribution totaled \$40,852.50, premium tax contribution of \$0.00 and other Revenues of \$21,038.91. The total income from investments was \$(3,132,930.65). The expenses of the pension are as follows; retiree benefits totaling \$919,777.00 and refunds at \$3,286.96. The total fund balance is \$67,064,798.33.

Wyoming Fire Academy Training Report: Ian Kraft stated that the Academy still has structure and ICS classes spread out thru November. The Wildland classes go thru the end of May. Information for these classes are on the SFMO website or the registration website. The IAFF 80 hour Tech class has been narrowed down to sometime

between September and November. It does not look like the CWC dorms will be an option for this class. The oil pit project has been approved.

Section Reports:

Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee: Chris Kocher stated that the committee did not meet because of weather. They are hoping to meet in June.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals: Nick Hudson mentioned that the association is about education and life safety. The meeting was cancelled due to weather. There is a 4 day 40th anniversary event in July in Casper and they are hoping to meet before that.

State Fire Association Reports:

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Scott Walter stated that the State Convention is June 15 – 18 in Riverton. Raffle tickets are for sale with some great prizes. If interested in selling raffle tickets contact Buddy Armstrong.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: Russ Wenke reported that the Fire Advisory Board met on April 1, 2016 and the all in one reporting system was discussed. The reporting system is going to be very complicated and it could be very expensive. It is still being worked on. Fire Advisory Training committee was asked to look at their rules and mission statement. The December annual meeting will be on December 1-3, 2016 in Cheyenne. Willy Watsabaugh is working with the chief's to shorten one of the meetings or combine parts of the meetings.

L.A.S.T. Team Update: Mark Young stated that the L.A.S.T. Team is on a mission for level 2 activation for an active firefighter from Saratoga who has passed. Scott Hannum said that Willy Stolns was with the Saratoga Fire Department for 51 years as a volunteer fireman and served with the search & rescue. He will be missed. Mark Young reported that the hunting tag donated by Commissioner Klouda was sold for \$13,000.00 and split 50/50 with the Game and Fish Access Program. The hunting tag donated by Commissioner Rael is up for sale until April 3, 2016 and will be split 50/50 with the Wyoming Bow Hunters Association. Thank you to Willy Watsabaugh and Steve Haines for this fund raising idea. Willy Watsabaugh is working on another fund raising idea for the L.A.S.T. Team. He and Russ Wenke want to ride the Continental Divide Trail in Wyoming. If anyone would like to join them even for a couple of days contact Willy Watsabaugh so he can keep you inform as to when it might take place. There will not be any LAST training at Cody Fire School. They are hoping to have advanced training around the State Convention in June at the Wyoming Fire Academy.

State Agency Reports:

Wyoming State Forestry: Bill Crapser reported that the new shop has been approved. JT Wensman, FMO has left the agency. In the interim Chris Fallbeck and Gary Hobbs are filling in. The Rural Fire Trainer position is being recruited for and there is a Community Forester position open. They have hired a Fuel Mitigation Coordinator: Reed Oldenburg and an Assistant Forester in Lyman. There is no WYO-Fire this year.

Fire Marshal's Office: Lanny Applegate reported that there is an opening in the training division. Brad Carroll has written and been awarded a NFPA grant for 3 side by sides. The side by sides will be placed in Riverton, Rock Springs and Campbell County. On the SFMO website there is a link to Laramie's side by side demonstration. Thank you to the WSFD and WOHS for the support and grants. Thank you to the Certification Committee for all their hard work. If communities are having trouble with the adoption of the IFC Codes by July 1, 2016 contact the SFMO. Thank you to the people who came to Cheyenne during the Legislative session you did a great job. Rita Lee is being transferred to the Riverton office.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security: Guy Cameron Stated that Kim Lee is retiring after 12 years. He will be missed. WOHS is looking towards the 2016 flood season. Saratoga and Fremont County are the areas that they are watching. The RERT Teams have had 14 missions in 2016 so far. In 2015 there were 81 missions. Mission cost has gone up in 2016. All Hazards Qualification Review Committee has a template in place and are starting to work on a model that will work for Wyoming. When that is complete then a task book will begin. Craig Haslam and Rocky McWilliams are the two fire representatives from the fire service on the committee.

Continuing Business:

WY 2011 Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Grant Update: Ian Kraft reported that the current Chief's Grant ended as of January 30, 2016. You have 90 days from that date to submit any invoices. The training portion of the grant is down to \$0.00, Physicals & Shots are down to a couple hundred dollars and the college

tuition portion is at approximately \$10,000.00. If you have any people that have paid for spring semester they have until around April 25th to the 29th to submit. Ian said that he applied for the 2014 SAFER grant and it made it through all 13 rounds but was not awarded. The 2015 SAFER grant was put in for and he is still waiting. Awarding of this grant is to begin in June. In this proposal Ian added clothing reimbursement.

At this point it looks like there will not be a Chief's Symposium this Year. A State Conference for Fire Chiefs was discussed. It was decided that it could be possible to have a State Conference for Fire Chiefs. A subcommittee was established with the members of Mike Bournazian, Jim Wamsley, Byron Matthews, Shad Cooper, and Craig Haslam. The subcommittee is to report to the WFCA by May 15th.

Motion #3: Jim Wamsley motioned to look into having a State Conference for Fire Chiefs.

Second: Craig Haslam

Motion Carries.

New Business: Scott Hannum mentioned that there will be a retirement party for Russ Wenke at the Cody Golf Course on May 14th from 4-9pm.

Chris Kocher asked for a motion to destroy or to review the ballots.

Motion #4: Craig Haslam motioned to destroy the ballots.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

Mark Young stated the Respond Wyoming will not be rescheduled for this year. He welcomed Byron Matthews as a member.

Craig Haslam thanked the Chief's, Mark Young, Randy Vickers, and the L.A.S.T Team for the help and support at Speed Hartbank's service.

Shad Cooper reported on the meeting of the task force for the one stop shop for qualifications and certifications for the SFMO, WSFD and WOHS. There was a meeting with ETS and they went over 3 options. There are other options being looked at including a commercial option, Salamander, P.O.S.T. database, OWLS database and Chris Kocher is looking at the IQS system. Exactly what needs need to be met were discussed. It was brought up that other states should be asked as to what they do.

Adjournment:

Motion #4: Scott Hannum motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Jim Wamsley

Motion Carries.

WFCA Meeting Schedule:

In conjunction with the WY State Firemen's Convention and Tournament in Riverton on June 15th, 2016 at Station #1 at 3:00 pm.

In conjunction with the Rural Fire Association meeting in Cheyenne on December 1, 2 and 3, 2016. Time will be announced at a later date.

In conjunction with the Riverton Volunteer Fire School in Riverton January 6, 2017 at the Wyoming Fire Academy at 12:30 PM.