

**WYOMING FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2017
AFTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Hannum at 3:00 PM. Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Rosters for registering the members attending the meeting were circulated. Board members present were President Scott Hannum – Rawlins, and Secretary/Treasurer Gene Diedtrich - Newcastle. Fourteen members were present.

All motions that were made were passed unanimously, unless so stated.

Minutes of last meeting: President Hannum asked for the approval of the minutes as sent out for the May 13, 2017 meeting.

Motion to accept: Mike Bournazian

Second: Dennis Estes

Treasurer's report: Gene Diedtrich reported the following statement of cash position for the period May 1, 2017 through May 31, 2017. Beginning cash was \$40,895.68, deposits of \$658.31, disbursements of \$4,769.08, leaving ending cash of \$36,784.91. Restrictions to cash were \$18,177.81 (\$1,440.29 for SAFER grants, and the L.A.S.T. checking \$16,737.52), leaving an unrestricted balance of \$18607.10.

Motion to accept: Donny Munger

Second: Jerry Munger

Association bills: Gene Diedtrich reported that all bills are taken care of, nothing outstanding at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nomination and elections: Gene Diedtrich stated with the annual election being held last month, there was nothing to report.

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: President Hannum reported that the Division was holding their annual meeting June 28 – 30, 2017 at Breckinridge, CO. Scott indicated that he was planning on attending, and he thought the business meeting was slated for Friday the 30th.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Mark Young reported that there was no meeting scheduled this month, and that there was nothing new to report.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Eric Quinney was at the Vol Fire/EMS Retirement plan board meeting earlier today and had to leave to go back to Lyman, but he asked me (Gene) to report for him, that there was nothing new till this fall and that the next meeting of the NVFC is scheduled for Kearney, NE the last part of September on the 27th through the 29th. He stated that it is not far to Kearney, and that everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

Wyo-Link: President Hannum talked about Director Panos presentation at the last meeting. Chiefs Hannum, Wamsley and Haslam communicated after that meeting and felt that a statewide interoperability plan needs to be set up, to show that the Fire Service can operate without WYO-Link. This plan has been started, with Chief Wamsley heading up the plan, they would like all agencies to email their plans to one of the original three Chiefs'. Mike Bournazian stated that such a plan already exists and is part of the Annual Operating Plan of the County Fire Wardens. May not have to reinvent the wheel.

WFCA Legislative: I (Gene) received the following report at 8:09 this AM from our great leader, the Honorable Jeff Kehl. Report is as follows: "THERE HAS BEEN NO PROGRESSION OR REGRESSION FROM THE MAY REPORT.....". He also stated "Do you know the difference between the Wyoming Budget and Floods in Wyoming?.....GOD is in charge of the water, and it will eventually dry up....and we will have to make do with what we have left..... Gene's note, "great words of wisdom".

WFCA Residential Sprinkler: Mark Young gave the report. He stated the main job the committee does is to educate the public about the merits of residential Sprinklers. The committee is having a meeting tomorrow June 15 at 10:00 AM. Have insurance companies and home builders getting involved an offering proposed discounts for sprinkler installation. If you would like put on a sprinkler demonstration in your community, the State Fire Marshal's office has resources to loan out, contact them.

VOL FIRE/EMS Pension Plan: Board member Jerry Munger presented the report as of May 31, 2017. Fund Balance at April 30, 2017 was \$76,591,258. Since inception of the plan, there have been 346 member deaths, participants at the March 31, 2017 were 2,334 members. The plan is currently paying 232 survivor pensions and 1,148 retiree pensions. Total monthly pension payout from the plan is \$471,900, with the smallest payment receiving \$45, and the largest \$720. A note of interest, in 2016, the WY Retirement System paid out over \$569 million in benefits, with about 78% of the payments remaining in WY.

Senator Baldwin: Senator Baldwin stopped into our meeting to say Hi. He was asked to say a few words, and he accepted. He said he represented the south part of Lincoln County, has lived around our state at various places, Rawlins and Kemmerer where he was Fire Chief, he stated when he left Rawlins, that our President was a Rookie fire fighter. The Senator is a great supporter of the Fire Service and helps us with our legislation a great deal. He mentioned the bills the Fire Service has put forth the last couple years, among them the Vol Fire/EMT pension plan, this year's EMT bill and of course the Cancer bill. He indicated that without the effort of the Fire Service and the big push, the Cancer bill would have never passed.

STATE FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORTS

NFPA: Dennis Estes, Wyoming Rep for NFPA Public Education, attended the NFPA conference in Boston. Estes reminded the firefighters that NFPA has a lot free Fire Prevention materials on the NFPA Website for anyone to use. There are free public service ads, videos, teaching materials. ect. Get your materials for Fire Prevention Week early.

A newly added "NFPA Exchange" online chat page for any topics. One of the biggest topics on the site seems to be rural firefighting in smaller departments and the challenge of staffing and keeping up

with all new regulations and training requirements. The most attended topics was associated with the rise in legalized marijuana, and the size and number of grow facilities in these states. There are 29 states that have some form of legalized marijuana. Illegal Hash oil production (a by-product of the marijuana) seems to be a growing problem nationwide. Because of the use of butane to extract the oil departments are seeing incidents of explosions and fires occurring from this. Anyone with questions about NFPA or needs some help with the website to please call him at 307-532-0298 or @ destes@torringtonwy.gov

Wyoming State Fireman's Association: Dennis McDonald, President for the current fiscal year, welcomed all to Afton, and thanked everyone for attending this meeting and inviting all to attend the convention here in Afton the following 3 days.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: No official report, it was brought up that Johnson County is hosting the annual convention, in Buffalo, probably on November 30, December 1 and 2, 2017. Chief Hannum is going to get with the Rural President, and work on a joint meeting agenda or separate agenda's, all will be notified as soon as this issue is decided, and the dates and time.

Wyoming L.A.S.T.: Mark Young reported that the 2017 Memorial Service went well and was well attended. This year Speed Hartbank was enshrined and honored his service to the Citizens of Wyoming and Fremont County. There is going to be an Honor Guard Symposium in Cheyenne September 16th and 17th, 2017 in Cheyenne. The next Basic training session will be held in Cheyenne on September 15 from 6 – 10 PM. Advanced training will be held in Cheyenne on September 16th from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on September 17th from 8:00 AM to noon. Contact either Randy Vickers or Mark Young to register. Governor Mead in support of LAST, donated one of his prestigious Elk Hunting licenses to the team as a fund raiser. LAST is partnering with the Wyoming Community Foundation who will auction the license in the near future.

Wyoming Firefighter Cancer Support Network: Mark Young reported that the network is going to utilize the Wyoming Fire Marshals website for resources and information.

STATE AGENCY REPORTS:

Wyoming State Fire Marshal: Mark Young reported that the office has been notified by the Governor's Office that the Agency should plan on further budget reductions. The Agency is waiting on more information from the CRAIG report. He was able to report that the Agency is fully staffed, Nick Hudson is the newest employee, he is serving as Fire Inspector in the Basin area. The Agency is going back to hosting an annual Wyoming Fire Marshal's Conference in partnership with WAFM. The Agency is completing the membership for the Medal of Val Review Board, Dennis Estes is the representative for the Wyoming State Firemen's Association and Lanny Applegate represents the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

SERC Board: The Fire Service member to the board has been filled by the Governor by Chief Bill Shank with Campbell County Fire. There was considerable discussion about the appointment (nothing against Chief Shank) being done by the Governor without any input from the Fire Service. It was decided to not contest the appointment, as the state statute, allows the Governor to do so without any recommendation from the Fire Service. A motion was made to accept Chief Shank's nomination and

also to have President Hannum approach the current chair of the SERC Committee and see if an Administration rule could be put in place to have those Agencies with members on the Committee be able to nominate the appointee to the Governor for appointment to the Committee.

Motion to accept: Dennis Estes

Second: Jerry Munger

Future Meeting Discussion: A discussion was held regarding the meeting schedule of the Chiefs' Association. The pros and cons of all the past meeting dates were discussed, and it was determined by the group to have the November or December meeting coincide with the Rural Fire Association convention, the June meeting to coincide with the Fireman's Association Convention, the January meeting in conjunction with the Riverton Fire School, and the Annual meeting to be held the 1st Saturday in April, unless the date conflicts with Easter.

A committee was set up consisting of Mike Bournazian, Gene Diedrich and one other volunteer, whose name I don't have, to work with all the groups and boards to try to coincide meeting dates for all the groups. Try to set up meetings to get the maximum people at one place to save windshield time.

Missouri Valley Division of IAFC: Chief Haslam reported that the Western Fire Chiefs had the GPO program, which gave a % of the purchases through the program back to the States that the % was initiated. Wyoming has been very small over the years due to lack of purchases through the program. The Western Fire Chiefs wants those states with a payment of less than \$50 a quarter to waive that quarterly payment and have it revert to the Missouri Valley Division. A motion to waive the quarterly payment if under \$50, and to have Craig write the letter.

Motion to accept: Craig Haslam

Second: Dennis Estes

Meeting adjournment: Adjourned meeting at 4:40 PM.

Motion to accept: Mike Bournazian

Second: Donny Munger

WFCA MEETING SCHEDULE:

November 30, December 1st and 2nd 2017 at Buffalo, information will be forwarded to you.

January 12, 2018 at Wyoming Fire Academy, 12:00 noon.

April 7, 2018 at Riverton Fire Station #1, 9:00 AM, lunch to follow.

June 13, 2018 at Lander, location and time to be announced.