

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association Meeting
Minutes
Wyoming Fire Academy

Date: January 6, 2011

Time: 12:30 P.M.

Call to Order: At 12:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Roster passed, 56 members were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jim Wamsley moved to approve meeting minutes from December 1, 2010 in Laramie. Second by Craig Haslam. Motion Carries.

PRESENTATION: Brett Rock with Science Applications International Corporation presented information on the FEMA Prepositioned Equipment Program (PEP).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by Gene Diedtrich. Report is for beginning and ending of December Only. Gene quoted \$50,279.08 to start the month out. Deposits totaled \$53,664.85; \$10,034.46 was expended with a ending balance of \$93,909.03. \$81,652.030 was restricted to the Recruiting and Retention Grant, leaving a balance of \$12,257.44 unrestricted. Motion to approve Treasure's report by Ray Weidenhaft. Second by Donny Munger. Motion Carries.

○ **Financial Participation in the Wyoming Fire Service lobbying effort by Chief's Association:** Gene Diedtrich motions to provide \$4,500 to the Wyoming Fire Service lobbying effort. Second Craig Haslam. Motion Carries.

○ **WFCA 2011 membership due structure:** Motion by Craig Haslam to keep membership dues the same as 2010 at \$100.00 for chiefs and \$30.00 for each additional person. Second by Jerry Munger. Motion Carries

○ **Meal options following April WFCA meeting:** Discussion was held regarding whether to continue having steaks at Riverton Fire Department Station #1 as done in April 2010, or to return to having a hamburger and hot dog cook out at the Wyoming Fire Academy, as done in previous years. Cost charged by Riverton Fire Department for 60 steaks was \$376.00. Cost for hamburger and hot dog cook was approximately \$150.00 - \$200.00. Motion to guide Gene on decision on which meal option to go with. Motion to have steaks at Riverton Fire Station # 1 as done in 2010 by Donny Munger. Second Jim Wamsley. Motion Carries.

○ **Financial participation in dues for the National Volunteer Fire Council:** Motion to pay half of the dues to the National Volunteer Fire Council on behalf of the Wyoming Fire Chief's Association by Gene Diedtrich. Second by Wes Johnson. Motion carries.

COMMITTEE OF REPORTS

WYOMING OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY: Presented by Kim Lee for Director Moore. Discussion was held regarding Director Moore leaving the office as he has been summoned by the President to be the new United States Marshall for Wyoming, he will start these duties in February. Governor Mead has not made his selection for Director Moore's replacement but will be forthcoming in the next couple weeks.

FIRE MARSHALL'S OFFICE: Presented by Director Applegate. The legislative session is scheduled to start on January 11th. HazMat WMD/ State Fire Marshall's Conference will be held March 17-19, 2010. The Wyoming firefighters Certification Program is the recipient of the Ken Elmore award.

○ Rita Lee presented information regarding Ken Elmore award. Nomination is through Pro-Board for agencies that excel in customer service. Director Applegate, Phil Oakes and Rita Lee will be traveling to Pro-Board Conference to accept the award the end of January, 2011.

○ Phil Oakes presents information on HazMat WMD and State Fire Marshall's Conference in March 17-19, 2011. Discussion on what classes would be held at the conference.

WYOMING STATE FORESTRY: Presented by Ray Weidenhaft,

○ Mike Bournizian presented the training report. WYOFIRE weekend is May 20-22, 2011. The Wildland Fire Investigation course will be held at the Wyoming Fire Academy on June 6-10, 2011, which will also include Courtroom Prep. And Testimony.

○ Discussion by Ray Weidenhaft held on staffing with the Wyoming State Forestry. BLM has entered into agreement, that they will help in filling three positions for the helicopter. Online fire reporting that was implemented this summer, has room for improvement for people entering their information, but the office in Cheyenne is able to view it. Discussion was held regarding improvements to the reporting system for the upcoming fire season.

WYOMING HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Andy Gienapp was not present

MISSOURI VALLEY DIVISION, IAFC: Presented by Chief Mark Young. March 3,2011 is the annual board meeting in Kansas City. Discussion was held regarding IAFC and Missouri Valley Division dues and conferences. International Fire Chief's Association Website is; <http://www.iafc.org/> Missouri Valley Division Fire Chief Council will be held n Wichita, KS, July 13-15, 2011.

WYOMING STATE FIRE COUNCIL: Presented by Chief Mark Young serving as the Fire Service representative. Next meeting is tentatively set for April. New rules and regulations are being adopted. Significant changes have been made since last legislative session when new statutes were created. Rules and regulations need to match with those statutes. Discussion was held concerning what the Wyoming State Fire Council does. The committee is made up of five people that represent electricians, contractors, architects, fire service, and general public. These people are appointed by the Governor and serve a term. The fire council promulgates the rules and regulation and fire council handles appeals.

IAFC VCOS: Presented by Ron Smith. Discussion held on benefits VCOS membership with IAFC. The VCOS is hosting a summit in March in Washington DC. Three names from Wyoming were submitted to attend the summit, and all three names were accepted, those individuals are Marlene Atchison; Dale Izatt; and Craig Haslam.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL: Presented by Brad Carroll. Discussion held on National Volunteer Fire Council. There has been a concentrated effort over the last year to bring in volunteer EMS into the organization. A section with NVFC has been created for volunteer EMS. Discussion held on health and safety issues including heart attacks, strokes, life style change, smoking cessation, and seat belt use. NVFC.org provides information on promotion of these healthy lifestyles. There is a full time lobbyist with NVFC and discussion was held regarding congress adjourning without completing legislation that affects volunteers and the fire service. Membership through NVFC with entire department signed up is \$12.00 a person and the department fee is waived. NVFC provides a \$10,000 accidental life benefit with membership.

WFOA CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS: Presented by Chief Craig Haslam. The committee is in the process of reviewing the constitution bylaws. The committee consists of Wyoming Fire Chief's Board of Directors which are Chief Craig Haslam, Chief Marlene Atchison, Gene Diedrich, Chief Lyle Armstrong, Chief Mark Young, Chief Dennis Estes, Chief Jerry Munger, Chief TJ Hunt, Chief Don Huber.

WFOA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Presented by Lyle Armstrong. The goal of elected officials, which are President Lyle Armstrong, 1st Vice President Craig Haslam, 2nd Vice President Marlene Atchison; to increase the membership of the WFOA. Discussion was held regarding a letter that will be going out to fire departments for members.

WFOA MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE: Presented by Chief Jim Wamsley. Reviewing electronic menu to look at announcements to review minutes, and meeting announcements. At this time point there is nothing to report.

LEGISLATIVE: Presented by Russ Wenke for Marlene Atchison. Legislative issues that were brought up at the Rural Fire meeting that were voted on to support were also voted to support at legislative meeting along with these issues.

- Bill to increase the fine structure for individuals who violate fire restrictions. The fines will be increased to a maximum of \$750 and/or up to six months in jail. Legislation would also allow the court to require restitution for suppression costs and directs restitution to fire agency account. Representative Lubnau is the sponsor for this bill.
- The second bill is exemption of liability for the donation of emergency equipment by an emergency response entity. There is currently nothing in the statutes that exempts emergency services from this liability. Senator Wayne Johnson is a possible sponsor for this bill.
- During the Rural Fire Meeting, Fire Marshal Applegate asked for support for legislation to restrict where convicted sex offenders can perform licensed electrician work. If this person can not be in a day care then they are not allowed to work in the facility.
- HB0010- Insurance Fraud Prevention. Fire Marshal Applegate reported about possible legislation to provide civil immunity for persons providing information about insurance fraud. The bill has been filed. The Corporations Committee is the sponsor.
- Senate File 8. Regards special district elections which may restrict when you can have special district and bond elections. Committee was directed to monitor this legislation.
- HB0071- This came up last year regarding determining whether someone had been wearing a seatbelt. There were concerns brought up last year that it could get individuals brought into court to testify whether someone had been wearing a seatbelt or not. This will also be monitored.
- Senate File 59. Effort to ban the drug SPICE. The legislative committee voted to support the effort.
- Chief Armstrong recommended monitoring any effort to stop code requirements for residents fire sprinklers.
- Jeff Kehl brought up there was a supplemental budget request that was received and supported by the outgoing Governor Freudenthal. Governor Mead would put an additional 90 million dollars into the supplemental budget for the consensus grant process for cities, towns, and counties. Legislative committee voted to support this effort.

Recommendations have been put forth by legislative committee. Motion to accept these recommendations by Wes Johnson. Second by Clarence Baker. Motion Carries.

Legislative session starts January 11, 2011 which is a regular session.

WYOLINK: Presented by Mark Harshman. Director Applegate provided information on training being provided by State Fire Marshall's. As well as information on contract trainers for WYOLINK training.

WYOMING FIREFIGHTER'S CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Presented by John Rutherford. Discussion held regarding continuing education for hours on fire investigation certifications. This will mirror origin and cause with 24 hours total and 8 of those hours being tested. You will not need origin and cause to become certified as a Fire Investigator. Validation committee was established for Fire Officer II certifications. These individuals are Tim Cortex, Ron Smith, Rick Cozad, Richard Embry, Dale Anderson and Dan Oakley. Adoption of revisions to Fire Inspector I, II, and III, and Fire Officer III. Elections of officers were held. John Rutherford will retain chair of the committee and Kelly Hoffman will retain vice chair. Scott Kitchner will be doing a pilot class for Origin and Cause II and will bring results back to committee to be reviewed.

FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL: Presented by Jay Phipps. The Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be on April 2, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. Discussion was held regarding improvements to the Memorial and Memorial wall, including pictures being re-arranged on the Memorial Wall and new lights outside.

WYOMING STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Presented by Gene Diedrich for Bub Parker. Officers this year will be Bub Parker from Hudson and Dalton Sanders from Lander. The convention will be held on June 16-18, 2011, and is being hosted by Fremont County Fire Protection District, in Lander.

WYOMING STATE RURAL FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION- Met the first weekend in January, in Laramie. Next meeting will be November 30-December 3, 2011.

WYOMING FIRE ACADEMY: Presented by Jay Phipps. Discussion was held regarding upgrades and repairs to the Academy. These upgrades included new server, new lighting in bay area, new computers in the classrooms and 16 new laptops for lab use. Ground work includes cleaning up grounds and burn racks. Library reorganization and check out procedures are being upgraded to make it more efficient. Wildland fire training season courses will be starting in

January. HazMat Tech. class will be at the Academy on May 16-27, 2011. Academy sells IFSTA and Jones and Bartlett books at a discounted price. The Academy also has a small amount of books for free through a NFA Grant. There is a small amount of paperwork that needs to be completed in order to receive the books. The books provided are Essentials of Firefighting 5th Ed. Basic Ed, Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator, and Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator. T-Shirts and hats will soon be available to purchase through the Academy. Contact Jay Phipps and the Fire Academy.

WYOMING ASSOCIATION OF FIRE MARSHALS: Presented by Carl Blanksvard. Discussion was held regarding what Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals is doing. Membership fee is \$30.00 a member. Next meeting is February 16, 2011 in Sheridan.

PENSION BOARD: Presented by Tracy Brown. Discussion was held regarding the Fire Service Pension fund. As of December 31, 2010 revenue for employee contribution was \$342,652.70, taxes were \$1,152,353.00, totaling \$70,295,527.87. There are 2,277 active members, with 786 retired. The smallest pension is \$38.40 and the highest is \$689.62.

OLD BUSINESS:

○ Wyoming Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Grant. Presented by Phil Oakes. There is approximately \$10,000 for training, approximately \$100,000 for shots and physicals, and approximately \$100,000 for counseling still available. There have been about 250 immunizations and physicals been given, about 50 scholarships and all registration at Mid-Winter fire school is being covered by this grant. This grant is also helping to support the Chief Officer Symposium.

○ Request for membership to look into providing stipend for Wyoming Fire Honor Guards. Erin Zent presented information regarding this matter. Chief Wamsley and Erin Zent recommend reimbursement of participants in the Wyoming Fire Honor Guard. The original concept was to have a cost sharing schedule in effect with the Wyoming State Firemen's Association and possibly the Rural Fireman's Association. Suggestions were to reimburse mileage and meals according to the state rates at the time of request. Chief Wamsley moved to have the Chief's Association support this initiative to reimburse traveling Honor Guard is at the state rate for lodging and mileage for overnight stays as requested. Motion by Lyle Armstrong. Second by Scott Hannum. Motion carries. Procedure for this will be for the fire departments to send bills to Gene Diedrich and he will settle up with the other two organizations. Motion for this procedure second, Donny Munger.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Mark Young. As previously stated Missouri Valley Division will be meeting for the annual board meeting on March 3rd. Travel day will be March 2nd with one nights stay and fly home on March 3rd. One night's lodging will be covered for Lyle Armstrong's but flight and other expenses will not be covered. Motion by Mark Young for Wyoming Chief's Association to cover Lyle Armstrong's expenses that are not already paid to attend the Missouri Valley Division annual meeting. Second by Craig Haslam. Motion Carries.

○ Mark Young presented on program through the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation called LAST. Mark is the state advocate and would like to set up a team in the event of a LODD. The team will respond on the request by the family or department and will be available to stay on sight for approximately a week to assist the department, family, or community to get them through this time. Request for volunteering services for this team. On May 24, 2011 there will be a LAST training at the Wyoming Fire Academy with Phil Oakes to train individuals for a LODD death.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULE:

- Annual meeting in conjunction with the Wyoming Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in Riverton on April 2, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. At Station 1.
- In conjunction with Wyoming State Firemen's Association convention in Lander June 15, 2011. At Lander City Firehall.
- In conjunction with Wyoming Rural Firefighters Association convention in Gillette, November 30, to December 3, 2011
- In conjunction with Mid Winter Fire School in Riverton on January 6, 2012 at 12:30 P.M. At Wyoming Fire Academy.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 2:30 P.M.