

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association Meeting
January 10, 2014
Wyoming Fire Academy

Call to order: President, Craig Haslam called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll call: Board members present were Craig Haslam, President – Riverton, Donny Munger, 1st Vice-President – Newcastle; Scott Hannum, 2nd Vice-President – Rawlins; Gene Diedtrich, Secretary/Treasurer – Newcastle. Thirty members were present.

Minutes of last meeting: President Haslam asked for approval of the minutes as sent out for the December 4, 2013 meeting.

Motion #1: Lyle Armstrong motioned to accept the minutes as written.
Second: Rick Cozad.
Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Gene Diedtrich reported the following for the period November 1 through December 31, 2014. Beginning cash \$69,598.72, Deposits of \$148,196.25, Expenses of \$85,955.12 leaving a ending balance of \$131,839.85. \$113,270.32 is restricted for the Safer Grants and the L.A.S.T. team, and leaves a unrestricted balance of \$18,569.53 in the Chiefs' coffers.

Motion#2: Jim Wamsley motioned to accept the treasure's report.
Second: Nick Hudson.
Motion carries.

Association Bills: Gene Diedtrich reports.

Motion#3: Gene Diedtrich made a motion asking the association to allot \$3,500.00 to fund the 2014 legislation efforts.
Second: James Wamsley.
Motion carries.

Motion#4: Jim Wamsley made a motion requesting WFCA pay ½ of the NVFC invoice or \$250.00. The Wyoming State Fireman's Association will pay the other half of the total \$500.00
Second: Clarence Baker
Motion carries.

Motion#5: Jim Wamsley made a motion requesting WFCA pay the hotel and meals for the Missouri Valley Division IAFC rep who will attend the April 2014 meeting.
Second: Rick Cozad
Motion carries.

Presentations:

Brad Carrol of DFPES reports on the Residential Sprinkler & WY Sprinkler Coalition. This coalition is attempting to change the misrepresented perception of residential fire sprinklers. The coalition is hosting an educational forum Friday Jan. 17th 2014, 10AM to 12:00 @ Casper College Energy Institute, Room #100. An additional handout and survey was given to the members.

Chris Jones of the National Weather Service reports; NWS provides updated weather information in three hour increments 24 hour 7 days a week. Incident specific websites information is also available from NWS. The Spring Burning Campaign will assist the counties with a wind forecast. Please use this agency's resources to support your agencies needs. There is an application for smart phones.

Committee Reports:

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Chief Jim Wamsley passed out GPO (Group Purchasing Org.) cards. Membership is free and website is available to browse. Also, Chief Wamsley was approached to run for 2nd Vice-President of the MVD. He has the support of the WFCA members.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Chief Dan Johnson reports one appeal has been filed but not much other news to report.

IAFC VCOS – (International Fire Chiefs Association - Volunteer and Combination Officers Section): Chief Ron Smith reported a one day ISO class should be available in WY this year. If there is interest let Ron know. Hoses and Helmets seminar is being hosted in Rapid City Feb 15-16th. There is a \$25.00 fee.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Rural Trainer Mike Bournazian reports; 12/10/2013 legislation HR 3685 Senate 1798 “Protecting Volunteer Firefighter and Emergency Responders Act” was introduced. Fire Wise Regional Coordinator, Gary Marshal’s position is no longer being funded.

WFCA Constitution and Bylaws: No report given.

Nominations and Elections: Chief Gene Diedtrich reports that WFCA President Craig Haslam’s term will end in April 2014. The remaining officers will move up in position at the next chiefs meeting which is also the election date. If any members have nominations for any position, please contact Gene Diedtrich.

WFCA Legislative: Chief Don Huber reports on some legislative news concerning the fire service;

Motion#8: Gene Diedtrich proposes a motion; WFCA support legislation to increase penalties to a \$750.00 fine and 6 months jail time, should a fire start on Burn Restriction days.

Second: Brett Godfrey

Motion carries.

Motion#9: Brett Godfrey proposes a motion; WFCA support legislation to change language in Bill 105&106, to leave out wording that states “woodlands & prairies” to state “anywhere”.

Second: Nick Hudson

Motion carries.

Motion#10: Gene Diedtrich proposes a motion; the members stay neutral concerning the EMS issue. EMS would like to have an increase of 10% added to their pension program. The funds would come from the Fire Tax Premium.

Second: John Rutherford

Motion carries.

Motion#11: Brett Godfrey made motion to support House Bill 20, which asks DFPES plan review filing fees for schools be assessed every 2 years, and Senate File 42, which states a licensed electrician does not need to be present to change a light bulb. The issue of a fire safe cigarette is currently still being drafted but support for this bill is recommended.

Second: Jeff Kehl

Motion carries.

President Haslam thanked Donny Huber for his time as Chair on this committee as Huber is stepping down. Haslam has asked Jeff Kehl to step in as chair and Russ Weinke as co-chair.

WFCA Membership Communication: No report given.

WY Volunteer Fire Pension:

Update from Kim Lee for the Volunteer Fire Pension was given. There are 2,197 firefighters in the pension program, pension fund holds \$86.2 million, and 188 survivor pensions paid monthly, 972 retirees. Fund pays approximately \$326,000 monthly. The WY Retirement System committee is in the process of updating the Volunteer Fire Pension rules regarding the definition on what constitutes a volunteer firefighter with a 25 day comment period. Forty five days later the bill will be implemented. Gene Diedtrich and Allan Session's term on the board is set to permanently expire spring of 2014. Kim Lee would like a letter drafted asking the governor to re-appoint Gene Diedtrich and Allen Sessions to the board.

WFCA Membership: No report given

WFCA Logo and Mission Statement: No report given.

Section Reports

Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee: Chief Tim Cortez reports on the updates to the Firefighter I & II and they are working on the Hazmat and Awareness Ops. The committee has made progress on ISO. They continue to work on creating standards for the industrial fire brigades. They continue to work on the mission statement for the committee. If there are any concerns or suggestions, please let this committee know. A handout was provided.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals: Nick Hudson reports this is a newer organization. Please consider joining this organization. This association addresses code questions, offer continuing education among other things. Looking to be recognized and affiliated with the NFPA.

State Fire Association Reports

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Chief Gene Diedtrich reports the annual convention will be in Lingle, WY June 11 -14, 2014.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: No report given.

L.A.S.T. Team Update: Chief Randy Vickers reports this organization is dedicated to providing funeral assistance and benefits for fallen firefighters families. Beneficiaries must contact this organization as they do not actively pursue the benefactors. Retiree funeral benefits are not available. Please make certain each department understands what benefits are available and to whom, they are not all the same. Please prepare your department for the possibility of a LODD. Also, L.A.S.T. team is working on a Fallen Firefighter Memorial face book page.

State Agency Reports

Wyoming State Forestry: No report.

Fire Marshal's Office: Director Lanny Applegate reports, joint budget session went well. While in Cheyenne on legislative issues or any other time, please feel free to stop by the office in Cheyenne, if you need any assistance please feel free to ask. Mark Young reports on the Respond WY Conference. It's a multi-disciplinary approach to training. Event is March 14-16th in Riverton at the Holiday Inn, CWC and the WFA. All the lunches, banquet and tuition are free. Boston bombing topic and west TX explosion persons will be speaking. Ian Kraft reports the link to register is live @

<http://www.respondwyoming.com/component/dtregister/>

There is a Thursday evening social at the Holiday Inn. There will be a general assembly held each morning of the conference from 8-9am. First one is at the Holiday Inn and the remaining morning assemblies will be at the CWC site. Several area hotels are partners for this event. Reference Respond WY when making reservations. Next Chiefs meeting is to be held in Riverton. This meeting is in

conjunction with the Fallen Firefighter Memorial April 5th which now begins at 1:30. It is possible, Governor Mead will speak. Director Applegate thanked Chief Hannum and Chief Rutherford for all the support they provided with the arson dog.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security: Kim Lee of OHS reports and provided a handout. Kim Lee is available to answer questions about WYO Link. OHS has Tactical Trailers that can be utilized as needed. OHS utilized helicopters and other resources for Search and Rescue efforts, so request this assistance. Regional Response Teams are successful. Kim Lee left Search and Rescue posters to promote support for the program.

Wyoming office of EMS – Brandon Kelly, WY State EMS Training and Compliance Supervisor reports. The office is updating 2011 Paramedic Scope of Practice. Online recertification credentialing is now available and how it is to be done. EMS education agenda- training is updated. It will affect the fire side by investing time as hours are going up to produce highly trained individuals. If you have questions on the length of training, please call. Authorized Fire Services is a new program. Example, BLM wants to become an authorized fire service so they can run EMS themselves in the fields of wildland fires so they can treat themselves under the Scope of Practice. This is a newly authorized program and WY Office of EMS believes it will be beneficial to all parties. Coleen King reports there are a lot of EMT classes available. EMR course is 71 hours. But for fire folks with Ops training or qualified additional training, the EMR course is 68 hours. There are 8 EMT 180 hour courses around the state this spring. Contact the office if you have any questions. Trauma Conference is August 14- 17th. EMS pep class is available.

Federal Agency Reports: No report given.

Continuing Business

Wyoming Volunteer Firefighters Recruitment and Retention Grant update- Ian Kraft briefly reported on the WFCA grant. Advised the chiefs to notify their departments that the grant will still pay for fire school tuition such as Mid Winter and Cody at least through 2014. Starting January of 2015, if there is grant funding available, WFCA grant may continue to be used to support training. July 30, 2015 is the end of the performance period on the current WFCA grant. The Chief Officers Symposium is February 27-March 1st and the WFCA will be paying for the rooms for volunteers at the Best Western Ramkota hotel in Casper, WY.

Dispatch Training- Ron Smith reports; Ron attended a meeting concerning dispatch training held at the Law E Academy... required training meeting that was held at the Law Enforcement Academy. A position paper rejecting the elimination of the 4 hour Stand Alone Fire Dispatch training was drafted and sent to the WLEA and POST. Advanced training is available and optional and can be used as a time for the additional training the fire service deems necessary.

New Business: Contact Dan Johnson for information on the Annual Firefighters Golf Tournament to be held July 12 & 13th.

Meeting Schedule

Annual meeting will be held April 5th at 9:00AM at the RFD Station 1 in conjunction with the WY Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service which is held at 1:30PM at the WFA in Riverton.

The Wyoming State Fireman's Association Meeting and Convention will be held in Lingle, WY, June 11 – 14th, 2014.

The WY Rural Fire Association meeting in will be held in Douglas, WY December 3, 2014.

The 2015 Riverton Fire School is scheduled for January 9 – 11, 2015.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 2:53 PM.

