

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2015
Wyoming Fire Academy

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Donny Munger at 12:34 p.m.

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

Minutes of last meeting: President Munger asked for the approval of the minutes as sent out for the December 3, 2014 meeting.

Motion #1: Brent Godfrey motioned to accept the minutes.
 Second: Craig Haslam.
 Motion carries.

Nomination and Election of Officers: Not at this time.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Gene Diedtrich reported the following for the dates of November 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Beginning Cash \$23,304.78, Deposits of \$ 6,281.49, Expenses of \$6,343.98 leaving an ending balance of \$ 23,242.29. Recruiting and Retention Grant Income restriction is \$6,159.89, which leave an unrestricted balance of \$17,082.40.

Motion #2: Jerry Munger.
 Second: Brent Godfrey.
 Motion carries.

Association Bills: Treasurer, Gene Diedtrich reported on the following bills.

Motion #3: Gene Diedtrich made a motion to pay the dues for NVFC in the amount of \$ 250.00. The State Fireman's Association will pay the other half of the total \$500.00.

Second: Brent Godfrey.
 Motion carries.

Motion #4: Gene Diedtrich made a motion to allot \$4500.00 to lobbying.

Second: Craig Haslam.
 Motion carries.

Motion #5: Gene Diedtrich motions not to raise the Wyoming Fire Chief's Association dues this year.

Second: Jerry Munger.
 Motion carries.

Discussion was made on whether to continue the dues for Wyoming Association of Municipalities. Scott Hannum has access to the WAM newsletter and will share any information that is pertinent to the association.

Motion #6: Rick Cozad made a motion to discontinue paying dues for WAM.

Second: Brent Godfrey.
 Motion carries.

Presentations: No Report Given

Committee Reports:

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Craig Haslam reported that the Association Leadership Meeting is March 4-6, 2015.

Motion #7: Craig Haslam motions to pay the airfare for the officer that goes to the meeting.
 Second: Nick Hudson.

Motion carries.

Motion #8: Craig Haslam motions to pay for hotel and a meal for the Missouri Valley representative that attends the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial in October 2015.

Second: Chris Kocher.

Motion carries.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Dan Johnson reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2015 in Cheyenne.

IAFC-VCOS: Ron Smith reported that the national conference is in November, 2015. Scholarships are available for some class fees and/or travel expenses. Any questions get a hold of Ron Smith.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Rusty Dunham reported that there are booklets available for volunteer fireman and their families.

Wyoming Volunteer Fire Pension Fund Report: Tracy Brown reported that the fund has 3,177 members, 70 terminations, 1,034 retirements, and 189 widows.

WFCFA Constitution and Bylaws: No Report Given.

WFCFA Membership: No Report given

WFCFA Legislative: Russ Wenke reported on some legislative news concerning the fire service. If you sign up to attend a legislative committee meeting your lodging will be provided.

Motion #9: Russ Wenke motioned to support combining EMS and Volunteer Firefighter pensions as long as the pension board supports it.

Second: Scott Hannum.

Motion carries.

Motion #10: Russ Wenke motioned to support the increase of the fine for burning during a fire restriction ban to \$ 750.00 and six months in jail as discussed.

Second: Brent Godfrey.

Motion carries.

Motion #11: Russ Wenke motioned to support Senate File #46, the removal of “woods and “prairie” from the negligent burning statutes as discussed.

Second: Chris Kocher.

Motion carries.

Motion #12: Russ Wenke motioned to monitor Senate File #29 which exempts the Class A and B driver's license requirement.

Second: John Rutherford.

Motion carries.

Motion #12: Russ Wenke motions to support the pension Plan B, which will change the cap to 90% and increase payout after 25 years of service.

Second: Rick Cozad.

Motion carries.

Motion #13: Russ Wenke motioned to monitor House Bill #67, Wyoming Retirement System amendments.

Second: Craig Haslam.

Motion carries.

Motion #14: Russ Wenke motioned to monitor House Bill #69 which provides an assessment of a fee on abandoned, deteriorated, or unsafe structures.

Second: John Rutherford.

Motion carries

WFCM Membership Communication: No Report Given.

WFCM Logo and Mission Statement: No Report Given.

WFCM Residential Sprinkler Committee: Justin Smith reported that this committee is all about education about sprinklers in homes. Water purveyors are on board but they are looking to recruit real estate companies, bankers, and builders to join the cause. The next meeting is January 22, 2015.

Wyoming Fallen Firefighter Memorial: Mark Young reported that the Fallen Firefighter's Memorial is on April 11, 2015. The committee will let everyone know when the plans are finalized.

WYO-Link Update: Mark Harshman reported that they are looking at a different company to get dispatch console upgrades and a ten year plan formulated. Survey results will be sent through the association.

Section Reports:

Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee: Tim Cortez reports that there is a decline in skills testers. Please encourage department members to become skills testers. Have them talk to Tim Cortez. Recertification for firefighters coming to Wyoming from other states was discussed.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals: Justin Smith reported that the next meeting was April 29, 2015 along with training. Justin discussed how important networking was and that the dues are \$35.00.

State Fire Association Reports

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Jeremy Bingaman reported that the State Fireman's convention will be in Lander, Wyoming on June 18-20, 2015. The chief's meeting will be on June 17, 2015. Contact Eric Siwik, Jeremy Bingaman, or Nick Hudson for more information. The Lander Fire Department is having a raffle. There are four prizes a \$500.00 Cabela's gift card, I-Pad Air 2, second prize is a Browning BPS 12 gauge shot gun, and an AR15 is the grand prize.

Wyoming State Rural Fire Association: No Report Given

L.A.S.T. Team Update: Mark Young reported that this organization is dedicated to providing funeral assistance and benefits for Fallen Firefighters families. (L.A.S.T. e-mail wyolast@aol.com) It was reported that benefits are extended to active duty, non-line of duty, and retired firefighter families. They provide phone and logistic support. L.A.S.T has almost 70 members, you should all be proud. Randy Vickers is the co-coordinator. L.A.S.T. is funded by a NFF grant. This grant only covers line of duty deaths. There is going to be advanced table top training at each fire school. L.A.S.T. has received \$15,500.00 in total donation since December, 2012 from these groups: WFCM donated about \$6,000.00, Rawlins Advisory Board donated about \$ 7000.00, Lusk Fire Department donated \$500.00, and Rawlins Fire Department donated \$1,000.00, the WSFA donated \$1,500.00.

Any ideas for raising funds to help with the expansion to include active duty, non-line of duty, and retired firefighter families please contact Mark Young or Randy Vickers. They are looking for a trailer to carry equipment. L.A.S.T. is putting on the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in April.

State Agency Reports

Wyoming State Forestry: Bill Crapser reported the update for the forest action plan is coming up. Governor Mead's task force final report is out. They conducted a review of the use of inmates. GSA is getting out of the fire equipment business. DLI is where you can go to get the fire equipment you need.

Fire Marshal's Office: Lanny Applegate reported that House Bill 122, fire safe cigarettes, is going to the floor this year to try and be moved over to the Department of Revenue. Departments you need to get your

fire reports in by the end of February. Chief Armstrong retired from Rock Springs he was appreciated. Rawlins is preparing for the replacement of their arson dog in a few years. John Rutherford, Scott Hannum, and Dan Johnson would like to thank everyone for their donations. They sent Stephanie Schofield to training to be a dog handler. The electrical division is renewing licenses' for electricians which number over 10,000. The offices of the Department of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety are moving to the corner of 25th and Pioneer in March, if all goes well. Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company along with the NASFM Fire Research & Education Foundation honored 143 fire departments in 34 states with the Life Safety Achievement Award. In 2014 the Riverton Volunteer Fire Department received this award, Congratulations. Fire departments please update your information with the Fire Marshal's office, contact Ian Kraft. Ian Kraft reported on dates that are coming up; Chief Officer Symposium is in Casper on April 16-18, Respond Wyoming Conference is in Riverton on March 12-14, Northern Wyoming Wildland Fire School is in Buffalo on April 9-12, Fallen Firefighter Memorial is in Riverton on April 11, Wyoming State Fireman's Association Convention is in Lander on June 17-20, Cody Fire School is in Cody on May 2-4, Fall Fire School is in Wheatland on September 18-20, Rural Fireman's Association Meeting is in Lander on December 9-12. There are four courses coming up at the Academy go to these websites to access information: wsfm.wyo.gov/training or www.wyofirecourses.com. If you need a fire investigator call DCI dispatch at (307) 777-7181 or (307) 777-7545. The Respond Wyoming website should be up in a week or two at www.respondwyoming.com. The State Fire Academy has received an AFG grant for new training equipment.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security: Guy Cameron reported that the 2014 Annual Mission Report is out. There are eight Regional Emergency Response Teams that are doing a great job. These teams have been out on 541 emergency calls.

Wyoming office of EMS: No Report Given.

Federal Agency Reports: No Report Given

Continuing Business:

Wyoming 2011 Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Grant Update: Ian Kraft reported that \$788,187.00 was spent which leaves \$209,628.00 left to draw on the Fire Chief's Grant. The grant needs to be spent by July 30th. Ian is working with the feds to move money around to cover tuitions for students going to fire schools. There is some money left for tuition costs for students to go to college. The SAFER grant application process opens on February 9, 2015 and closes on March 6, 2015. Ian is applying for a two year or up to a four year grant. The grant was discussed.

Gene Diedtrich reported that the next meeting is in April and it is an election month. He will send out a note to everyone for nominations.

New Business: No New Business

WFC Meeting Schedule:

Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Riverton – April 11, 2015 at 9a.m. at Station 1 with lunch at noon.

Wyoming State Fireman's Association Convention in Lander – June 17, 2015. Time will be announced at a later date.

Rural Fireman's meeting in Lander – December 9, 2015. Time will be announced at a later date.

Adjournment:

Motion #15: Craig Haslam motioned to adjourn at 2:35.

Second: Nick Hudson.

Motion carries.