

Wyoming Fire Chief Association Minutes  
Gillette, Wyoming  
November 30, 2011

**Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order by President Lyle Armstrong.

**Roll call:** A roster was sent around the room for the members to sign. Officers in attendance were President Lyle Armstrong, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Craig Haslam and Secretary/Treasurer Gen Diedtrich. Lyle advised those in attendance that 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Marlene Atchison had submitted a letter of resignation to the Executive Board. President Armstrong has accepted her resignation and will be appointing someone to complete the term through April 2012. During the April meeting of the association there will be two (2) positions to be filled – 1<sup>st</sup> vice president and 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president. If anyone is interested in filling those positions please contact the executive board members before the April meeting.

**Minutes of last meeting:** Lyle Armstrong moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting.  
Second: Rick Cozad.  
Motion carries, minutes approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Gene Diedtrich gave the treasurer's report. The cash statement for the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association is as follows: from June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 28, 2011- starting balance of \$16,709.21 with deposits of \$149,167.22; distribution of \$80,069.70; with and ending balance of \$85,179.63. There is approximately a \$71,000.00 balance from the two SAFER grants, which leaves an unrestricted balance of \$13,968.29.

Motion #2: Lyle Armstrong moved to accept the treasurer's report.

Second: Chris Kocher

Motion carries, treasurer's report is accepted.

**Special Guest:** Crosby Grindle, the northwest regional representative for the NFPA addressed the group. **Northwest region** (AK, ID, MT, NE, ND, OR, SD, WA, WY) [Crosby Grindle](#), Regional Director 70 SW Century Dr., Suite 100-360, Bend, OR 97702 Tel: +1 541 948-3146

**Committee reports:**

**State Fire Council:** No report

**Missouri Valley Chiefs:** No report

**NVFC:** Mike Bournazian has replaced Brad Carroll as Wyoming's representative on this committee. Mike attended his first meeting this fall. He thanked Brad Carroll for the work Brad accomplished as our representative on the council during the past five years.

**IAFC-VCOS:** Will report during the January 6, 2012 meeting.

**Volunteer Pension Board:** Gene Diedtrich advised the next meeting of the Volunteer Firemen's Pension Board will be the evening of January 5, 2012 at Silvar's restaurant in Hudson, WY.

**Constitution and Bylaws:** Craig Haslam advised the members a draft of the constitution and bylaws will be made available during the January 6, 2012 meeting. Action on the constitution and bylaws will be taken during the April 2012 meeting of the membership.

**Enhancement of Fire Chief Association Membership:** Lyle Armstrong advised strengthening the membership of the Fire Chief's Association has been a project which he has worked hard to accomplish during 2011. Membership in the association provides chiefs and chief officers' access to important information regarding public service policy issues, comradely with other members of the association and input to shape the direction of the fire service in Wyoming.

**Residential Sprinkler Initiative:** Report given by Chief Don Huber. There is a continuing effort to educate public officials regarding sprinkler codes, a one page sheet as been formatted and sent to legislators in an effort to help them understand the code system. In July 2012, the 2012 residential code will be adopted, this will include residential sprinklers. It is important to make sure during the legislative process there is not an effort to stop residential sprinkler codes at the local level.

**Wyoming Firefighters Memorial Service:** This report was given by Jay Phipps, Fire Academy Coordinator. The Firefighters Memorial Service will be held on April 14, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. He will have more information during the January meeting.

**WYO LINK:** State Fire Marshal Lanny Applegate advised the WYO LINK system is progressing well. The system continues to be upgraded with new towers. The SFMO is still providing training on the WYO LINK system through June of 2012.

**Wyoming Firefighters Certification Committee:** Chairman John Rutherford advised the Certification Committee meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. November 30, 2011, at Campbell County Fire Station #1. Several items will be addressed including: reciprocity issues, finalization of Fire Officer II Leadership Project, adoption of the IFSTA test bank questions for HMA and HMO written examinations.

**Wyoming State Fire Marshal Association:** Eric Acton advised there is action to report at this time.

**Wyoming State Fireman's Association:** Gene Diedtrich advised the Fireman's Association will meet immediately after the Fire Chief's meeting on January 6, 2012. Also, the State Fireman's Convention will be held in Wheatland on June 18-20, 2012.

#### **State Agency Reports:**

**State Forestry:** Bill Crasper spoke to the members. The wild land fire season was short but intense in 2011, as a result there is \$4.5 million left in the fire suppression account. There is an ongoing audit by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Forestry headquarters has been condemned, in January the Forestry office personnel will be relocated to 5500 Bishop Ave. (The old National Guard building), the shop will stay at the present location for now. Final approval has been given to fill the mechanic position, this should happen in December.

**State Fire Marshal's Office:** State Fire Marshal Lanny Applegate gave this report. The DFPES has two (2) new employees: Eric Siwik has replaced Ian Kraft as the training instructor for the northwest area of the state; Eric is stationed at the Fire Academy. Pamela Perea has replaced Ashley Kroner in the Cheyenne office. Please check out the SFMO website at <http://wyofire.state.wy.us/>. The Electrical Board and Fire Council will be meeting on December 6, 2011. As mentioned earlier by President Armstrong, the Fire Council will be adopting the 2012 code which will become effective on July 2012. The training division will be hosting the Chief Officer Symposium and the HazMat Conference in 2012.

**Office of Homeland Security:** Director Guy Cameron addressed the members. Mr. Cameron commended all the state and local agencies who worked so effectively together during the spring floods, which affected 15 counties; and during the fall wild land fire season. As with all agencies at the federal, the Office of Homeland Security has received less funding from the federal government; Wyoming Office of Homeland Security will work to prioritize the funds to best meet the needs of Wyoming citizens. The Regional Emergency Response Teams (RERT) have been very active this year, he reminded fire service agencies these RERT teams are available in each area of the state to help with emergency response needs.

**Department of Health:** No report.

**Old Business:**

**Update for the 2010 Firefighter Recruit and Retention Grant update:** This report was given by Ian Kraft; Ian is also the point of contact for the grant. The initial award amount for this grant was \$997,850.00; the performance period for this grant is July 2011- July 2015. There are two (2) programs which have been expended out of this year: the supplemental travel fund, with a total of \$28,128.24 expended and a total of \$147,725.76 remaining. Also the college scholarship fund, a total of \$14,440.05 has been expended and with a total of \$65,509.95 remaining. Participating in the grant process has increased, 13 departments participated in the 2008 grant; in 2011, 26 departments participated in the grant process. The total amount spent so far is \$42,564.29, this money was used to support training at Wheatland and Mid Winter Fire Schools, and the positive pressure training course offered at the WFA.

**Annual Stand Down Week:** The dates are June 19-25, 2012. President Armstrong urged the membership to plan for this annual week; take the time and effort to emphasize safety. <http://www.iafc.org/safetyweek>

**Fire Chief President Forum:** President Armstrong attended this meeting during October 27-30 in Quincy, MA. The meeting was very informative regarding the resources the NFPA has available for training. More information will be forth coming in emails from Lyle. <http://nfpa.typepad.com/nfpablog/2011/11/2011-state-fire-chief-presidents-forum-held-at-nfpa.html>

**New Business:** The annual meeting of the Missouri Valley Board will be held on March 3, 2012 in Kansas City, Missouri; Chief Armstrong and Chief Young will be attending.

**Next Meeting:** The schedule of meetings for 2012 is as follows:

Mid Winter- January 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. WFA

Firefighters Memorial – April 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. WFA

Fireman’s Convention – Wheatland, June 18<sup>th</sup>

Rural Firefighters Conference - November 28- December 1, Jackson

**Meeting adjourned:** President Armstrong moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Rick Cozad