

WYOMING FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 4, 2013

SPRING CREEK RANCH RESORT – JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING

Call to order - President Chief Craig Haslam called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM.

Roll Call – A roster was circulated around the room, 42 people were in attendance. Officers present were Chief Craig Haslam, President – Fremont County; Chief Donny Munger, 1st Vice President – Newcastle; Chief Scott Hannum, 2nd Vice President – Rawlins; Chief Gene Diedtrich, Secretary-Treasurer from Newcastle.

All motions that were made were passed unanimously unless otherwise stated.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: A motion to approve the June 12, 2013 meeting minutes, that were circulated via e-mail was made by Jim Wamsley and seconded by Rick Cozad.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Diedtrich presented the Statement of Cash Position for the period June 1, 2013 through October 31, 2013. The beginning cash balance was \$114,959.06, total deposits for the period were \$1,502.84, and the total disbursements for the period were \$46,863.18, leaving ending cash balance of \$69,598.72. The restrictions on the cash are as follows: \$17,275.73 and \$25,770.75 to the 2009 and the 2011 recruiting and Retention Grants respectively, \$5,743.16 for the Wyoming L.A.S.T - Team, leaving an unrestricted cash balance of \$20,809.08. Motion to approve the report was made by Chris Kocher and seconded by Nick Hudson.

Association Bills: Treasurer Diedtrich reported that he had no outstanding bills to pay. President Haslam issued a challenge to the Rural Association to match a donation to the Wyoming L.A.S.T team treasury, if the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association made a donation to the L.A.S.T treasury. Motion to approve a donation to the Wyoming L.A.S.T. team treasury in the amount of \$1,500 was made by Willy Watsabaugh and seconded by Jim Wamsley. (A note to this motion, I understand the Rural Association accepted the challenge at their meeting, and approved a similar donation to the Wyoming L.A.S.T. team, good job to both groups)

START OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missouri Valley Division, IAFC: Chief Jim Wamsley reported that he has with him information on becoming a member of the IAFC, he relayed the many benefits available through the International upon becoming a member.

Chief Wamsley stated that the Western Fire Chiefs' Association has put together a group purchasing plan and has obtained some good purchasing prices on both products and services. He encouraged the members present to go to their website and view what was available. Purchasing through them also produces a rebate to the Missouri Valley Division and the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association.

Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety: Chief Dan Johnson reported that he has been appointed to the Council to represent the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association, replacing Chief Mark Young. Chief Johnson indicated that there was a meeting in September, and that he didn't have any thing further to report.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Mike Bournazian reported that there's a lot going on within the Council and Committees it has formed. Some on the things he relayed are as follows: The NVFC is pursuing funding for the AFG and VFA grants; Legislation that the Council is involved in is as follows, the Volunteer EMT Services Protection Act,

Voluntary Ambulance Acceptance Act, the NVFC is also pursuing with the IRS what effect Obamacare has on the volunteer fire service; Mike indicated that the meeting that was held in Texas, the Council indicated more volunteer fire personnel were needed on the AFG peer review teams, Mike indicated that the NVFC membership is still very low and needs members; Mike also reported that the Office of General Counsel is not involved in the review process anymore regarding PSOB claims; the NVFC has put together a couple programs that are available on the WEB or by contacting Mike, they are on Firefighter Suicides and Arson.

Nominations and elections: Chief Diedtrich reported that the Association election of officers is to be held at the April 5, 2014 meeting. All the elected Officers are to be voted on by ballot at that meeting, with the exception of the Missouri Valley State Vice President. President Haslam has indicated he will not run again this year, current 1st vice president Donny Munger has agreed to run for President, and current 2nd vice president Scott Hannum has agreed to run for 1st Vice President. The second vice president position needs to be filled; also nominations from the floor for all positions can be made at the election meeting. Anyone interested in serving as an Officer of the Association, needs to contact Chief Diedtrich of their interest, and they will be placed on the ballot for voting, please contact him ASAP.

Legislative: Chief Don Huber reported that the Legislation session in Cheyenne in 2014 is a 20 day session starting February 9, 2014. The Fire service has several bills that they are currently pushing for as follows: one is to raise the fine on starting a fire from the current \$50 to \$750; another is a bill that failed last year, further defining the term Wildfire. There were other bills brought up, that no action was taken, but were discussed. It was decided not to take any action on any of the bills right now, but for the Fire Service to wait until the January meeting in Riverton to take a stand or not.

Chief Huber passed around a calendar to put your name on if you were interested in helping the Fire service Lobby the Legislature during the session.

Wyoming Association of Fire Marshalls: Nick Hudson, the treasurer of the association gave an update of the group. He indicated that the group met three weeks ago, he noted the group that belongs is small but good, they work of Code Enforcement and with the building officials. He noted that Wyoming now has a Sprinkler Coalition in place.

Wyoming State Firemen's Association: Gene Diedtrich reported that the next scheduled meeting of the group would be immediately following the Fire Chiefs' meeting on January 10, 2014 at the Wyoming Fire Academy in Riverton. The 2014 Convention will be held in Lingle, Wyoming, the Chiefs' will meet at 3:00 PM of June 11, 2013, with the firemen's convention beginning that eve and running through Saturday June 14th, 2014.

Wyoming L.A.S.T. Team: Mark Young reported on the goings on with the Team. There is a basic training session to be held at the midwinter meeting at Riverton for those members of the L.A.S.T. Team, the session is scheduled for Saturday January 11, 2014. The group has uniform shirts ordered, and should be in by midwinter. Mark indicated that the team is available for a department if they have a death of a member in a non-line duty, a retired member, or anything else.

Chief Donny Munger thanked the L.A.S.T. Team for being available to help the Newcastle Department in the loss of one of the Explorer Post members in a car accident. Our department had a lot of support from around the state.

Recruitment and Retention Grant: Ian Kraft gave an update to the group regarding the grant, and went over the grant funding available. He indicated the training provision of the grant will be dedicated to supporting the area fire schools for tuition, and will not be used for travel and meals.

The current grant expires July 30, 2015, applying for a new grant to start then was discussed. A motion was made by Kris Kocher and seconded by Lyle Armstrong that the process be started to obtain another Recruiting and Retention Grant.

Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association Recruitment: Chief Haslam reported that there were a couple scholarships available thru VCOS to attend there symposium next summer. Ron Smith will have more at the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Missouri Valley Division Board Meeting – In the past, the Wyoming Fire Chiefs' Association has reimbursed the current president for his Flight costs to attend the conference of board meeting. The Mo Valley division picks up the tab for meals and rooms. A motion was made by Lyle Armstrong and seconded by Jim Wamsley for the Chiefs' association to do the reimbursement to President Haslam.

ADJOURNMENT;

Motion was made by Jim Wamsley and seconded by Rick Cozad to adjourn the meeting at approximately 4:15 PM.

FUTURE MEETINGS

January 10, 2014 in conjunction with Riverton Fire School, meeting is scheduled for 12:30 PM at the Wyoming Fire Academy.

April 5, 2014 in conjunction with Fallen Firefighter Memorial service in Riverton, Wy.

June 11, 2014 in conjunction with the Wyoming State Firemen's Association meeting and convention in Lingle, Wy.

December 2014 in conjunction with the Wyoming Rural Fire Association meeting. Time and date TBA