

**WYOMING FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Afton Fire Department**  
**June 12, 2024**

Call to order by President Quinney at 3:00PM, with 23 members and guests present. Chief Jim Wamsley led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motions - All motions made and seconded were unanimously passed.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting - The Meeting Minutes of the previous meeting held April 6, 2024, at the Wyoming Fire Academy were approved as emailed to the membership. Motion by Donny Munger, seconded by Jim Wamsley.

**Treasurer's Report** - Gene Diedtrich reported on the Statement of Cash Position for the period March 1, 2024, through May 31, 2024. There was a beginning balance of \$70,383, deposits of \$3,189, disbursements of \$34,948, leaving an ending balance of \$38,624, with a cash restriction of \$6,331 for the Safer Grants and the L.A.S.T. checking account, leaving an unrestricted balance of \$32,239. Motion to approve made by Jerry Munger and seconded by Lanny Applegate.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Missouri Valley Division, IAFC** - Chief Gary Harnish gave an update for the Missouri Valley Division. He reported on the recent conference held in Fort Collins, CO and the recent business of the Missouri Valey Division. There will be a FORCE Conference March 26-28, 2025 with the Winter Meeting of the Division being on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Fire-Rescue International is coming up in Dallas this August.

**Special District Association** - There was not an update for the Special District Association.

**Wyoming Council on Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety** - The Fire Council met on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Since last WFC meeting there have been no appeals or pending appeals. The Council received reports from the State Fire Marshal office. Council voted to move the 2024 IFC adoption process on to the Governors office for approval in which there is 75 days (by Statute) to accomplish this. This should put the 2024 code adoption around July 8 date. Local jurisdictions have 6 months to adopt after the State has finalized. 2 public comments were received.

**IAFC VCOS** - Chief Caughey was not present at the meeting. He submitted a report via email that was forwarded to the membership. The topics included nominations of Officers, the Symposium in the Sun, Proposed OSHA Rules, Free weekly webinars and the rewriting of the Red Ribbon Report.

**National Volunteer Fire Council** - Chief Larry Erdmann reported out on the NVFC. He discussed the cost of membership was being raised from \$21 to \$24 a year in January 2025. The NVFC has 37,000 members and the NVFC is highly engaged in keeping track of the new Proposed OSHA Rules.

**National Fire Protection Association** - Nick Hudson reported out on the NFPA. He discussed the Fire Officer Standard, the Conference and Expo will be held in Orlando, Florida and NFPA 800 regarding Lithium/Ion Batteries. The NFPA is also engaged in the comment period for the new proposed OSHA Standard.

**Wyoming Firefighter Memorial** - The Firefighter Memorial will be held in conjunction with the Wyoming Firefighter Hall of Fame again this year on Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a need for Honor Guard Participation. Chiefs were asked to contact Allen Robinson if they had any Honor Guard Members available to participate.

**WYO-LINK UPDATE** - There was no report on WYO-LINK.

**Legislative Committee** - Lanny Applegate reported on the successful Legislative Session. He did a short recap of all the firefighter related bills. Some of the highlights of the session were SF3 - 24 Hours of Leave for State Employees to respond as volunteer firefighters, EMT's or Search and Rescue. SF4 - Rehire of Retirees, SF8 - Health Insurance for Volunteers, HB66 - Cancer Screening. The RERT's were funded with a partial funding and the Helitack Base in Casper was funded. If any Chief's have legislation that is on the radar please let Lanny know as we approach the next session.

**WFCA Residential Sprinkler Committee** - Nick Hudson reported that the Committee meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month via Zoom and all are welcome to join. He discussed the availability of the side by side sprinkler demonstration trailer. Anybody wanting to schedule the trailer for a demonstration please contact Nick.

**Wyoming Volunteer Fire, EMT and Search and Rescue Pension** - Lanny Applegate reported on the most recent status of the pension plan. The fund has approximately 117 million with approximately 2400 current members and 1464 retirees.

**Wyoming Fire Academy** - Ian Kraft reported on the recent status of the Fire Academy Upgrades. He introduced the new Arson Dog and discussed the availability of the Dog around the state. He also introduced Justin Hamilton as a new hire at the academy, and discussed the recruit academy.

**2019 and 2021 SAFER Grant Reports** - Gene Diedtrich reported on the current status of both SAFER Grants and encouraged Chiefs to submit for qualified training reimbursements and new hire physicals. The 2019 Grant has approximately 225K and will expire in November 2024. The 2021 Grant has 691K and will expire in November 2026.

Highlights of SAFER GRANT coverage.

Training Reimbursement

Includes the Training Cost, Daily meals and lodging incurred within the Wyoming Current Per-Diem rates.

College Books/Tuition

Acceptance will be for a 1- 4-year period, depending on the life of the grant, allows 8 semesters of tuition at a qualified college or online teaching college. Allows up to \$1,650 tuition and \$350 for relevant books per semester, passing grade of a C or better per semester to qualify for payment.

One Time Physical

For new members of a department, must be a department member in good standing. Needs to be a NFPA 1582 compliant physical, reimburses up to \$880 per physical.

**By-Laws Committee** - Chief Jim Wamsley reported that the work continues on the By-Laws and did not have anything else to report at this time.

## **SECTION REPORTS**

**Wyoming Firefighter's Certification Committee** - No report was given

**Wyoming Association of Fire Marshals** - Nick Hudson reported the annual conference will be in Casper, there will be 16 hours of CME offered at the conference. He also discussed grant opportunities and a reasonable fee structure.

**Industrial Fire Chiefs** - No Report Given.

**Consortium Section** - Chief Wamsley reported that the newly formed Consortium Section has not had a meeting so far and should have a report at the December Meeting.

## **STATE FIRE ASSOCIATION REPORTS**

**Wyoming State Fireman's Association** - Chief Cody Wilkes gave a report of the 91<sup>st</sup> Convention and the activities that were happening over the next few days. He reported on raffle sales and outlined the schedule for the Drill Competition starting on Thursday at 11AM. The Wyoming State Firemen's Association golf tournament will be at Rolling Green Country Club in Green River on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Working on a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn.

**Wyoming State Rural Fireman's Association** - Chief Shad Cooper gave a report on the Annual Rural Conference in Casper Dec 4-6<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held the Best Western which is a new location. He discussed restructuring the meeting format and about the offering of training opportunities at the conference.

**LAST Team Update** - One level 2 mission conducted since the WFC last met - Rock Springs. A pending level 3 mission is scheduled for June 22 in Casper. PSOB work continues on many claims. Commissioner Ladwig donated a tag that auctioned for \$34,000 at the Sheep Foundation banquet. 10% will go to the Sheep Foundation and the LAST team will also donate back to Access Yes program - Game and Fish. If you know any G&F commissioners that may want to donate a future tag - please let Lanny Applegate know.

**307 CRR** - No reports given for 307 CRR

**Wyoming Firefighter Cancer Support Network** - No Report Given.

## **STATE AGENCY REPORTS**

**Wyoming State Forestry** - No Report Given

**Wyoming State Fire Marshals Office** - Ian Kraft reported on behalf of Director Mathews. He reported on the upcoming Hall of Fame Ceremony that will be held in conjunction with the Memorial on August 17<sup>th</sup>. He discussed the progress of the rollout of ImageTrend and the continued education for departments for implementation. The requirements for the Arson Dog was discussed for the use in Fatal Fires across the state.

**Wyoming Office of Homeland Security** - No Report Given

**Office of Emergency Medical Services** - No Report Given

## **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**Fire Reporting/IMAGETREND** - Chief Kocher reported he was having problems with pulling data from the program and asked about any improvements that would be made. Ian Kraft responded on behalf on the Fire Marshals Office

stating that the rollout was continuing and things should get easier as things move forward. Stated that any Chief's having issues should contact Monica at the office for help.

**OSHA New Safety and Health Standard** - Chief Quinney reported on the comment period being open for the new proposed standard. A discussion was held about how the new standard could effect departments and the need for departments to submit official comments. Chief Quinney will keep the WFCA updated on the progress of the new standard and the public hearing process that will take place in November and December.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Appointment to PSCC to replace Mark Harshman** - Chief Quinney reported that Josh VanVlack of the Laramie County Fire Authority was appointed to the PSCC to represent the WFCA.

**RERT Funding** - Chief Fox reported on the status of the RERT Funding and the testimony they gave at the recent Transportation Committee Meeting. He stated that there was not any questions from legislators. He stressed the importance of Chiefs reaching out to their local legislators to talk about the importance of the RERT's in their regions.

With no other business being brought before the body. A motion was made by Chief Kocher to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chief Wamsley. All present voted in favor. Meeting was adjourned by Chief Quinney.

## **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- January 3, 2025, starting at 12:30 PM at the Wyoming Fire Academy in Riverton held in conjunction with the Midwinter Fire School put on by the Riverton Volunteer Fire Department January 3 - 5, 2025.
- April 5, 2025, annual meeting of the WFCA, with elections starting at 9:00 AM at the Riverton Volunteer Fire Department Station #1 meeting room. A delicious lunch will be served after the meetng by the good cooks of the RVFD.

#### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- **June 12, 2024, starting at 3:00 PM at the Afton Volunteer Fire Department held in conjunction with the 91<sup>st</sup> annual meeting and drill team competition of the Wyoming State Firemen’s Association, which runs June 13-15, 2024.**
- **December 5, 2024, starting at 8:00 AM at the Best Western (formerly called Park Plaza) in Casper held in conjunction with annual meeting of the Wyoming State Rural Fire Association.**
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