



Volunteer & Combination Officers Section of The International Association of Fire Chiefs

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VCOS Board Teleconference Wednesday, April 12, 2017

4 p.m. Eastern/3 p.m. Central/2 p.m. Mountain/1 p.m. Pacific

1-866-809-4014

Passcode: 4230611

MINUTES

Present: Chief Donna Black, Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Ed Rush, Chief James Seavey, Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Randy Larson

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The meeting started at 4:02pm.

Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall

The board reviewed the March conference call minutes.

Motion by Chief Windisch and seconded by Chief Collins to approve the minutes from the March board call. Motion carried.

The VCOS was represented at CFSI. Several VCOS board members attended. There was a presentation with VWS and VCOS on how grants have helped recruiting. A briefing was held with Chief Quinn of NVFC and capitol hill staffers. 7 reps were there. The briefing focused on laws and regulations dealing with volunteers. VCOS board members and IAFC staff attended the CFSI dinner. Chief Wall surprised Chief Flynn at his hall of fame dinner.

2017 VCOS Election – Chief Rush

The VCOS online ballot was reviewed and tested by Chiefs Florentino and Rush as well as Kelly. Voting will be April 27 – June 8. Results will be released June 12. The VCOS website has been updated. There are 17 candidates for 3 spots. We are hoping for more participating with one IAFC ballot. How do we get people to vote? Incentive like free symposium registration if you vote or some type of raffle prize? Can system tell who voted? Gift cards? Chief Wall recommends holding off this year. If you have suggestions send to Chiefs Rush and Florentino.

Symposium in the West – Chief Collins

- May 4-6. Theme = "Be the Change. Create. Engage. Inspire"
- Registration
- Board meeting will be Friday. Reports due to Kelly by April 21.

The conference is gearing up well. We haven't heard from Shell and so only 1 sponsorship is open right now. Registration is going well. So far there are 75 paying attendees. That number doesn't include sponsors, speakers, staff, pilots, etc.

Fire-Rescue International – Chief Wall

- Charlotte July 26-29
- Annual meeting Thursday, July 27 from 2-3pm
- Possible meet and greet TBD - Chief Black has a sponsor for the meet and greet. More details being worked out for the meet and greet.
- Hotel not assigned yet

Federal Regulators Toolkit

- New committee formed and first call will be April 19

Communications Committee – Chiefs Black, Rush, Larson

- Newsletter
- Social media/website
- Articles

Joelle is working on the newsletter. The committee will have a report for the board meeting about some changes. If you know someone who wants to get involved, please tell the committee.

Old Business

- IAFC's response to the request from Chief Olsson regarding United in Service Report (see letter attached)
- VCOS awards/scholarship committees – Chief Flynn
 - Buckman Award (Provident – Jeff Siegrist, jsiegrist@providentbenefits.com)
 - R&R and Illness/Injury Prevention Awards (VFIS, Bill Jenaway, wjenaway@vfis.com)
 - Training Officer Award (TargetSolutions, Mike Butler, michael.butler@targetsolutions.com)
 - Emerging Leader Scholarship (Gasaway Consulting, Rich Gasaway, rich@richgasaway.com)
 - FRI Scholarships
 - Symposium in the Sun Scholarships
- Yellow Ribbon Report – Chief Flynn
- Cancer Alliance
- Future of VCOS project – more in May meeting.

We are trying to get members involved on award/scholarship committees. Please talk to sponsors and get timelines and marketing together for the May board meeting. Chief Collins has a timeline template to share.

Yellow Ribbon report – it went to SHS for review. We have received comments on the position statement and not the paper yet. Position paper will go to the IAFC board. The goal is to have hard copies for Symposium in the West.

There will be a Cancer Alliance report in May.

New Business

- Chief Oprandy is stepping down as VCOS webinar coordinator. We need someone new.
- Nominations for Fire Chief of the Year are due May 12. Chief Windisch is recommending an individual from WI and will share with the board.
- IAFC March 15-16, 2018 strategic direction meeting – sections and divisions invited to send 1 person. Section pays travel.
- FDIC – Seavey will be there to represent VCOS

Roundtable, Announcements, Committee/Project Updates

3 sections asking for permanent seats on the IAFC board – SHS, FLSS, EMS. The IAFC board voted to support that. It will be on the IAFC ballot. VCOS and Metro are permanent seats along with the 3 top sections in membership. Those sections proposed a bylaw to the CBR. Anyone else that wants a seat has to be 10% of IAFC membership and apply. The CBR did not support it. The IAFC board did support it. EFO now has more members than SHS. Those seats would be funded by the IAFC and not the section. There is no charge to sections for a seat. Can VCOS have a position to support this change?

Motion by Chief Windisch and seconded by Chief Rush to support the proposed IAFC bylaw change to give permanent board seats to each of the following sections: the Safety, Health and Survival Section, the Emergency Medical Services Section, and the Fire, Life Safety Section. Motion carried.

Discussion: VCOS has done a lot of work with these sections and they are important to the IAFC. Do we hurt anyone or other sections – any unintended consequences? The New England division agreed with CBR. It doesn't prohibit anyone from getting on as long as they get 10% of membership. Chief Windisch will write up a few sentences regarding this.

Rush: What conferences does VCOS want to attend? NY show, Firehouse, Symoisums, FDIC. Honor guard at CFSI went well.

Seavey: Apologized for not being on calls and at February meeting.

Windisch: The Symposium in the Sun Hilton hotel sold out already.

Flynn: Thanks for the hall of fame congratulations. The importance of the yellow ribbon report hit home recently.

Ameen: Will work with Chief Flynn on letters, board roster, VCOS mission/values statement, etc. to include in the Yellow Ribbon Report. Once these are all together, the report will go to the committee for a final review before it goes to the IAFC board. Will work with a graphic designer on layout. Kelly will ship VCOS materials to FDIC.

Black: There will be a WFCC meeting at FRM. Over 50% of the invited women fire chiefs are attending and filled out the survey.

Wall: Met with CPSE at CFSI. Trying to create a model for the volunteer chief.

The next meeting is Friday, May 5 at Symposium in the West.

The call ended at 5:08pm.