



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

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### **VCOS Board Teleconference Wednesday, January 11, 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 Dan Eggleston, Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Jim Seavey, Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Ed Rush

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 4:02 pm ET.

#### **Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall**

The board reviewed the December minutes.

**Motion by Chief Windisch and seconded by Chief Flynn approve the December minutes. Motion carried.**

Any bylaw changes are needed by February 1. At the November board meeting, there were no changes mentioned to the bylaws. This is more of an FYI.

#### **2017 VCOS Election – Chief Wall**

The IAFC and section elections are moving to a single ballot in 2017. VCOS board candidate information will be accepted Feb 1-28. The December Report from the Chair mentioned the new timeline and more info will be in the January eblast and on the website. Chief Florentino will be the committee chair and Chief Rush will be the board representative on the committee. Usually the board representative is the Secretary-Treasurer but Chief Collins is up for re-election this year and requested someone else fill that committee position.

#### **February Board Meeting – Chiefs Wall and Windisch**

- February 10 & 11 (come in Feb. 9 and leave evening of Feb 11 after 5 or 6pm or anytime on Feb 12)- Houston, Texas (fly into IAH Bush Intercontinental)
  - Chief Windisch is the host and helping to organize
  - Hotel = Hilton Garden Inn Cypress Station (send Kelly your hotel needs)
  - Book flights ASAP and send Kelly itinerary
  - Need to know how your name appears on your ID and if you are bringing a significant other for any of the dinners

- Thursday – Dinner at a TexMex restaurant
- Friday – Meeting at Shell downtown and then dinner (Gweneyette)
- Saturday – Meet at Ponderosa FD followed by prime rib dinner reception

### **Symposium in the West – Chief Collins**

Chief Collins was not on the call to provide his report. The theme is “Be the Change. Create. Engage. Inspire.” There are currently 13 people registered, about the same as last year at this time. The board meeting is currently scheduled to be on Thursday, May 4, but it may get moved to Friday. More on that later.

### **Symposium in the Sun – Chiefs Windisch and Wall**

We are negotiating the contract with the Hilton for 2019, 2020, 2021. It is very similar to the existing contract. We are looking at the possibility of adding wireless. Hotel sleeping room rates will go up \$8 or \$9 per room per night each year. IAFC staff did look at the new Wyndham but it won't work for our needs.

**Motion by Chief Flynn and seconded by Chief Black to have IAFC staff move forward with the Hilton contract for Symposium in the Sun for the additional three years. Motion carried.**

The committee has started a list of potential speakers and their first call will be in a few weeks to discuss speakers/presentations.

### **Communications Committee – Chiefs Black, Rush, Larson**

Joelle is putting the newsletter together now. It should be mailed in February. Chief Eggleston will reach out to Joelle to see if she needs more articles as he has one.

### **Old Business**

Chief Eggleston reported that the IAFC board has a call tomorrow. They will make a recommendation to support General Kelly for the Department of Homeland Security. There will be a meeting in Reno to wrap up the section and division taskforce work.

Chief Flynn mentioned that the NVFC SAFER minutes were attached to the agenda and the board should review them.

Chief Flynn reported that the position statement for the Yellow Ribbon Report was edited to make it read more like a position statement. He will send the revised version to that board and then we will vote on it at the February board meeting. The committee is hoping to have the report ready for the February board meeting for review as well. Mike Macdonald did a great job putting this together. The IAFC board meeting in Reno is around March 20. We should attempt to get the Yellow Ribbon Report to the IAFC board for that meeting. The goal is to have the report available for Symposium in the West. We should also highlight it at FRI – maybe during general

The Section Taskforce Report was accepted by the IAFC board. There are 3 sections trying to get seats on the board: EMS, EFO, and FLSS.

### **New Business**

CFSI is April 5-6. VCOS and IAFC VWS will present on volunteer recruitment and retention on April 5 at 3pm. The dinner is on April 6.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association is working to push their bill through House Ways and Means Committee through Congressman Brady. Chief Windisch has been tracking this. At CFSI, Chief Randy Parr and will meet with Evan Davis and they will go see Brady's staff on this.

### **Roundtable, Announcements, Committee/Project Updates**

Black: Still working with the IAFC National SAFER grant and its council. She will be at IAFC HQ for the Women Fire Chiefs Committee next week and will meeting with IAFC National VWS staff while there as well. The FRI Planning Committee is finalizing the schedule for FRI.

Windisch: On January 17, the Tokyo Fire Department will be visiting his fire station. They are looking to improve the volunteer fire service in Japan.

Wall: For the February board meeting, most of the agenda will be covered on Friday. On Saturday, we will discuss the cancer projects and also the future of VCOS/succession planning. We need 3-4 people to be on the FLSA/Government Regulators Toolkit committee. If you or anyone you know is interested, please let Chief Wall know.

Eggleston: Gave a shout out to Terry Monroe and Cathy Feyh in IAFC Membership for converting a new member.

Seavey: Jumped on towards the end of the call. He is in a physical rehab facility for his knee and back. He is working hard to get better.

The call ended at 4:37pm. The next meeting is February 10 & 11 in Houston, TX.