



International Association of Fire Chiefs

VCOS Board Telecon 13 September 2022

Participants:

IAFC Board Members Present:

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair
Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair
Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Paul Sterling, Board Member at Large
Chief Brita Horn, Board Member at Large
Chief Kevin Hardwick, Board Member at Large
Chief Jim Cook, Board Member at Large
Chief Shawn Stokes, Board Member at Large
Chief Al Yancey, Board Member at Large
Chief Jason Catrambone, Board Member at Large

IAFC Board Members Not Present:

IAFC Guests/Staff:

Chief John Buckman
Mr. Paul Gerlikovski
Mr. Kevin McGee, Chief Operations Officer

Call to Order

Chief Flynn chaired the meeting at 1401 hours EDT. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Approval of August 25, 2022 Minutes

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

MOTION: 13 September 2022-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the August 25, 2022 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

STERLING/HORN

Chair's Report

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

The VCOS webpage will be updated to reflect the new Board of Directors. IAFC Staff are in process of updating the main IAFC website and all section websites. Please provide Kevin with any input you identify that should be updated on the website.

Chief Flynn attended the First Responder Center for Excellence Cancer Steering Committee meeting and attended the NFFF Firefighter Life Safety Summit.

Vice Chair's Report

Chief Cowger, Vice Chair

The position description for the VCOS position was updated and is being reviewed by the IAFC legal counselor. The next step after the position description document is returned will be to determine the cost.

Secretary Treasurer Report

Chief Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Windisch presented a review for how to accurately complete the IAFC expense report.

Brand and Message Strategy Development

Chief Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer

It is confirmed that Steve Meyer of The Karma Group will present the new VCOS ID and brand at Symposium in the Sun on Thursday (11/10) morning. Time allotted is 15 minutes.

A total of 2,133 ads promoting the new VCOS logo and brand message (*Leaders in Critical Thinking*) were delivered via a geofencing social media campaign during FRI. Because of the low cost (under \$15.00), The Karma Group is taking care of the expense and not invoicing VCOS for ad placements.

Photos and video clips were requested to possibly use in the brand video for Symposium in The Sun. Since the Board meeting, enough photos and video files were provided by Chiefs Buckman and Windisch. There are now sufficient visual assets to complete the video.

Symposium in the SUN Conference Update

Chief Buckman

In a cooperative project between the NVFC and VCOS, the development and update of the NVFC White Paper on Training for Volunteer Firefighters was completed and expected to be released by Symposium in the Sun.

The development of the Yellow Ribbon Report education curriculum was completed. It will be released as soon as The Karma Group creates a standard VCOS PowerPoint template.

Work is ongoing on Lavender Ribbon Report education curriculum anticipated to be completed by Symposium in the Sun.

The FROG course refresh group met and completed a review and update in July. The revisited curriculum will be available around the first of the year

The "What is the VCOS doing for you?" project was completed and to be used by officers, directors and VCOS advocates that shows all the projects we are involved with.

The White Ribbon Report update will be completed by Symposium in the Sun.

Old Business

Chief Yancey reported that the Chaplain Guide draft is complete and has been sent to Kevin McGee to initiate the publication process.

Chief Cook reported that the VCOS Newsletter Committee began the Fall Newsletter process with the intention of having it substantially complete by SUN Conference with space allocated to include SUN Conference highlights with a publication date of early December.

New Business

Chief Stokes informed the Board that he attended the 9/11 ceremony at IAFC Headquarters.

Chief Horn reported that she will organize the Data Ribbon report group soon.

Chief Hardwick proposed forming a committee to create a White Paper or Ribbon Report to address the role of animal therapy programs for first responders' behavioral health and to be provided some time at SITS to discuss the topic.

The telecon ended at 1505 Hours ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
Interim VCOS Staff Liaison

Fire Chief Chuck Flynn
VCOS, Chair

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