



# International Association of Fire Chiefs

## Constitution, Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Business Meeting Minutes Via Conference Call 6 March 2018

### Participants:

#### CBR Committee Members:

*Lorrie Kalos, Chair (At-large)*  
*Steven A. Locke (At-large)*  
*Martha Ellis (At-large)*  
*Jon P. Townley (Eastern)*  
*Andy J. Pless (Great Lakes)*  
*P. Michael Snider (Missouri Valley)*  
*Charles Doody (New England)*  
*Jonathan Kanzigg (Southeastern)*  
*Steve T. Mims (Southwestern)*  
*Mark Correira (Western)*

#### Staff:

Jim Philipps, Terry Monroe

#### Not participating:

CBR Member: *Denis Pilon (Canadian)*

### Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chief Kalos at 11:06 AM ET.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

#### Chief Kalos

##### Approval of Minutes

Kalos reported that the minutes from the December 1, 2017 email vote on a proposed amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws (CBL) would be incorporated into the minutes of today's conference call and be approved at the next meeting at Fire-Rescue International.

#### Chief Kalos

##### Report from the Chair

Kalos reported that she had a recent conversation with Chief Spurr, IAFC Elections

Committee Chair, regarding the 2018 race for IAFC President. She said the committee may want to consider establishing a definition of a fire department in regards to the eligibility of a candidate for IAFC officer.

### **Proposed CBL Amendment #1**

#### VOTING PRIVILEGES - NEW MEMBERS

Article II, Section 4 (A) (3) (last paragraph)

"New regular **and departmental members** shall be entitled to voting privileges fifteen **five** days after receipt of initial membership dues."

**No action necessary as this was approved by CBR Committee at FRI in Charlotte. Will write ballot question later in this meeting.**

### **Proposed CBL Amendment #2**

#### ELECTED OFFICER ELIGIBILITY

This amendment was proposed by Chief Spurr, Elections Committee Chair, and Chief Jenkins, IAFC President. (New language bold, underline)

Article III, Section 2

Any member of the Association seeking election to any of the elective offices specified in Article III, Section 1 of the constitution and bylaws shall:

- A. Be the chief of a fire department **for at least 50 of the previous 52 weeks at the time of filing and through installation, and** a Regular member of the Association in good standing.

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Mims, seconded by Chief Doody, to approve the proposed amendment and recommend IAFC members vote YES in the 2018 ballot.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

### **Proposed CBL Amendment #3**

#### BASIC MEMBERSHIP

This amendment, proposed by the IAFC Board of Directors which would add a new subsection to Article II, Section 4 (B) "Members Other than Regular Members". It also would add language to Bylaws Section 1, Subsection 1 (Dues). All new text below:

**Article II, Section 4 (B)**

**Basic Members**

- a) Basic members shall include two and three-bugle chief officers, as designated

by the chief, of regularly organized public, private, governmental or industrial fire departments.

b) Basic members shall have all the benefits of regular membership, except they are not eligible to hold IAFC elective office, service "serve" on the IAFC Board of Directors, have IAFC voting privileges, be eligible for IAFC life membership, or receive a discounted rate for IAFC functions.

c) Basic members may upgrade to regular membership at any time.

(New language bold, underline)

### **Bylaws Section 1, Subsection 1**

#### **Dues**

The dues for regular, departmental and associate members are one-hundred eighty-nine dollars U.S. (\$189) (\$189 Canadian for members of the Canadian Division as prescribed in Article II, Membership, Section 1A of the Constitution) per year, **for basic members, one-hundred dollars U.S. (\$100) (\$100 Canadian for members of the Canadian Division)** and for affiliate members, seventy-five dollars U.S. (\$75) (\$75 Canadian for members of the Canadian Division) and payable by the member's renewal date. The IAFC Board of Directors, by two-thirds majority vote, may adjust these dues by an amount not to exceed the change in the Consumer Price Index (All Urban Consumers) since the last dues adjustment.

#### **MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Pless, seconded by Chief Snider, to approve the proposed amendment and recommend IAFC members vote YES in the 2018 ballot.**

**Discussion:** Terry Monroe, Membership Director, explained that this was a successful 5-year pilot program designed to allow large fire departments to pay for additional members more affordably. Basic members are not permitted to vote in IAFC elections, run for office, serve on outside committees.

**Motion carried 10-0.**

### **Canadian Division Bylaws**

Chief Pilon

Chief Pilon reported previously that CAFC amended their bylaws in September to comply with new Canadian Law.

#### **MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Townley, seconded by Chief Mims, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **Common Section Amendment Language**

Chief Kalos

Inquired whether there was interest in developing common language for sections to amend their bylaws. Tabled until FRI in Dallas.

## **EFO Section Bylaws**

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Mims, seconded by Chief Ellis, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **EVMS Section Bylaws**

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Pless, seconded by Chief Correria, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **Fire & Life Safety Section Bylaws**

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Townley, seconded by Chief Mims, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **Industrial Section Bylaws**

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Townley, seconded by Chief Doody, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **VCOS Section Bylaws**

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Kanzigg, seconded by Chief Snider, to approve the amended bylaws.**

**Discussion:** Suggestion that the committee develop common election procedure language for all section bylaws.

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **Ballot Question #1**

### **Article II. Section 4 (A) (3). Membership and Membership Privileges**

The proposed change would shorten the period of time that new members must wait before they are eligible to vote in IAFC elections from fifteen (15) days after receipt of initial membership dues to five (5) days.

Click here [ADD LINK] to review text.

#### **Recommendations:**

Constitution, Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Recommendation: YES

IAFC Board of Directors Recommendation: YES

1 - YES, I support shortening the period of time that new members must wait before they are eligible to vote in IAFC elections from fifteen (15) days after receipt of initial membership dues to five (5) days.

2 - NO, I do not support shortening the period of time that new members must wait before they are eligible to vote in IAFC elections from fifteen (15) days after receipt of initial membership dues to five (5) days.

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Pless, seconded by Chief Townley, to approve the ballot question, with minor correction.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

## **Ballot Question #2**

### **Article III. Section 2. Elected Officer Eligibility**

This proposed amendment would require an IAFC officer candidate be the chief of a fire department for at least 50 of the previous 52 weeks at the time of filing and through installation. Click here [ADD LINK] to review text.

#### **Recommendations:**

Constitution, Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Recommendation: YES

IAFC Board of Directors Recommendation: YES

1 - YES, I support requiring a candidate for IAFC officer be the chief of a fire department for at least 50 of the previous 52 weeks at the time of filing and through installation.

2 - NO, I do not support requiring a candidate for IAFC officer be the chief of a fire department for at least 50 of the previous 52 weeks at the time of filing and through installation.

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Locke, seconded by Chief Townley, to approve the ballot question.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

**Ballot Question #3**

**Article II. Section 4. Membership and Membership Privileges**

This proposed amendment would add basic membership, currently offered as a pilot program, as a member type under Article II, Section 4.

Click here [ADD LINK] to review text.

**Recommendations:**

Constitution, Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Recommendation: YES

IAFC Board of Directors Recommendation: YES

1 - YES, I support adding basic membership as an IAFC member type.

2 - NO, I do not support adding basic membership as an IAFC member type.

**MOTION: 6 March 2018**

**Motion made by Chief Pless, seconded by Chief Townley, to approve the ballot question.**

**Motion carried 10-0.**

**Old Business**

**Eastern Division Bylaws**

Chief Townley

Chief Townley reported that the pending changes to the bylaws will be taken off the table by the Eastern Division Board with no changes to the size of the board. No further CBR Committee action is necessary.

**Old Business**

**Approval of Minutes**

Chief Kalos

Via email vote on December 1, the CBR Committee unanimously approved a proposed technical amendment to the CBL regarding officer conflict of interest and impairment. These changes were suggested by the IAFC attorney, who advised CEO/Executive Director Mark Light that under New York State law, where the IAFC is chartered, a board cannot REMOVE an officer elected by the membership, but

may SUSPEND an officer and appoint an acting officer. Recall that the officer impairment provision was approved by the CBR Committee and IAFC members in 2017. The attorney advises that since the intentions of the member-approved provisions are unchanged, the proposed changes may be considered/approved via technical amendment. Results of the email vote were reported immediately to IAFC President Tom Jenkins.

Approval of these March 6, 2018 meeting minutes constitutes approval of the above report of the December 1 email vote.

### **Roundtable**

Chief Kalos raised the question whether the IAFC needs to develop a formal definition of a fire department in terms of determining a candidate's eligibility for office. The committee tabled the matter until its meeting at FRI in Dallas.

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:12 PM ET.**