



**International Association of Fire Chiefs**  
**EMS Section Board of Directors – Conference Call**

**January 12, 2023**

**3:00 pm (Eastern)**

Attendees: McEvoy, Riley, Joles, Maxwell, Becker, Richardson

Chief McEvoy opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

**1. FRM Planning**

Chief McEvoy reported that Fire-Rescue Med will be held on Tuesday, May 16. He will follow-up with the Program Planning Committee to begin scheduling the educational programming. Also, coordination will begin with the conference's sponsors.

**2. FRI Planning**

Chief Joles reported that he is contacting an expert to present on ET3 at Fire-Rescue International. Chief McEvoy said that the EMS Section meeting tentatively is planned for Friday, August 18.

**3. March 26 EMS Section Board Meeting in Kansas City**

Chief McEvoy reported that the EMS Section Board meeting will be on Sunday, March 26. Chief Maxwell will not be able to attend. The travel days are on Saturday, March 25, and Monday, March 27. The EMS Section Board will meet on Saturday evening and hold an all-day board meeting on Sunday. Chief Joles will reserve the hotel rooms. The meeting will discuss a number of issues, including EMS Section representation on panels.

**4. VCOS Symposium in the Sun**

Chief McEvoy proposed that the EMS Section Board meet at the VCOS Symposium in the Sun on November 9 - 12, 2023.

**5. EMS Section 2023 Budget**

Chief McEvoy reported that Chief Joles submitted the EMS Section budget for 2023. It was similar to the budget for 2022. The EMS Section had lower expenditures than it had planned last year.

**6. EMS Section Elections**

Chief Becker asked about the timeline for developing the EMS Section Election Handbook and holding the 2023 EMS Section elections. Chief McEvoy said that he would check with Chief Croom for direction from the IAFC.

**7. Heart Safe Community Awards**

Mr. LaSala reported that the IAFC was finalizing a contract with a contractor to administer the Heart Safe Community Awards. The award application period should start soon after the contract is finalized. In addition, PulsePoint agreed to sponsor the award for 2023.

**8. James O. Page Award**

Mr. LaSala reported that the James O. Page Award deliberation and due diligence is in process.

**9. Federal Update**

Mr. LaSala reported that the President Biden signed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328). The new law includes \$10.5 million for the SIREN grant program, which is officially known as the

Rural EMS Training Grant program (This is an increase of \$3 million.) It also extends the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ambulance add-on payments through 2024.

Chief McEvoy also reported on the status of the Ground Ambulance and Patient Billing (GAPB) Advisory Committee. Deputy Fire Chief Pete Lawrence of the Oceanside (CA) Fire Department serves on the committee. He is the only representative of fire-based EMS. The committee's January meeting was postponed.

#### **10. Roundtable**

Chief Maxwell discussed efforts in Washington State to legislate action on hospital wait times. The EMS Section Board discussed efforts to reduce delays in times for admitting EMS patients in hospitals. Chief McEvoy said that the EMS Section Board could solicit ideas through Knowledgenet. Chief McEvoy and Chief Joles will discuss this issue with the NAEMSP Board at their conference.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm (Eastern).