



## International Association of Fire Chiefs

### EMS Section Business Meeting

August 26, 2022

3:00 pm (Central)

Chief McEvoy called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm (Central).

#### **Call to Order and Chair's Welcome – Chief Mike McEvoy, Chair**

Chief McEvoy welcomed the EMS Section members. He recognized the EMS Section Board members and the guest speakers and asked the EMS Section members to introduce themselves.

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

Chief McEvoy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from last business meeting, which was held at FRI 2021.

*Chief Norris Croom made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2021 business meeting, which was seconded by Chief Shaughn Maxwell, and unanimously approved.*

#### **Administer Oaths of Office to Newly Re-Elected Officers**

Chief McEvoy recognized Chief Ken Stuebing, the IAFC President (2021-2022), who gave welcoming remarks and swore in the following officers:

- Vice Chair: Vance Riley, Fire Chief (Ret.), Pearland Fire Department, Texas
- Treasurer: Kevin J. Joles, Division Chief of EMS, Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical, Lawrence, Kansas
- At-Large: Lee Richardson, Deputy Chief-Operations, City of Sachse Fire-Rescue, Sachse, Texas

#### **Meritorious Service Award Presentations**

Chief McEvoy recognized the following EMS Section members with the EMS Section Meritorious Service Award:

- Chief John Sinclair, Kittitas Valley (WA) Fire & Rescue, for his past leadership as IAFC President, EMS Section Chair, and leadership on federal EMS and Medicare issues.
- Chief David Becker (Ret.) for his service as EMS Section Chair and Board member; his work as liaison the IAFC COVID-19 Task Force; and his focus on education of the EMS workforce.
- Chief Norris Croom for his service on the IAFC Board.

## Reports of Officers and Committees

- *Chair's Update – Chief Mike McEvoy*

Chief McEvoy reported that the EMS Section hosted its third virtual Fire-Rescue Med conference on July 12. It was a day-long program that had 487 registrants, 274 attendees, and hundreds of post-conference downloads. The conference was free to attendees and funded through sponsorships. The conference awarded CAPCE credits for the first time this year. Next year's conference may be hybrid and moved either into the fall or earlier in the year.

The EMS Section will be hosting an upcoming series of webinars, which are sponsored by the Public Consulting Group (PCG). Here is the schedule:

- September 20 – GEMT: What You Need to Know
- October 25 – Update on CMS Cost-Reporting Requirements
- November 30 – Issues relating to Purchasing for EMS

The EMS Section is grateful for PCG's support for these webinar series.

Chief McEvoy also reported that the IAFC is working with IAFF on an apprenticeship program to train EMS personnel. The National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) reported that more paramedics are graduating each year and the NREMT is certifying more EMTs each year. However, the providers are absent from running EMS calls. Many states report only half of certified providers appear on patient care reports.

- *Immediate Past Chair's Report – Chief David Becker*

Chief Becker discussed issues relating to the NREMT proposal and the challenges of educational requirements for EMS personnel. He said when he started on the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Profession (CoAEMSP) board, there was only two accredited fire-based programs. Now there are 30 programs.

The EMS Section Board is working on a position statement to support the development of a COA as single accreditor and recommend that EMS personnel graduate from accredited programs.

- *Treasurer's Report – Chief McEvoy*

Chief Deardorff was unable to attend the meeting. Chief McEvoy gave the Treasurer's report. The EMS Section had a carryover balance from 2021 of \$45,310. As of June 30, the EMS Section had total revenue of \$22,532 and total expenses of \$10,267 for a total balance of \$57,575.

*Chief Riley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, which was seconded by Chief Richardson, and unanimously approved.*

- *Legislative Update – Ken LaSala*

Mr. LaSala provided an update on U.S. federal legislation. The IAFC is working with other national fire service organizations to pass legislation to reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grant and SAFER grant programs, along with the U.S. Fire Administration. Also, we are trying to pass legislation to extend the Medicare rural, urban, and super-rural ambulance add-on payments, which expire at the end of the year. The Protecting Access to Ground Ambulance Medical Services Act (H.R. 2454/S. 2037) to extend these important payments until January 1, 2028.

## **Presentations from Liaisons and Guests**

- Dave Bryson gave an update on initiatives at the National Highway Traffic Safety Association. He highlighted initiatives like the National Roadway Safety Strategy; the role of National EMS Information System as a key transportation database; and the new 9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline.
- Chief Rick Patrick (Ret.) and Mr. Bill Troup gave an update on initiatives at the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA). They highlighted that the report from COVID-19 listening session has been released online and USFA is working with the IAFC on an EMS Needs Assessment. USFA also is updating its guide on Active Shooter and EMS. It also is working on a study about electrical vehicle response, which was funded by NHTSA.
- Dr. George Hatch from CoAEMSP gave an update. The IAFC is one of the 12 sponsors of CoAEMSP. Chief Paul Berlin was the Immediate Past Chair and Chief David Becker is the Secretary/Treasurer. He discussed the growth of Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)-accredited programs from 220 programs in 2013 to 635 programs now. He thanked the IAFC for approving the updates to the CAAHEP standards, which will be implemented in 2023.
- John Olson gave an update from the federal First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). As FirstNet reaches its 10-year anniversary, it has over 3.7 million connections and over 22,000 response agencies. FirstNet is working to re-engage the fire and EMS discipline. He discussed the concept of the connected ambulance and innovative technologies like mobile MRIs and cranial ultrasounds.

## **Old Business**

Chief Becker discussed the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) recent statement calling for cultural humility in pre-hospital care. The purpose of the document was to develop a culture of humility and set up a toolbox for training and education. The statement is under review.

## **New Business**

Chief McEvoy announced that the next meeting of the EMS Section will be Friday, July 23, at Fire-Rescue International in Kansas City.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm (Central).