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VCOS Board Telecon Meeting Minutes 10 February 2026

Participants:

VCOS Board Members Present:

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair
Chief Shawn P. Stokes, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director
Chief Kevin Cooney, Director at Large
Chief Fred Windisch, Director at Large
Chief Jordan Cramer, Director at Large
Chief Spencer Cheatham, Director at Large

VCOS Board Members Not Present:

Chief Al Yancey, Vice Chair
Chief Jason Caughey, Director at Large
Chief Tim Sendelbach, Director at Large

IAFC Guests/Staff:

Leslie Distler, IAFC Corporate Relations Manager
Kevin McGee, Staff Liaison
Mikel Robinson, Staff Support Contractor
Chief John M. Buckman III, Education Coordinator

Call to Order

Chief Stokes called the meeting to order at 1403 hrs ET. A roll call was made and a quorum was present.

Approval of January 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Chief Shawn Stokes in Chief Cowger's early meeting absence due to his travel

MOTION: February 10, 2026-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the January 13, 2025 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Windisch/Cooney

Chair Report

In the early meeting absence of Chief Cowger, Chief Stokes reported that the Executive Committee meeting was cancelled.

Chief Stokes informed the Board that Chief Cowger appointed Chief Stokes, Chief Cramer and Chief Biggs to serve as the 2026 Election Committee.

Vice Chair Report

Chief Al Yancey, Vice Chair

No report.

International Director Report

Chief Jason Catrambone

Chief Catrambone informed the Board that the IAFC CEO/Executive Director appointment should be announced soon.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Chief Shawn P. Stokes

Chief Stokes reported that the proposed bylaws update for the 2026 ballot was submitted to Acting CEO Tom Murphy prior to the February 1st deadline.

The Section financial statements were just released. Chief Stokes will provide a financial report at a later time.

Education Coordinator Report

Chief John M Buckman III

Chief Buckman III presented the 2026 education delivery cost proposal on behalf of the Education Committee.

MOTION: February 10, 2026-02

Motion made and seconded to approve the 2026 VCOS Education Delivery Costs as presented by the Education Committee. Motion carried.

Cheatham/Windisch

Chief Buckman reported that there are two hotel finalists for consideration of the SITS hotel venue. Site visits are being scheduled.

Chief Buckman informed the Board that a proposal was received from LEAD, our contracted CTA curriculum manager, to conduct on-site observation of the 3 weekend modules in Klien, TX.

MOTION: February 10, 2026-03

Motion made and seconded to support the Executive Committee to negotiate the cost with LEAD Inc. for their proposed on-site three module CTA program observation at Klien, TX and for the Executive Committee to approve the final agreement. Motion carried.

Cheatham/Windisch

Support Position Report

Mikel Robinson

Ms. Robinson is provided an update on tasks she is performing to include planning for the March and June Board meetings.

Staff Liaison

Kevin McGee

Kevin McGee will provide invitations to the IAFC 2nd vice president candidates to present at the March 2026 Board meeting if they are willing.

Kevin informed the Board that the IAFC Conflict of Interest forms will be sent to them soon for each Board member to complete and submit. The Conflict of Interest submission is an IAFC policy requirement.

Old Business

Chief Cheatham provided an update on the Strategic Plan informing the Board that further work is needed to make it operational. Chief Cheatham recommends that a Strategic Plan discussion be conducted at the March Board meeting to develop a work plan.

New Business

Leslie Distler, IAFC Corporate Relations Manager briefed the Board on the expiration of the Pierce Fund memorandum of understanding (MOU) agreement. An updated three-year MOU agreement without changing any of the provisions of the expired agreement (except for reduction from five years to three years) was recommended.

MOTION: February 10, 2026-04

Motion made and seconded to support a three-year MOU with Pierce Manufacturing to continue the expired Pierce Fund agreement with the same provisions that is included in the expired MOU. Motion carried.

Cooney/Catrambone

The telecon ended at 1503 hrs ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
VCOS Staff Liaison

Chief Shawn P. Stokes
Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Rich Cowger
Chair

Because electronic mail can be altered, the integrity of this communication cannot be guaranteed.