



Officers Section

8251 Greensboro Drive, Suite 650 • McLean, VA 22102
Tel: 703.273.0911 • Fax: 703.273.9363 • IAFC.org

VCOS Board Telecon October 11, 2023

Participants:

VCOS Board Members Present:

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair
Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Jason Catrambone, Board Member at Large
Chief Spencer Cheatham, Board Member at Large
Chief Jason Caughey, Board Member at Large
Chief Shawn Stokes, Board Member at Large
Chief Al Yancey, Board Member at Large
Chief Brita Horn, Board Member at Large
Chief Paul Sterling, Board Member at Large

VCOS Board Members Not Present:

Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair

IAFC Guests/Staff:

Chief John Buckman
Mr. Kevin McGee, IAFC Liaison

Call to Order

Chief Flynn chaired the meeting. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present. The meeting came to order at 1401 hrs ET.

Approval of the September 12, 2023 Minutes

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

MOTION: 12 September 2023-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the September 12, 2023 Board meeting minutes.

Motion carried.

Windisch/Catrambone

Chair Report

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

Chief Flynn reminded the Board that Chief Cowger, Chief Caughey and Chief Yancey are conducting a review of the statement submitted by Chief Sullivan at the Annual Meeting. The chiefs will report back on their findings and recommendations at the November 2023 Board meeting.

Chief Flynn established that the 2023 in-person Board meetings will be February 2 - 3, May 17 - 18 with travel days on either end of these dates and August 2024 at FRI in Dallas, November at SITS in Clearwater. The February and May meeting locations are to be determined.

Chief Flynn informed the Board of meetings and activities at Symposium in the Sun in November. A Board activity schedule is forthcoming from Kevin McGee.

Chief Flynn reminded all Board members to submit their bios for the IAFC 150th Commemorative Book. The VCOS blurb for the book has been submitted.

Chief Flynn appointed Chief Caughey, and Chief Cheatham to serve as the Election Committee. Chief Flynn will request Chief Florentino to be a transition liaison to the committee for the next election cycle.

Vice Chair Report

Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair

Chief Flynn reported on behalf of Chief Cowger that the procurement process for the VCOS Support Position is ongoing. Based on the proposals submitted it was determined that a modification in the scope of work is needed.

International Director Report

Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director

Chief Catrambone shared statistics on the success of FRI and reported that there is a large amount of legislative work being done. The IAFC now has 11100 members. The IAFC Board transitioned to a quarterly meeting schedule with the next meeting in December.

Secretary Treasurer Report

Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Windisch informed the Board that there will be a change in expense account codes. Chief Windisch expressed some concern to Chief Catrambone about how quarterly Board meetings will impact financial reporting to the sections.

Symposium in the Sun is 99% on budget with weeks left before the conference. He expects a conference profit. The Saturday companion trip has low registration and may need to be cancelled if it can't cover expenses for the bus costs.

NFPA Fire Service Canine Standard Proposal

Chief Hardwick

Chief Hardwick sought support from the Board to request the NFPA to investigate and initiate a fire service canine standard. Chief Flynn requested that Chief Hardwick prepare a letter to the NFPA from VCOS to initiate a fire service canine standard.

Chief Hardwick commented that there has been a great deal of positive feedback from around the country about the Amber Ribbon Report indicating to him that there is a unmet demand for fire service canine standards.

Recording Board Meeting Proposal

Chief Horn

Chief Horn explained how MS Teams recording works. The Board is interested in evaluating the pros and cons of the proposal. Chief Flynn requests Chief Horn to do more background work to include if any partners are using this application and prepare a 20-minute presentation so that the Board can discuss at the December Board meeting.

Training Program Update

Chief John Buckman

Chief Buckman informed the Board that the speakers for SITS are confirmed. The registration is near sell out. The Hilton Hotel is receptive to the live burn although they still need approval from Hilton corporate office.

Webinars continue to be successful with large numbers of attendees. The 2024 webinar schedule is under development. A question was asked to provide detail about how the webinar charges from IAFC are derived. Kevin McGee was asked to report back with an answer.

Chief Buckman requested support for him to do an open survey on the value and use of ribbon reports starting with the more current reports to aid in identification of what is needed for updates.

MOTION: 12 September 2023-02

Motion made and seconded to approve Chief Buckman to perform up to one per month open surveys to determine value and identify gaps with Ribbon Reports as part of the update process. Motion carried.

Stokes/Caughey

Chief Buckman sent his Education Coordinator report to the Board by email.

New Member Committee

Chief Paul Sterling

Chief Sterling informed the Board that the New Member Breakfast at SITS will be held Thursday morning at 6:30. Twelve new members have confirmed attendance.

He will also be gathering door prizes from vendors for give aways at SITS.

Communications Committee Update

Chief Spencer Cheatham

Chief Cheatham reported that the Communications Committee will create processes to enhance communications with members. The committee recommends updating the announcement schedule opening them earlier for awards and scholarships to increase awareness and nominations. The committee submitted communications specific input for the 2024 Strategic Plan to Chief Yancey.

Chief Cheatham stated that a review and audit of the VCOS website is indicated and that input from the Board on revisions is sought.

Data Ribbon Report

Chief Brita Horn

MOTION: 12 September 2023-03

Motion made and seconded to approve the Gold Data Ribbon Report to be sent for IAFC editing inclusion of graphics. Motion carried.

Horn/Windisch

IAFC Staff Liaison

Kevin McGee

All award and scholarship winners have been notified with the exception of the Chair Award that will be handled differently.

Materials to be shipped for SITS have been readied at the Chantilly IAFC office.

The Board schedule for meetings and events for SITS and Board meetings will be forthcoming to Board members.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Good of the Order

None

The telecon ended at 1534 hrs ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
VCOS Staff Liaison

Fire Chief Fred Windisch
Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Chuck Flynn
Chair

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