



International Association of Fire Chiefs

VCOS Board Telecon 14 February 2023

Participants:

IAFC Board Members Present:

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair
Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair
Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Jason Catrambone, Board Member at Large
Chief Paul Sterling, Board Member at Large
Chief Brita Horn, Board Member at Large
Chief Kevin Hardwick, Board Member at Large
Chief Jim Cook, Board Member at Large
Chief Shawn Stokes, Board Member at Large
Chief Al Yancey, Board Member at Large

IAFC Board Members Not Present:

IAFC Guests/Staff:

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 January 10, 2023 Minutes

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

MOTION: 14 February 2023-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the January 10, 2023. Motion carried.

Stokes/Cowger

Chair Report

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

Chief Flynn reported that the details and logistics for the March 2023 Board meeting are set. A full day will be devoted to a work session on the strategic direction with Bob Norton facilitating the meeting.

Chief Flynn reiterated that the deadline for sections to submit proposed bylaw revisions was February 1, 2023 in order to be considered for the 2023 IAFC election

ballot. He suggested that the Board should consider creating a policy book to detail the steps and deadlines for election and bylaws revision processes.

Chief Flynn appointed Chief Byron Andrews to represent the VCOS for the OSHA Workplace Violence in Health Care draft rule and the SBREFA (small entity) review process.

Vice Chair Report

Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair

Chief Cowger and Chief Yancey continue to communicate with Bob Norton who will facilitate a strategic directions session at our March meeting intended to incorporate the input from the Karma Group input into the strategic planning process. Mr. Norton will facilitate pro bono and will have no travel expenses.

Chief Cowger informed the Board that when a grant concludes that all contracts that are attached to the grant ends at the end date of the grant. This has caused confusion for projects that continue beyond the end date of the grant. The solution to continue the projects after the end date of the grant with the existing contractors is to execute renewed contracts with them.

Chief Cowger, Chief Yancey and Chief Stokes continue to develop the VCOS staff position initiative to assure sustainability. Chief Stokes added that a Statement of Work, and RFP and a contract is being prepared for the staff support contractor position.

International Director Report

Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director

Chief Catrambone reported that the first set of eleven IAFC strategic initiatives are being released by the IAFC Board.

Secretary Treasurer Report

Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Windisch reported that the general profit of \$67,000 from the 2022 Symposium in the Sun conference. This profit amount is likely to be adjusted somewhat as final expenses and income are realized and once the financials are audited.

Elections

Chief Flynn informed the Board that the 2023 election announcement has been distributed with a March 13 12:59 PM deadline for applications to be accepted. Chief Joe Florentino, Chief Brita Horn, Chief Paul Sterling and Chief Shawn Stokes are appointed to the Nominating Committee. Chief Florentino is serving as the committee chair.

Education

Chief Flynn reported that the State of Montana is interested to do the Building a Collaborative Team course. The VOCS in cooperation with NVFC is developing a Health and Safety symposium for volunteer and combination fire departments.

Old Business

Chief Horn informed the Board that the Data Ribbon Committee continues to progress with its material development. A decision needs to be made regarding the ribbon report color.

Chief Hardwick reported that the bulk of the Service Dog/Therapy Dog program draft document is anticipated to be done within two months.

Chief Stokes reported that a new member orientation presentation using a Zoom forum will be ready to be shared with the Board at the March Board meeting.

Chief Windisch informed the Board that the finalization of the new member welcome package envelope addressing and stuffing is being done by his department. The postage cost is \$1.20 per envelope.

New Business

Chief Sterling stated that he believes Bylaws Article VII Section 1 needs to be reviewed and updated.

Chief Yancey informed the Board that he spoke with Chief Buckman requesting from him that he provide a monthly written education report for Board members to better understand the full range of education programs that are being offered and their ongoing status.

Good of the Order

Nothing further for the good of the order.

The telecon ended at 1454 hrs ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
Interim VCOS Staff Liaison

Fire Chief Chuck Flynn
VCOS, Chair

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