



# International Association of Fire Chiefs

## VCOS Board Telecon 16 May 2023

### Participants:

#### *IAFC Board Members Present:*

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair  
Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair  
Chief Jason Catrambone, Board Member at Large  
Chief Jim Cook, 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 Shawn Stokes, Board Member at Large

#### *IAFC Board Members Not Present:*

Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer  
Chief Al Yancey, Board Member at Large

#### *IAFC Guests/Staff:*

Mr. Kevin McGee, IAFC Liaison

### Call to Order

Chief Cowger chaired the meeting. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was present. The meeting came to order at 1403 hrs ET.

### Approval of April 11, 2023, Minutes

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

#### **MOTION: 16 May 2023-01**

**Motion made and seconded to approve the April 11, 2023 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.**

**Hardwick/Catrambone**

### Chair Report

Chief Chuck Flynn, Chair

Chief Flynn advised the IAFC Government Relations staff that the VCOS supports the Volunteer First Responder Act.

Begin your travel planning to FRI and to arrive on Tuesday 15 August and departure 19 August.

Please provide strategic plan feedback to Chief Yancey at your earliest convenience.

Elections opened today and will run through 20 June.

Scott Stephens is now on board as the new IAFC Assistant Executive Director/COO.

### **Vice Chair Report**

Chief Rich Cowger, Vice Chair

Chief Cowger provided an update on the continuing progress for the VCOS support position. The IAFC determined that a MOU was not needed to proceed with advertising for the position.

### **International Director Report**

Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director

The IAFC Board of Directors is meeting this coming weekend. The IAFC was informed that FEMA is reorganizing. Some grant determinations are behind award announcements due to the shifting FEMA resources.

### **Secretary Treasurer Report**

Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer

No report.

### **Committee Reports**

**Service Dog Guide Task Group** - Chief Hardwick informed the Board that the Service Dog Guide was completed and submitted to IAFC staff for review and editing.

**Data Ribbon Report Task Group** - Chief Horn reported that Part 1 of the Data Ribbon Report will be completed by July.

**Communications Committee** - Chief Cook reported that he is recruiting 4-5 VCOS members to serve on the Communications Committee. The committee will be increasing the use of FACE Book and Twitter as a key VCOS communications forum. Send information that you want to share with the membership to Chief Cook. Chief Cook informed the Board that the social media processing of messages is already expedient and will remain so. Efforts will begin to update and maintain the VCOS web page.

### **Education**

Chief Flynn

Chief Buckman provided a written report that was distributed to the Board.

### **IAFC Staff Liaison**

Kevin McGee

The announcements for the 2023 Training Officer and two FRI Scholarship awards are open through June 30. The Training Officer Award nominations go directly to Vector Solutions. The number of FRI Scholarship applications coming in are encouraging and exceeding last year's application count already.

## **Old Business**

Discussion by all on recommendation for printing of VCOS documents and the value of print versus electronic VCOS resource material.

**MOTION: 17 May 2023-02**

**Motion made and seconded to approve printing 1,000 Amber Ribbon Reports. Motion carried.**

**Cowger/Sterling**

**MOTION: 17 May 2023-03**

**Motion made and seconded to approve printing 250 Data Ribbon Reports or the number that is required for reduced cost. Motion carried.**

**Stokes/Cowger**

## **New Business**

No new business.

## **Good of the Order**

Nothing further for the good of the order.

The telecon ended at 1444 hrs ET.

**Minutes submitted by:**

Mr. Kevin McGee  
VCOS Staff Liaison

Chief Chuck Flynn  
VCOS, Chair

Chief Fred Windisch  
VCOS Secretary/Treasurer

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