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VCOS Board Telecon Meeting Minutes April 8, 2025

Participants:

VCOS Board Members Present:

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair
Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director
Chief Shawn Stokes, Director at Large
Chief Jordan Cramer, Director at Large
Chief Kevin Cooney, Director at Large
Chief Spencer Cheatham, Director at Large
Chief Tim Sendelbach, Director at Large

VCOS Board Members Not Present:

Chief Al Yancey, Vice Chair
Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Jason Caughey, Director at Large

IAFC Guests/Staff:

Kevin McGee, Staff Liaison
Mikel Robinson, Staff Support Contractor
Chief John Buckman III, Education Coordinator

Call to Order

Chief Rich Cowger called the meeting to order at 1404 hrs ET.

Approval of March 7-8, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair

MOTION: April 8, 2025-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the March 7-8, 2025 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Stokes/Sendelbach

Chair Report

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair

Chief Cowger reported that the Executive Committee reviewed and discussed the April 8, 2025 Board meeting agenda in preparation for the Board meeting. The Executive Committee also discusses the status of the NFPA 1720 appointments.

Chief Cowger and Chief Yancey will attend the NVFC Training Summit in Salt Lake City in June and will set up a VCOS booth. Chief Cowger and Chief Yancey will meet with NVFC Board.

International Director Report Chief Jason Catrambone

Chief Catrambone informed the Board that there has been one brief IAFC Board meeting since December.

Strategic Plan Update Chief Spencer Cheatham

Chief Cheatham reminded the Board that a draft of the Strategic Plan was sent by email to the Board.

Election Committee Chief Kevin Cooney

Chief Cooney informed the Board that the Elections Committee vetted all candidate applications and that there are eight candidates for three open 2025 At-Large Board seats. The candidate bios are posted on the VCOS website.

Education Coordinator Report Chief John Buckman III

Chief Buckman III reported that a decision is pending on whether the Red Ribbon Report will be revised.

Symposium in the Sun call for papers is now closed. Chief Buckman reported that the NFFF is developing the fundraiser plan and close to a decision for Sun.

Chief Buckman reported that the first module of the pilot Critical Thinking Academy held in Pittsburgh was highly successful with significant positive feedback.

Chief Buckman expressed a lack of satisfaction with the Webinar provider. An RFP is out for bid for a permanent Webinar provider.

The SITS Hotel Search Committee drafted a hotel RFP for the SITS venue for after the current contract expires.

Communications Committee Report Chief Spencer Cheatham

Chief Cheatham informed the Board that the Newsletter will be distributed next week. He discussed the survey of membership to better inform the Board of their interests and needs from the section. At Chief Sendelbach's request, Chief Cheatham will obtain data on the Newsletter to evaluate its value.

Support Position Report

Mikel Robinson

Ms. Robinson reported that the awards and scholarships announcement is posted in the Newsletter. Vector Solutions will be ready in May to announce the Training Officer Award nominations period.

Staff Liaison Report

Kevin McGee

Mr. McGee informed the Board on the status of the Gold Ribbon Report.

Old Business

Chief Cowger reminded the Board that the May in person Board meeting will be held all day Friday May 16 and the morning of Saturday May 17. Chief Catrambone and Chief Windisch are planning a Saturday evening event for members, partners and staff who are able to stay until Sunday.

New Business

No new business.

The telecon ended at 1445 hrs ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
VCOS Staff Liaison

Fire Chief Fred Windisch
Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Rich Cowger
Chair

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