



## Volunteer & Combination Officers Section of The International Association of Fire Chiefs

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Officers Section

### VCOS Board Telecon May 28, 2014

#### Minutes

Called to order: 4:03 p.m. ET

Present: Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Jim Wilson, Chief Shane Crutcher, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Jim Seavey, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Mike Vaughn

Guests: Chief Joe Florentino

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

#### **Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall**

Chief Wall conducted a roll call and mentioned that Chief Vaughn sent an email saying he couldn't be on the call.

#### **1-Year Term Appointment – Chief Wall**

Two candidates submitted for the 1-year at-large board member open term. They are Chief Jason Catrambone (ND) and Chief Edward Rush (NY). Chairman Wall explained the process for the appointment. The board will discuss the candidates and then make a selection. However, the appointment will be pending approval from the Election Committee that will validate that the chosen candidate meets all requirements.

Chief Windisch stated that both candidates are qualified.

Chief Wilson agreed and mentioned that Chief Catrambone has significant wildland experience which could be beneficial to the VCOS board as that has become an increasingly important issue. Volunteers are often underrepresented in that area.

Chief Larson asked about his time in Colorado. It was explained that Chief Catrambone recently became a chief in North Dakota but was in Colorado before that. He agreed that having a board member with wildland experience would be advantageous to VCOS.

Chief Crutcher worked with Chief Catrambone in Afghanistan in 2003 and thinks highly of him. He was a scholarship winner for the symposium in the past. He just started very recently in North Dakota. He will be busy with his new department, but VCOS could be very helpful to him. Chief Crutcher did explain the time/travel commitments and expectations for

a VCOS board member. Chief Catrambone also mentioned that his supervisors would support his involvement on the VCOS board.

Chief Wall stated that the Eastern Division makes up the largest percent of VCOS members so having another board member from that division makes sense. Chief Rush is from the Eastern Division. However, he also likes the idea of having more representation in other states like North Dakota. North Dakota is in the Missouri Valley Division.

Chief Seavey is the only current VCOS board member from the Eastern Division. Chief Larson is the only current VCOS board member from the Missouri Valley Division.

There was a question as to whether the 1-year appointment would start immediately or wait until FRI. Chief Wilson explained that when he took over an unexpired term, he started immediately, but was sworn in at FRI. The board agreed that the chosen person for the 1-year term could vote immediately, but the others with 3-year terms (Chiefs Flynn and Collins) would have to wait until after FRI. However, they will be invited to be on the calls; they just can't vote.

**Motion by Chief Wilson and seconded by Chief Windisch to appoint Chief Jason Catrambone to the open 1-year at-large board member seat pending verification by the Elections Committee that he meets all requirements. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Florentino will move forward to verify with Chief Catrambone's supervisor once he receives that information. Chief Crutcher will make sure Chief Florentino and Chief Wall have Chief Catrambone's contact information.

#### **FRI Overview – Chief Wall**

Please start to book your FRI travel through ATC or Angie. Let Kelly know your hotel needs ASAP. Chief Florentino is arranging a dinner location for Thursday night.

#### **Other Business**

We will pick a different day for the next conference call in June as there is a conflict with the regularly scheduled day of June 12.

Chief Larson mentioned that VCOS can choose one more person to receive a free iWomen membership and help facilitate the partnership between VCOS and iWomen.

Adjourned: 4:23 p.m. ET