



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

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Officers Section

VCOS Board Telecon Thursday, April 11, 2013

Minutes

Present:

Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Dave Fulmer, Chief Ted Lowden, Chief Fred Crosby, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Mike Vaughn, Chief Jim Wilson

Absent:

Director Shane Ray, Chief Fred Windisch, Chief Jim Seavey

Staff:

Joelle Fishkin

2013 Election Update – Chief Timothy Wall

- First election candidate announcement went out March 28
- Follow-up candidate announcement will go out today (April 11), included with other news items
- Last Election candidate announcement will go out Friday, April 19.
- Election announcement sent to Daily Dispatch to run until May 1, put on VCOS homepage and election webpage, and sent to OnScene.
- Deadline for candidate materials is May 1
 - **Windisch has submitted**

VCOS-NVFC Conference Call – Chief Timothy Wall & Chief Jim Seavey

Chief Wall reports that there was a good discussion on the call, including extending an invitation to NVFC to offer a course on heart health at Symposium 2013. The group discussed potential collaborations but also explained that VCOS has to work within the IAFC's policies and procedures.

VCOS Vision Project Business Plan – Chief Timothy Wall (business plan)

Board members all received a copy of the VCOS Vision Project Business Plan from Chief Randy Parr and were asked to comment. There were only 2 responses; these will be discussed at the May board meeting in St. Louis.

May-June Board Meeting in St. Louis – Chief Timothy Wall and Chief Fred Windisch

Chief Wall asks board members whether they have booked their flights and, if not, to do so within the next few days. All board members must have arrived by Friday morning and can depart on Sunday.

Other Logistical Information:

- Thursday, May 30
 - BH&H & LTC instructors arrive afternoon or evening.
 - Key members from VISION project arrive afternoon or evening (Toivo Sari, Randy Parr, Scott Seifert)
 - Board can arrive Thursday if choose. If board members work on BH&H or LTC, must arrive Thursday.
- Friday, May 31
 - BH&H & LTC instructors work all day Friday
 - Remainder VCOS Board members arrive by Friday afternoon
- Saturday, June 1
 - All VCOS non-board members work ½ day Saturday - can fly out Saturday afternoon/ evening or can fly out Sunday morning.
 - VCOS board members work all day Saturday (Board meeting 9 – 4:30)
 - Dinner at Greg Render's fire department
- Sunday, June 2
 - VCOS board members work ½ day Sunday, fly out Sunday afternoon or evening (Sunday board meeting 8:30 – noon)

Fire-Rescue International – Chief Timothy Wall

Chief Wall reports that FRI dates are August 13-17 and that the headquarters hotel is the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Tower. Joelle will book the board members into the headquarters hotel. Other details:

- Division Hotels:
 - CN, GL, MV, NE, SW, WE divisions at Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Tower
 - EA Division at Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile
 - SE Division at Hyatt Regency Chicago
- VCOS board meeting Thursday afternoon, August 15
- Need to staff a booth on Friday or Saturday
- If in on Wednesday, asked to attend Business Meeting
- If you arrive early, you're on your own for the hotel
- Other activities/meetings at FRI, including VCOS Vision Project

Chief Windisch reports that there is a proposal to budget about \$13,000 from the VISION budget to fund the leadership team and the lane leaders to attend FRI. The estimate includes airfare, meals and lodging for two days. Windisch supports this to add energy to the project and to make an impression among attendees at the VCOS annual meeting. There is adequate funding available within the existing Vision budget. This estimate is "worse case" as a couple of attendees would drive and some may not be able to attend.

2013 Symposium – Chief Fred Windisch, Chief Jim Wilson

Update on Activities

- All speakers are booked
- There will be 12 educational opportunities on Saturday versus usual 6
- Thursday night networking moved to Saturday evening and following that will be the NFFF sponsored "Band on the Beach," Bucky Covington their spokesperson/band/country western.
- NFFF sponsored 5k run and walk on the beach planning in progress
- More healthy meals/snacks – NVFC presenting "heart healthy" program on Saturday
- Working on opening registration
- Working on marketing brochure

- Business cards have been provided to the BOD; need more? Ask...
- There will be a need for more board members to introduce presenters; everyone will be asked to do this in 2013

Newsletter on Risk Management – Chief Dave Fulmer

Chief Fulmer reports that sufficient articles have now been submitted for the Spring issue, including 1 COOP article and 2 risk management articles. The newsletter will be out in May.

White Ribbon Report on Cancer – Chief Mike Vaughn

Chief Vaughn reports that he is scheduled to arrive in Indianapolis on April 28 right after FDIC and will be staying in the Hilton downtown Indianapolis. He is continuing to work with Garry Briese.

Roundtable Discussion

Windisch: Would like to establish a task force to define a volunteer AND combination agency with the hope of national distribution. Windisch may form a committee at St Louis meeting to discuss this further.

Fulmer: Is in favor of getting this definition written as it occasionally becomes an issue when a candidate for the VCOS board may not fall easily within the current definitions.

Eggleston: Thinks this is an excellent way to handle this problem.

Fishkin: wants to make sure that board members are reading the minutes before approving them as I'm now making them available on the VCOS website.

Vaughn: Vaughn and Seavey are working on the Buckman award and they're on schedule.

Fulmer: Working on Safe Driving Award

Lowden: Working on scholarship for Symposium

Fulmer: Not sure who's working on Recruitment-Retention

Eggleston: Working with Mike Vaughn on the cancer research paper. John Oprandy is finishing up the work on the webinar on the insurance paper.