



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

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### VCOS Board Telecon January 9, 2014

#### Minutes

Called to order: 4:02 p.m.

Present: Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Ted Lowden, Chief Jim Wilson, Chief Shane Crutcher, Chief Jim Seavey, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Mike Vaughn, Chief Dave Fulmer

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

#### **Review/Approval of Minutes – Chief Wall**

The minutes from the December 12, 2013 VCOS Board call were reviewed.

**Motion by Chief Seavey and seconded by Chief Wilson to approve minutes from the December 12, 2013 Board call as submitted. Motion carried.**

#### **January/February Board Meeting - Chief Wall and Chief Windisch**

The next VCOS Board meeting will be held in Clearwater Beach, Florida. On Friday, January 31, the meeting will be held at the Hilton. Friday morning will be spent talking about any changes needed for the Symposium, reviewing the layout, etc. Dr. Bruce Moeller will arrive around noon to give an update on the PPACA taskforce. Friday afternoon will be spent on the strategic plan. Chief Waters, Chief Wilson, and Chief Eggleston will lead that part of the meeting.

On Saturday, February 1 the meeting will be at a local fire department. Other VCOS business and projects will be discussed.

Everyone should have received an email from Chief Windisch regarding travel from the airport to the hotel. The following people will have cars: Eggleston, Windisch, Pritchett, and Seavey. Chief Windisch will add cell phone numbers to the spreadsheet and will resend it to the group. If flights get delayed or other issues come up, you can take a shuttle or a cab to the hotel. Arrangements for the trip back to the airport will be worked out later. Hotel rooms have been arranged.

#### **2013 Symposium Survey Review – Chief Wilson**

The highest rated sessions were the Do it Different themed sessions. The panel presentations seemed to be rated lower. Most comments from individuals seem solvable.

The FROG class data might be off because over people 50 responded on the survey regarding the FROG class, but there were only about 20 people that actually attended. In the future, we need to find a way to get more people to fill out the survey.

Chief Wilson will reach out to Ms. Jennifer Cooke to get her notes on any changes needed for the Symposium so they can be discussed at the Board meeting.

#### **IAFC Program Planning Committee Appointments – Chief Wall**

We are still waiting to hear from President Metcalf about the IAFC Program Planning Committee appointments. We will follow up at Board Meeting on this.

#### **Oregon Fire Chiefs Association: 2013 Volunteer 360° Task Force Report – Chief Wall**

All Board members received a copy of the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association's 2013 Volunteer 360 Task Force Report. Chief Wall asked for initial thoughts. Overall, the Board thought that it parallels nicely with some of the work that the VISION project is doing. It could be modified to apply more nationwide.

Chief Wall will follow up with Mr. Ken LaSala about next steps.

#### **Communications Committee Update – Chief Larson, Chief Crutcher, Chief Fulmer**

Chief Crutcher has been in communication with Mr. Tim Hopkins regarding digital media and apps.

Chief Crutcher inquired if the Board wanted to provide bios for dissemination. Chief Crutcher will collect bios for Board members and then the Communication Committee will decide the best way to use them.

Chief Wall suggested that the Communication Committee contact Ms. Jacqueline Garnier about any article needs she has for the *On Scene* newsletter.

Chief Wall also suggested that the committee reach out to Mr. Harvey Eisner at Firehouse magazine about publishing some articles.

Facebook is going well. There has been an increase in postings and "likes." There are almost 500 people following the VCOS Facebook page (almost 100 people have joined since the Symposium).

Ms. Joelle Fishkin is about 90% done with the Symposium issue of the newsletter.

The Communications Committee should let Chief Wall know when their next conference call will be.

#### **Target Solutions Partnership – Chief Wall**

Ms. Courtney Bulger is working on the partnership agreement between IAFC and Target Solutions. She is waiting to hear back from them on an initial agreement she sent to them. More information will be provided at the Board meeting.

### **VISION Project – Ms. Ameen**

Work continues on the VISION project. The VISION team and lane leaders met while at the Symposium and discussed changes to initial website mock-ups. A conference call was held in December with Chief Parr, a few VISION team members with expertise in website design/IT, and IAFC staff. Ms. Corinne Baker is working to incorporate the suggested changes to the initial website design. More information will be provided at the Board meeting in a few weeks.

There is potential for a grant that could assist with some of the VISION initiatives, but grant awards have not been released yet.

### **Training**

The next VCOS webinar is scheduled for January 23 from 7-8:30 p.m. ET. The topic is "Taking Action Against Cancer" presented by Bryan Frieders, Director Of Communication/ Public Affairs of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network.

An e-blast will go out tomorrow (Friday, January 10) discussing all of the various VCOS trainings available to departments nationwide. A draft was sent to the Board for review. In addition, it was sent to the program managers of the various training courses for review. Those changes have been incorporated.

### **Suggested Agenda Items for the Upcoming Jan/Feb Board Meeting - All**

Any additional Board meeting agenda items should be sent to Chief Wall and Ms. Ameen. An email will go out to project/committee leads asking them to submit an update for the meeting.

### **May Board Meeting Update – Chief Wall**

The EMS section has invited the VCOS Board to their Fire Rescue Med conference April 29-May 3 in Arlington, VA with complimentary registration. The May VCOS Board meeting could be held at their conference. The Board meeting at the conference would be held the weekend after CFSI (CFSI is April 30-May 1) so people could participate easily in both. Chief Seavey, Chief Lowden, and Chief Crutcher indicated that they may attend CFSI. Overall, the Board supported having the VCOS Board meeting in Arlington at Fire Rescue Med. Chief Wall will talk to the Executive Committee and a final decision will be made. Chief Wall noted that having it there would also make it easier for IAFC staff to attend and provide updates.

### **Roundtable and Committee/Project Updates**

Chief Wilson: Please use the new contact information that he sent out as he is now retired.

Chief Windisch: Asked about the status of the diversity report. Chief Wall stated that it is probably still in draft form from the last meeting. This will be an agenda item for the Board meeting.

Chief Wall: Thanked the Board members for their time.

Adjourned: 4:38 pm