



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



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Officers Section

VCOS Board Teleconference Wednesday, December 11, 2019 4 p.m. Eastern/3 p.m. Central/2 p.m. Mountain/1 p.m. Pacific Attendees dialed-in via Teams Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Al Yancey, Chief Jim Cook, Chief Rich Cowger, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Ed Rush

Absent: Chief Donna Black, Chief Ron Oettel, Chief Fred Windisch

Staff: Ms. Jenny Bragiel, Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 4:04 PM.

Welcome - Chief Flynn

Chief Flynn welcomed the VCOS board to the call.

Consent Agenda

The VCOS reviewed the consent agenda:

- Meeting Minutes from October 2019

Motion by Chief Flynn and seconded by Chief Rush to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Symposium in the Sun – Chief Windisch

Chief Windisch expressed that the overall comments from Symposium in the Sun were good, some of the negative comments were:

- The tent was too crowded
- The weather was not nice
- Content was too negative or heavy, it was good content but very sad

Other recommendations for the future included:

- Adding a few more operational related sessions such as information on big incidents or types of attack

Symposium in the Spring – Chief Collins

Chief Collins updated the board on Symposium in the Spring. An invitation letter is going out Friday and mailers will be going out soon. There are already some registrations. The committee is working hard to push out the event and is working closely with local departments.

Chief Flynn addressed that CFSI and Symposium in the Spring overlap. The board discussed possible outcomes from this overlap.

February Board Meeting – Rogers, Arkansas

The board reviewed the plan for the February board meeting and who would be invited to join the meeting.

Action Item: Book flights flying in on Thursday, February 6 and flying out on Sunday, February 9 to Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA).

The board discussed holding the new Beyond Hoses & Helmets class in Rogers, so the board could go and see a portion of it.

The board reviewed some of the topics they will be discussing at the February meeting.

Project Guidance Update- Chief Black and Chief Cowger

The group is cleaning up the information, and will be sending it out.

VCOS Leadership Development Proposal

This is Mr. Tim Shurr's online trainings. The Executive Committee still has a lot of questions about the program and will be inviting Mr. Shurr and Chief John M. Buckman III to come on a call to answer everybody's questions. The board will discuss this further on the January call or in February.

Lavender Ribbon Initiative

Submitted for the Sarbanes Award with NVFC for the Lavender Ribbon efforts. The board discussed the future of the Lavender Ribbon Initiative and where the VCOS should focus their efforts. Many expressed a desire to focus more on the Yellow Ribbon efforts.

Roundtable, Announcement, and Committee Updates

Many expressed gratitude.

Chief Oettel: I will no longer be chief of Lititz come January 1. I have a bunch of applications out and am looking at doing a career now.

Chief Flynn: According to the bylaws, Chief Oettel will be able to serve out the remainder of his term. We will see where he ends up from there. We look forward to his continued service.

Ms. Bragiel: The IAFC Board is here meeting, we are looking forward to the 2020 budget.

Ms. Ameen: I was able to present to the new board members. I spoke about the VCOS and encouraged them to attend Symposium in the Spring.

Chief Rush: We are underway for the Winter Newsletter. It should be a great newsletter. I have about 19 days left until I retire.

Chief Flynn: Everything is moving forward. I wish everybody a happy healthy and safe holiday season.

Chief Flynn thanked everyone for attending the call.

The call adjourned at 4:35 PM.

The next meeting will be January 8 at 4pm.