



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

4025 Fair Ridge Drive • Fairfax, VA 22033-2868 • Tel: 703/273-0911 • www.iafc.org



VCOS Board Teleconference Wednesday, December 14, 2016

4 p.m. Eastern/3 p.m. Central/2 p.m. Mountain/1 p.m. Pacific

Minutes

Present: Chief Donna Black, Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Ed Rush, Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Jim Seavey

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 4pm ET.

Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall

Chief Seavey is recovering at a rehab facility after his procedures. We are wishing him well.

The board reviewed November's meeting minutes.

Motion by Chief Flynn and seconded by Chief Rush approve the November meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Chief Brian Taylor (OH) was appointed to ISFSI Basement Fires Research Project. We had lots of interest and thanks for reaching out to people. Started to compile a list of people that want to get more involved.

Any bylaws changed are needed by Feb. 1.

VCOS 2017 Budget – Chief Collins

The IAFC and VCOS 2017 budgeted was presented and approved by the IAFC board at their in-person December meeting last week.

2017 VCOS Election – Chief Wall

The IAFC and section elections are moving to a single ballot in 2017. Chief Florentino is Chair of the Elections Committee.

VCOS board candidate information is due in February. The December Report from the Chair mentioned the new timeline and more info will be available in January.

Chief Collins requested that someone else join the elections committee since he is up for re-election in 2017.

Symposium in the Sun – Chief Windisch

Profit was \$38,500 and lower than expected. Budgeted profit was about \$55K. There was an increase cost in speaker fees. Sara and Chief Windisch have established a better way to track speaker costs. There were 717 people including attendees, staff, exhibitors, board, and VIPs. There were 572 paying attendees.

Chief Collins stated it was a huge success and congratulated Chief Windisch and the committee.

Symposium in the West – Chief Collins

This year's theme is "Be the Change. Create. Engage. Inspire."

Registration is open. Eight people have registered as of last week. They are currently working on session descriptions for the brochure. Chief Collins asked IAFC staff to update the mailing list because people got extra brochures previously. They are looking at a leadership workshop the day before. The eight people that already registered will get the workshop for free and others will pay an addition fee. They are working on speaker contracts, etc. The Phoenix contract went to Chiefs Wall and Collins to review for Symposium in the West 2018 and 2019.

Board members should come in Wednesday for the board meeting on Thursday and the workshop will also be going on Thursday, but the board doesn't need to be at the workshop.

2017 Board Meetings – Chief Wall

- February 10 & 11 (come in Feb. 9 and leave evening of Feb 11 after 5 or 6pm or anytime on Feb 12)- Houston, Texas (fly into IAH Bush Intercontinental)
 - Chief Windisch working on logistics including hotel, dinner, etc.
 - Thursday – visit local FD
 - Friday – Meeting at Shell downtown and then dinner (Gweneyette)
 - Saturday – Meet at Ponderosa FD

- Symposium in the West May 5-6 with board meeting on Thursday, May 4

For the February board meeting we will be staying at a new Hilton Garden Inn that opened 6 month ago. They gave us a rate of \$109/night. Saturday night we will have a prime rib dinner at Ponderosa.

A Shell executive will do a corporate Leadership presentation while we are there. There will be a full day board meeting on Friday and a half day meeting on Saturday. Chief Windisch can take us on a tour of fire stations and facilities in the area if we'd like. People can fly out Saturday evening if they want.

Chief Windisch asked Chief Flynn to think about if they want to have a yellow ribbon report meeting before or after since a few of the committee members are in the area.

Yellow Ribbon Report and Other Updates – Chief Flynn

The group has a successful meeting at Symposium in the Sun. Mike Macdonald and Chief Buckman are working on the draft report. The goal is to have it for ready for Symposium in the West.

They are working to clean up the position statement and then will send it to the board for a possible electronic vote.

Chief Flynn attended the NVFC SAFER meeting a few weeks ago in the DC area.

Chief Collins and Flynn are doing a webinar tomorrow on Hot Topics from Symposium in the Sun.

Communications Committee – Chiefs Black, Rush, Larson

- Newsletter - The committee and Joelle are working on the next newsletter which will focus on Symposium in the Sun. They might do an article on Symposium in the West to promote it. Chief Rush will send Chief Collins a note to have him or a committee member write an article on Symposium in the West. Chief Larson can write a blurb about the VCOS social media.
- Social media/website – This week we were up in views and likes. We continue to update social media on a regular basis and are aiming for 2-3 updates/week. If you want anything posted, send it to Chief Larson.
- Articles - There is always a need for new articles.

Old Business

The \$500 donation to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network was made.

New Business

No new business was reported.

Roundtable, Announcements, Committee/Project Updates

Black: Went on a site visit for the National IAFC SAFER grant to Elkin Fire Department in NC. Working with the Program Planning committee and the FRI education schedule is mostly set.

Larson: The Bullying in the Fire Service group had a call yesterday. They are working to put together a toolbox of resources and Chief Larson will send an email out to get resources from other people.

Eggleston: There was an IAFC Board meeting last week and a working session on the Division and Section taskforces. They still have some work to do there. The IAFC budget did pass. The board talked about how there are many unknowns with the Trump administration.

Catrambone: Nothing additional to report.

Collins: Recently conducted a Maryland FROG class. It was one of the largest classes with 50 attendees who were very engaged. Chief LaBelle came and taught the class with him since Chief Seavey couldn't make it.

Rush: Sent Fire News some of our articles so they might be able to reprint/publish. He will be out of touch at the beginning of January and will miss the call as he will be in Nigeria for 10 days. He will try to arrange visits to some fire stations there and write an article. Chief Wall suggested that Chief Rush call Mark Light to see how he could represent the IAFC-VCOS while there. He may be able to bring over some IAFC-VCOS materials to share/distribute.

Windisch: Nothing additional to report

Wall: Merry Christmas to all.

The call adjourned at 4:41pm.

The next call will be January 11 at 4pm ET.