



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

4795 Meadow Wood Lane, Suite 100 • Chantilly, VA 20151 • Tel: 703.273.0911 • IAFC.org



### **VCOS Monthly Board Meeting via Microsoft Teams**

**Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

**2:00 p.m. Eastern/1:00 p.m. Central/12:00 p.m. Mountain/11:00 a.m. Pacific**

### **MINUTES**

Present: Chief Rich Cowger, Chief Jim Cook, Chief Fred Windisch, Chief Kevin Hardwick, Chief Brita Horn, Chief Paul Sterling, Chief Al Yancey, Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Jason Catrambone

Absent: None

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 2:04 PM.

#### **Welcome/Chair's Report –Chief Flynn**

Chief Flynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Motion by Chief Cowger and seconded by Chief Catrambone to approve the September meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

Chief Flynn mentioned the Karma Group marketing/branding project and that Chief Windisch will go into more detail later on the call.

#### **Vice Chair's Report – Chief Cowger**

Working on the committee list.

#### **International Director's Report – Chief Catrambone**

No IAFC Board meeting yesterday.

#### **Secretary/Treasurer's Report – Chief Windisch**

He is waiting on current financials from the IAFC. The 2022 budget process will be soon and might be a tight turnaround. He doesn't know the timeline yet.

### **Symposium in the Sun – Chief Windisch**

There are 450 paid attendees. Chief Buckman is working on finalizing the schedule. Board members will introduce some speakers. Each board member will get a Hawaiian show shirt and a VCOS polo shirt. Dress code will be in the logistics document that will be sent out prior to the conference; however, board members should wear long dress pants/khakis/skirt and not shorts during the conference.

Chief Horn reported she is working on the New Member Taskforce meeting at Symposium in the Sun. They will likely do a breakfast meeting starting at 7AM on Thursday.

Chief Windisch went through the major conference sponsors. We have \$85K in major sponsors (not exhibitors). Exhibitor tables are full. Board members should visit each exhibitor while there.

### **The Karma Group – Chief Windisch**

The final agreement is in process. Thursday and Friday will be three small focus group meetings each day with VCOS members and non-members. The VCOS Board will have two 2-hour meetings with the Karma Group on Saturday and Sunday. The Karma Group will also network with other attendees to get more information. An invite email for the small focus groups will go within the next week or so. Focus group participants will get a gift card as a thanks for participating.

### **Educational Programs Update**

The Lavender Ribbon Report Update is being printed. Online version has been posted to the VCOS website. VCOS will have 1,000 printed copies – 500 will go to Symposium in the Sun.

The goal for the Yellow Ribbon Report is to launch it at Symposium in the Sun. The final content is currently with the graphic designer. Chief Buckman recently sent photos to the graphic designer as well.

VCOS is collaborating with Chief Dennis Compton on a Women in the Fire Service document which is a compilation of profiles of various women in the fire service that he featured on social media during Women's History Month earlier this year.

BH&H has a few classes scheduled for later this year.

The next VCOS webinar is October 27 at 7PM ET: How Electrified is Your Response Area? Please register!

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Chief Flynn is representing VCOS on the OSHA Small Business/Entity Panel on Emergency Response. If you have comments, please send to Chief Flynn.

## **Roundtable, Announcement, and Committee Updates**

Cook: The in-person grant-funded course he has been assisting with will be called *Build a Collaborative Team Culture*. Instructor selection is in process and the in-person instructor train-the trainer will be conducted at Symposium in the Sun. The first in-person class will be in Louisiana in January. He will send out the online training component once it is finalized. The information produced from this grant will be used to update the *VCOS Red Ribbon Report*.

Horn: Had an unattended campfire which turned into a wildland fire.

Flynn: Asked the VCOS Board to complete their profiles for Symposium in the Sun that Buckman had sent out

Catrambone: There was a cardiac event with a firefighter in his department recently. He is waiting for updates on how that firefighter is doing.

Cowger: It is snowing which should slow down wildland fire season.

The call ended at 2:39PM.