



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 Board Teleconference Wednesday, September 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 Ron Oettel, Chief Donna Black, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Ed Rush

Absent: Chief Fred Windisch

Staff: Ms. Jenny Bragiel Cozad

The call started at 4:02 PM.

Welcome - Chief Flynn

Chief Flynn welcomed the VCOS board to the call.

Symposium in the Spring Update – Chief Collins

Symposium in the Spring will be April 30 – May 2. CFSI is now overlapping with the meeting. Ms. Bragiel sent Chief Buckman area contacts from Minnesota and Wisconsin to get them involved in promoting and attending Symposium in the Spring. She also sent 3 specific names to Chief Buckman that are strong VCOS supporters and would like to assist us.

The committee is reviewing speakers and is on schedule. The committee is working hard to stay focused and within budget, although it still has a couple open areas right now. The committee is finalizing the theme.

Symposium in the Sun – Chief Flynn

Symposium in the Sun is November 14-17. The board meeting will remain Sunday afternoon, but will be limited in scope to allow for it to be more productive and allow for in depth discussions. Currently the meeting is looking at focusing on four topics:

- Project guidance
- Budget
- 2020 Report/Project selection
- One other to be decided

The VCOS Board was asked to fly-in on November 13 and fly out either after 6pm Sunday, November 17 or anytime on Monday, November 18.

Action Item: VCOS Board to book travel.

Budget – Chief Flynn

Chief Flynn reiterated the importance of fiscal responsibility and encouraged the board to not spend unbudgeted money on behalf of Chief Windisch.

CFSI – Chief Flynn

CFSI will be conflicting with Symposium in the Spring for 2020. The board discussed logistics and whether they should still have a presence at CFSI. Some board members offered to attend CFSI and take the first flight out of DC to arrive late but still attend Symposium in the Spring.

February Board Meeting

The February Board Meeting will be in Rogers, Arkansas. Chief Black is going to work with Chief Jenkins to plan it.

Project Guidance Update- Chief Black and Chief Cowger

The group is working with Ms. Sweetie Browne on building out the template. They hope to have an almost final template to provide the board in November.

2019-2020 Report Ideas

The board discussed several report ideas to be discussed further at Symposium in the Sun. The Yellow Ribbon Report should be updated as many changes have happened around the country concerning mental health. The Red, White and Blue Ribbon Reports should be reviewed to make sure their original content is still relevant and up to date. The other is a new report or document providing guidance on marijuana. This would look at various pitfalls, CBD vs marijuana, prescribed vs recreational, possibly provide SOPs/SOGs.

Lavender Ribbon Report

Developing calendars with the NVFC. Will be creating 2,500 calendars the VCOS will get half and will be paying \$2,500 for them. The calendars have the 11 best practices followed by one general overall awareness month.

Roundtable, Announcement, and Committee Updates

Many expressed gratitude.

Chief Black: Rob Brown is doing a great job as the interim CEO. He is working very closely with the IAFC Board. Tom Jenkins is in charge of working with ESCI on the CEO vetting process. They have a plan on how they will interview stakeholders and staff member to create the job description for the outreach. The IAFC Board has another committee doing a review of how we do business. We are in the process of doing the database shift; it officially went live yesterday.

Chief Cook: Will be up at the National Fire Academy next weekend for the weekend long event on a national professional development leadership workshop. There will be a group of 12 of us. Chief Buckman will also be there.

Chief Catrambone: Will be at the IAFC, October 1-3 for the *If You Don't Feel Well, Don't Make It Your Farewell* heart campaign meeting. Then will be back a week later for the FirstNet meeting.

Chief Rush: The next newsletter has been completed. It is going out in the Chair's Report and a separate email for it will be going out the week after. The IAFC is looking for articles from us regularly. Please write and submit an article to me. We will also add a blurb in the newsletter. There are plenty of opportunities to get our content out there we just need volunteers to step up and write things. It is easier than it seems.

Chief Collins: Can we use iChiefs to refer to the IAFC, now?

Ms. Bragiel: I believe iChiefs is to be used as an identifier of IAFC original content and resources.

Chief Black: I will talk to the IAFC board and get clarification.

Chief Oettel: Looking for advice on preparing for meetings with local officials. Please send me any advice you may have.

Chief Flynn: I am travelling to the IAFC for a VWS State Grants meeting and will be there the following week for the FirstNet meeting. We will be inviting Chief Wall on to the October Board meeting call to go over our cancer prevention efforts with NVFC.

Chief Flynn thanked everyone for attending the call.

The call adjourned at 4:34 PM.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 9, 2019 at 4pm ET.