

**GREAT LAKES DIVISION of the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS**

Minutes of the August 22, 2003 Board Meeting, Dallas, TX

The board meeting was held in the GLD hospitality room at the Westin Hotel. President Randy Sellnow called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. CDT. The following members were present: President Sellnow, Vice President Timm Schabbel, Director Larry Grorud, Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hutchings, State Representatives Robert Wilcox-IL, Dale Duermit-OH, William Schmidt-MI, Brian Lott-IN and Paul Klapprich-MN. President Sellnow is also representing WI. There were two guests at the meeting, Chief James Harmes from Le Blanc, MI who is a candidate for IAFC second vice president in 2004 and Chief Kenn Taylor from Violet Twp., OH who is a candidate for GLD vice president at our annual meeting in 2003.

President Sellnow asked Chief Harmes if he would like to address the Board. Chief Harmes said that he has met with the New England Division and the Missouri Valley Division and hopes to attend the other division meetings here in Dallas. His number one priority will be communications. He feels the need to continue our efforts on the Fire Act and to work closer with our membership. Chief Harmes will speak at our annual meeting on Sunday and will request the endorsement of the GLD. At this time chief Harmes left the meeting.

President Sellnow asked for approval of the minutes of the July 25th teleconference of the GLD Board that had been furnished to the Board electronically. Schmidt moved to approve the minutes of the July teleconference as written. Second by Lott. Minutes were approved.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Hutchings reported that we are still working with the same membership figures that were reported to the Board on July 12th. This is the report he will use for the annual meeting. The treasurer provided a balance sheet showing all account totals as of August 14th. We continue to be within our budget and no unfavorable surprises are expected at this time. There followed a discussion concerning the extra costs for this hospitality suite which will be about \$260.00 per night for six nights. There was also concern expressed about future hospitality rooms and the new expenses that may be involved. The treasurer does not anticipate any financial problems at this conference as our breakfast supporters have been very generous. Duermit moved to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's report. Second by Klapprich. Motion passed.

Old Business-Forum 2004: President Sellnow and Lott have prepared handouts advertising Forum 2004 to be placed on the tables at the annual meeting. Considerable discussion followed about Forum 2004; i.e., the registration fee charged last year, and a suggestion made by Garry Briese to Schmidt that we expand and improve our marketing and consider having the IAFC do the promotional materials, etc. Schmidt reported that Nextel, in addition to being a presenter, would like to sponsor part of the forum and needs to know numbers and costs. Schmidt will be meeting with representatives of Nextel to work out details for the Forum.

Fire GPO: Alex Bernstein will discuss the GPO program at our breakfast meeting. This will be the first official announcement of our division becoming a part of the program.

Strategic Plan: The president announced that the plan has been wordsmithed and will appear on our web site soon after we return from Dallas. Duermit moved to accept the Strategic Plan as presented. Second by Grorud. Motion carried.

Branding/Logo Issue: After review Klapprich moved that the logo presented with the GLD name in a banner below the IAFC logo be approved. Second by Grorud. Motion carried.

Position Statements: The president asked board members to review the Position Statements and make suggestions for changes to vice president Schabbel and that we be prepared to review and make updates when we next meet.

New Business- Audit Committee: Duermit reported that the Audit Committee met on Thursday and found the financial records to be in good order. A report will be presented at the annual meeting on Sunday.

The plaque to be presented to Gail Walters is available for the annual meeting. Schmidt will handle the Nominations and Elections report for the meeting.

Forum 2004: Schmidt presented samples of promotional brochures done by the IAFC. It appears prices to do this type of promotion would be between \$2000. and \$4000. depending on colors and mailing costs. Much debate followed and it was then decided that we would approach Nextel about underwriting the cost of promotional material for the Forum and attempt to place the material in state magazines. Both Schmidt and Wilcox would like promotional materials for their states' meetings in October if possible. Schmidt will carry these suggestions to Nextel.

Update on FRI 2004: The secretary will be communicating with the Fairmont Hotel which will be the headquarters. No arrangements have been made at this time.

The agenda for the annual meeting on Sunday was reviewed. Several minor corrections were made and the board informally approved the agenda.

Division Director's Report: Grorud briefly reviewed the items he would discuss at the annual meeting, one being the IAFC's focus on the federal bureaucracy, its difficult to know exactly what is going on. He will also discuss the Fire Act, the Safer Act as well as IAFC dues and the IAFC endorsement of basic F/F training and officer training. It may not be brought up Sunday, but he is also prepared to discuss the Fire Chief Magazine article about the Metro Chiefs soliciting money to support their whole conference. There is also some concern that this is a pay for access fee. All the principal IAFC officers will be attending our breakfast meeting as well as candidates for the 2004 and 2005 elections. Larry also announced that he has been elected to the executive board for the third consecutive year. (Congratulations to Larry. This is an indication of the trust that the IAFC Board of Directors has in our GLD Director).

In the recent bylaws change the category of affiliate membership was established. This is an opportunity for persons to join the IAFC and have division privileges at a lower fee, if approved by the divisions. This membership is open only to those not eligible for regular IAFC membership. The GLD Division bylaws would have to be changed to allow for this. While at this time we see no need for this we can discuss it when we next meet.

Schmidt moved to adjourn. Second by Klapprich. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ret. Chief Ron Hutchings, Secretary/Treasurer
Great Lakes Division, IAFC