

GREAT LAKES DIVISION / IAFC
Minutes of September 14, 2006 Annual Meeting
Dallas, Texas

The annual meeting of the members of the Great Lakes Division (GLD) was held at the Dallas Convention Center Thursday September 14, 2006. The meeting followed a luncheon that was available at 11:00 AM CDT and was in conjunction with IAFC-FRI '06. There were approximately 220 persons in attendance. Prior to the meeting IAFC President Bill Killian addressed the group, thanking the GLD for our supporting him during his term of office.

1. **Call to order:** President Kenn Taylor called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. As a first order of business he appointed Chief Scott Skeldon-OH as sergeant at arms.
2. **Pledge Flag/Opening Prayer:** The group stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and an opening prayer by Chief Dale Duermit-OH.
3. **Introduction of Officers:** President Taylor introduced the following GLD Board members present: Vice President Hank Clemmensen, Secretary / Treasurer Ron Hutchings, State Representatives Dale Duermit-OH, William Schmidt-MI, Jeff Macko-IL, Jeff Stauber-WI, Paul Klapprich-MN, and Timm Schabbel-IN. He also welcomed past IAFC presidents John Buckman-IN and Rich Marinucci-MI.
4. **Recognition of Sponsors:** The following luncheon supporters were recognized for their contributions to defray the costs for our annual meeting: Plymovent Exhaust Systems, American LaFrance, Spartan Chassis and Crimson Fire.
5. **Secretary / Treasurer's Report:**
 - A. **Membership:** Hutchings reported that at the close of 2005 the GLD had a total of 2225 members. The breakdown by state was: IL-601, IN-194, MI-368, MN-178, OH-612, and WI-246. Retirees totaled 26. The total includes 1902 dues paying members and 2068 voting members. **Reardon-IL moved** to accept the membership report. **Second by Farmer-MN. Motion passed.**
 - B. **Financial:** The Treasurer reported that at the beginning of 2005 the GLD had \$18,897.00 in checking and \$57,650.00 in a money market account. During 2005 we had income of \$63,842.00 and expenses of \$59,369.00. The ending balances for 2005 were \$21,933.00 in checking and \$58,504.00 in the money market. The Treasurer stated that the complete ledger for 2005 was available for review after the meeting if anyone was interested. **George Brown-OH moved** to accept the treasurer's report. **Second by Lanson Russell-IL. Motion passed.**
6. **Audit Report:** Audit Committee Chairman Chief Timm Schabbel-IN reported that the Audit Committee, consisting of himself, Kenn Taylor-OH and Brian Lott-IN met on July 20, 2006 during the Indiana Fire Chiefs' Conference in Indianapolis to review the financial records of the GLD for 2005. The audit found the records and receipts to be in outstanding condition and complimented Treasurer Hutchings for his exemplary service for the IAFC /GLD. **Motion by Chief Kevin Decorah-WI** to accept the Audit Committee's report. **Second by Chief Dale Ingram-OH. Motion carried.**
7. **Nominations and Elections Committee Report:** Nominations and Elections Committee Chairman Chief Bill Schmidt reported there was one elected position open at this time. The open position is for GLD Division Director to the IAFC Board of Directors. The nominations committee has

received one nomination which is for Larry Grorud who desires to continue in this capacity. Schmidt called three times for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none Schmidt asked for a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Grorud for the position of GLD Division Director to the IAFC. **Motion for same by Chief Lanson Russell-IL. Second by Ret. Chief Jeff Roemer-WI. Motion carried.**

8. **Motorola Recognition Presentation:** Vice President Hank Clemmensen presented a glass plaque to Cynthia Graham of Motorola Corporation in recognition of all that Motorola did to make Forum'06 the tremendous success that it was. Motorola was truly a wonderful "Partner in Learning".
9. **Unfinished Business:** Crosby Grindle who represents the Fire GPO reported for our representative Keith Condra that the Fire GPO is growing as is the use of same by the GLD. We now are the number two division in use of the Fire GPO. New vendors have been added to the plan including fire equipment dealers. The new and more user friendly web site is up and running at www.fire-rescue-GPO.com. You no longer need to be an IAFC member to register and purchase from the plan. Keyword search is now available on the web site.
10. **Endorsement of Candidates:** President Taylor noted that the rewritten GLD policy on candidates was on the back side of the agendas that had been placed on each table. This policy is on line with what was suggested by the IAFC. If the membership has any comments on this policy please get them to your state representative. In line with this policy we have several future candidates who have requested time to address our meeting today.

President Taylor welcomed Chief Rick Burch, candidate for IAFC 2nd Vice President in 2008. Chief Burch explained his platform and vision for the IAFC in 2008 and beyond. He also expressed a desire to attend our Forum '07 and hopes to secure our endorsement next year.

President Taylor next introduced Chief Jack Paron, candidate for IAFC 2nd Vice President in 2007. Chief Paron also described his vision of the IAFC in the future and discussed agenda for same. Paron pledged that if he is elected, when he is sworn in he would resign his departmental position to work full time as IAFC President.

11. **New Business:** Vice President Hank Clemmensen proposed a resolution honoring Congressman Curt Weldon of Pennsylvania for all he has done for the fire service. Clemmensen read the resolution, which is attached to the minutes, in its entirety. **Chief James Grady-IL moved** to accept GLD Resolution #2006-1 and forward copies to Congressman Weldon's office. **Second by Doug Halstead-MI Motion carried.**
12. **Good of the Division** President Taylor announced that arrangements had just been concluded to have Forum '07 in conjunction with the Milwaukee Brewers in April. Ret. Chief Jeff Roemer has been working diligently to firm up the arrangements. Additional information will be available on our website and in the fall edition of the *Trumpet*.

Chief Jay Reardon reported that the GLD had taken a lead role in developing an interstate-intrastate mutual aid system in concert with the other states that participated. There has been a restructuring of MABAS. Part of the restructuring includes a MABAS President's Council. MABAS is no longer just an Illinois entity. It is now a multi-state agency including most of the GLD states as well as

Missouri and Iowa. Each state can now operate as an independent franchise, but also continue to work together to provide service in a simple interoperable manner. This allows us to go across state lines “to get the job done”. The President’s Council has received a grant to fund a kick-off meeting of representatives from the Great Lakes states, Missouri and Iowa. This grant should fully fund and allow us to begin structuring the President’s Council. This meeting should be held before the end of the year and will prepare us as a division to be able to assist one another in the event of a catastrophic event.

13. Director’s Report: Larry Grorud reported that the Department of Labor had established the pay level for a volunteer fire fighter as 20% of the wage level for a fire fighter in the area. The IAFC is dealing with the funding levels for the U.S. Fire Administration, the Safer Act and the Fire Act Grant. The goal is to increase the funding for these programs.

Grorud introduced Chief Jack Krakeel who is a candidate for IAFC Treasurer in 2007. At this time Jack is running unopposed to replace Julian Taliaferro who is retiring. Chief Krakeel reviewed his vision of the position of Treasurer of the IAFC and asked that we put our trust in him to manage the resources of the IAFC. In closing he asked for our votes and endorsement.

Grorud outlined his campaign strategy for the 2007 election. He mentioned that he had received the endorsements of many individuals and all of the divisions except two and will be traveling to the Southwestern Division in October to seek their support.

President Taylor resumed the meeting by reviewing the Division endorsement Policy and reminding everyone that we have endorsed Larry Grorud for the position of IAFC 2nd Vice President in 2007.

Chief Rich Marinucci-MI moved that the GLD endorse Chief Jack Krakeel for the position of IAFC Treasurer in 2007. **Second by Chief John Buckman-IN. Motion passed.**

14. Oath of Office: President Taylor called for Larry Grorud, Jeff Macko and Ron Hutchings to take the oath of office for their newly elected positions. Hutchings was elected in 2005 but was not present to take the oath at that time. Past IAFC President John Buckman administered the oath of office.

15. Adjournment: There being no other business to come before the group there was a **motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed** and the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ret Chief Ron Hutchings
Secretary / Treasurer GLD-IAFC