

GREAT LAKES DIVISION-IAFC
Minutes of the April 11, 2007 Board Meeting
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

1. Call to Order: The spring GLD Board meeting was held in conjunction with Forum '07 and met in the media room at Miller Park, Milwaukee, WI. President Kenn Taylor called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. CDT with the following **members present:** Vice President Hank Clemmensen, IAFC Division Director Larry Grorud, Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hutchings, State Representatives Jeff Macko-IL, Dale Duermit-OH, Bill Schmidt-MI, Jeff Stauber-WI, Timm Schabbel-IN, and Paul Klapprich-MN. Guests also present were Gioia Albi, Director of Member Services-IAFC, Ret Chief Jeff Roemer, Forum 07 Chairman, Chief George Brown, President Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association, Chief Scott Skeldon, Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association President 2005-06 and joining later Chief Tony Mastandrea, President Illinois Fire Chiefs' Association and Chief Tim Farmer, Past President of the GLD and the MN Fire Chiefs' Association. The Board had also invited Chief Nyle Zikmund from Minnesota to join the meeting. Chief Zikmund will be the candidate for vice president of the GLD at our annual meeting in August. President Taylor introduced Chief Zikmund to the Board and welcomed him to the meeting.

2. Acceptance/Additions to Meeting Agenda: Hearing no call for changes the agenda was accepted as proposed.

3. Accept Minutes of Previous Meeting: Grorud moved to accept the minutes of the November 16-17 Annual Board Meeting with the corrected spelling of "Siren" Call on page 5 to "CYREN" Call. **Second by Duermit. Motion carried.**

4. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

A. Membership- Secretary Hutchings reported that we had ended the year 2006 with a membership of 2182 or a total of 4158 if we include the temporary members. The 1st Q of 07 membership closed at 2223 or a total of 5081 including temporary memberships. It appears that the temporary memberships given in MN and IN mid 2006 have added to the regular membership by 50 and 18 respectively. IL was recently given 1531 temporary memberships in early 2007. While the retention percentage is not that good the numbers are encouraging.

B. Financial- Treasurer Hutchings provided ledger summaries for the close of 2006 and the end of the 1st Q of 07. We finished 2006 with 102.37% of income budget and 87.02% of expense budget. Most of the income accounts were as projected. Membership income was down slightly as it only included 11 months as the 12th month was not received until after the first of the year. The annual meeting was also under budget as we did not receive a budgeted contribution until after the first of the year. We finished the year with \$24,701.54 in the checking account and \$61,456.90 in a money market account for a total of \$86,158.44.

The 1st Q of 07 is pretty much on track. The income for Forum '07 is down considerably as attendance will not be as we projected. It looks as though expenses for Forum '07 will exceed projections also.

There was a question as to what all was included under "other income". At this time the major other income is Fire GPO money shared with the GLD. We received \$873.69 in 2005, \$8165.65 in 2006 with \$2296.72 for '06 not coming until January of '07 for a total of \$11,336.06. During this time we had expenses of \$3168.38. There was considerable discussion as to how we could share this income with the state fire chiefs' associations. Suggestions included: Return a portion to each state in cash; Provide opportunities for the states to come together by paying room and travel for presidents; Pay registration for FRI and invite state presidents to Board

meeting; Give the states a percentage and encourage advertising for the Fire GPO at the state level; Some sort of grant program to encourage attendance at FRI. It was decided to put off further discussion on this subject at this time and re-visit it at the end of the meeting if desired. **Klapprich moved** to accept the Membership Report and the Financial Report. **Second by Schabbel. Motion approved.**

5. Old Business:

A. Forum 2007 Update- Roemer reported that final preparations have been made with Miller Park. We have had to make some changes in the program due to the unexpected appearance of the Cleveland Indians and the Los Angeles Angels playing a two game series because of heavy snow in Cleveland. The hospitality room will be tonight at the hotel. There will be transportation provided to Miller Park tomorrow for those who need it. If we give drink tickets to attendees at the reception Thursday evening they will be \$8.50 each. This was discussed. **Duermit moved** that we provide one drink ticket to each attendee. **Second by Schmidt. Motion carried.**

6. New Business:

A. FRI Atlanta - Hutchings reported that all the arrangements have been made for the GLD to headquarter at the Westin Hotel in Atlanta, GA. The IAFC has a block of 400 rooms there and we have been assured that we will not have any registration problems this year as we have had the past two years. The hotel is conveniently located to the entertainment district and will just be a short bus ride to the convention center. President Taylor questioned the time for a GLD Board meeting on Wednesday, August 22. After reviewing the schedule it was decided we would meet at 2:00 P.M. in the room at the Westin. The Annual GLD Membership Meeting will be at the convention center on Thursday, August 23, 11:00 A.M. to 1:15 P.M.

B. GLD Elections- Ohio will have a new state representative in Atlanta as Duermit hospitality is now retired. President Taylor appointed Schmidt to chair the Nominations and Elections Committee and Macko will assist. The two open positions to be filled will be president and vice president.

C. Director Vacancy - This will be reviewed at our July meeting.

D. Director's Report - Grorud stated he has kept the Board up to date with his activities by e-mail. He also has been busy with the Committee Reform Task Force. The final report will be to recommend term limits for committee appointments in hopes of getting more members involved in the IAFC activities. The other major activity has been the search for a new IAFC Executive Director. Interview firms were evaluated and the firm of Cornferry was selected to seek candidates. They will propose potential candidates who will be interviewed by the Selection Committee on May 14th with final interviews on May 30th. The committee hopes to be able to make a recommendation to the IAFC Board by the end of May so that proposals and negotiations can be completed with a new Director on board by FRI in August. The IAFC is also working with the White House staff in hopes of getting top security clearances for fire chiefs so they are not out of the loop on Homeland Security issues.

E. President Harmes' Reception - The president informed the Board that the Western Division sponsors the outgoing party for the IAFC president who this year will be Jim Harmes. A discussion followed about what we could do for all outgoing IAFC presidents. Clemmensen suggested we consider buying a brick in the IAFC section of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial. **Duermit made a motion** that the GLD purchase a brick in the IAFC section of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in the name of each of the three past living IAFC presidents from the GLD and hereafter do the same for each outgoing IAFC president. **Second by Clemmensen. Grorud moved** to table the motion until our July meeting. This motion failed for lack of a second. **Duermit moved** to amend the original motion to include a fourth past GLD president and included the cost of up to \$1500. Per

brick. **Clemmensen seconded the amendment. Motion approved.** The president instructed Clemmensen to proceed on the purchase of the bricks subject to the terms of the motion. There was additional discussion as to whether we should do anything else to recognize President Harmes at the GLD Annual Meeting. **Clemmensen moved** that we purchase a weekend hotel package to be presented to President Harmes at the annual meeting. **Second by Grorud. Motion carried.**

F. IAFC 2nd Vice President Endorsement - After consideration the Board informally agreed to pursue the support and endorsement of Jeff Johnson from the Western Division for 2nd Vice President of the IAFC in 2008.

G. MAMA-C - Clemmensen reported on the first meeting of MABAS Great Lakes President's Council to discuss mutual aid across state lines on a daily basis not just on major emergencies. Iowa and Missouri also joined in. Many issues were discussed between the eight states, FEMA Region 5 and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force who sponsored the meeting. It was decided to call the group the Mid America Mutual Aid Consortium (MAMA-C). All attendees were charged with taking the information for this conference back to their Attorney's General and work on funding through the states. Many issues were addressed. Chief Jay Reardon is heading up this group and is committed to moving it forward. At present, funding is the major problem. Clemmensen suggested this program could become a model for the whole country and would be an excellent focus for the GLD. President Taylor suggested we take a short break, and during that time think about what we consider the GLD's role to be in the IAFC.

J. Great Lakes Division Role in IAFC Sections – Are we doing what is best for our membership? There was an extended open discussion on this subject which included the lack of success with our recent Forums and the frequent availability of high quality educational programs at the states level. Many other questions arose as well. Can we do more in bringing the state organizations together? Can we assist the states with national legislation? What should our focus be on interstate mutual aid (MAMA-C)? Should we continue to attempt to provide an educational program? How do we determine what the state organizations expect of us? What can we do to help our states speak with one voice on national issues? President Taylor asked Schabbel and Stauber to confer with him to consider a list of questions the state reps can take back to their state organization Boards in an attempt to find out what we can do to assist them and to be made aware of any particular state problems.

At this time the Board took a break for lunch and informal discussions on the following continued.

G. ICC Request for Information – The ICC's request for information regarding school lock downs in cases of emergencies – how to lock out, not in – was discussed.

H. Leadership Orientation – Clemmensen commented on the value that is received from attending this program. It was questioned if the budget could support sending an additional board member. It was suggested that the vice president go only his first year in office and then twice as president. This would allow two additional board members to attend every other year.

I. Forum '08 – The problems of presenting a Forum was reviewed again. **Duermit moved** that we should not plan a Forum for 2008 and take one year off. **Second by Clemmensen. Motion carried.**

K. Fire Safe Cigarettes – Clemmensen reported that Illinois had endorsed a Fire Safe Cigarette Provision. Discussion determined that several states were considering this at this time and that the cigarette industry would probably adopt a proposal as they would not want to manufacture different types of cigarettes for different states. **Duermit moved** we adopt this as a Position Statement. **Second by Schmidt. Motion carried.** Clemmensen will provide the statement for Board approval.

7. Good of the Order: Clemmensen moved we endorse and offer our support to the MAMA-C group in any way we are able to. **Second by Schabbel. Motion carried.** Clemmensen recommended that we update our Congressional Leadership Directory by sending the current information to the state reps to get to their states for review. Grorud mentioned that the state reps should also be sure that Ken Lascala of the IAFC has the name of a legislative contact for each of our states.

8. Next Meeting: The next GLD Board meeting will be on Monday, July 23 at 10:00 A.M. in Columbus, OH. The Board will meet with the OFCA at their annual conference. Board members are to arrive at the Hilton Columbus at Easton on July 21st, departing on July 25th. President Taylor will appoint an audit committee to review the treasurer's records for the year 2006 while in Columbus.

9. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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