

GREAT LAKES DIVISION/IAFC
Minutes of August 22, 2007 Board Meeting
Atlanta, Georgia

The GLD Board Meeting was held at the Weston Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting was called to order by President Kenn Taylor at 2:15 PM. All board members were present except Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hutchings who was excused due to illness. Bill Schmidt, Michigan volunteered to take the minutes for the meeting.

President Taylor welcomed in coming vice-president Nyle Zykmund from Minnesota, incoming state representative from Ohio Scott Skeldon, and incoming state representative from Minnesota Bill Mund.

We deviated from the agenda to allow Director Larry Grorud to give his report because he had another meeting he had to attend. Larry thanked everyone for their cooperation and support throughout his years as GLD Director. He introduced a resolution recognizing Ron Hutchings for his years of service as the GLD Secretary/Treasurer and bestowing on Ron the title of Secretary/Treasurer Emeritus. Larry also said we need to let Ron know that we have a plan and everything is under control. Larry pointed out that according to the By-Laws the President can appoint a person to fill the role of Secretary/Treasurer until the next membership meeting in 2008. Two people have expressed an interest in filling the position of Secretary/Treasurer, Tim Farmer from Minnesota and Jeff Roemer from Wisconsin. They will both be asked to submit a resume.

President Taylor introduced Jeff Johnson from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Department in Oregon. He is a candidate for second vice-president in 2008. He explained his platform. He will ask the GLD for its endorsement at the GLD Annual Membership Meeting on August 23, 2007.

President Taylor introduced the newly appointed IAFC Executive Director Mark Light. Mark explained his short-range plans and said he wants to know our issues. How can the IAFC help fire chiefs do their jobs? He outlined six (6) initiatives. Firefighter Safety, Citizens Safety through residential sprinklers, remake/retool FRI, grow the membership, keep ahead of the technology that is used by the younger chief officers, and find alternate revenue sources such as corporate partners.

Continuing with the agenda: A motion to accept the minutes of the summer board meeting in Ohio was made by Bill Schmidt and seconded by Paul Klapprich. Motion passed.

President Taylor distributed a membership report and a financial report.

There was a discussion regarding the state surveys. President Taylor would like all the GLD states to do a survey and each state submit their results in writing to the Board.

President Taylor indicated the IAFC vice-president Kelvin Cochran would like to look at Division Governance and lateral communication and collaboration among the Divisions.

The agenda for the Annual Membership Meeting was reviewed, discussed and approved.

President Taylor reminded everyone of the reception for outgoing president Harmes. He also said he and Vice-president Hank Clemmensen would present President Harmes with a gift from the GLD at the Presidential Banquet.

A report on the elections was given. There are 9968 eligible voters in the IAFC. Over 3000 ballots were received which is just over 30%. GLD had the most ballots 691 which are almost 36% of our eligible voters. Response to the Internet voting was favorable. The only suggested improvement was to have explanations of any constitution and by-laws changes available on line so the member could review them before voting.

We discussed advertising in the Trumpet. We will make this an agenda item for our fall board meeting.

Our next meeting will be at Notre Dame University November 4 & 5, 2007.

We discussed holding the spring meeting in conjunction with CFSI. The board agreed the GLD could help fund the board members' attendance but the state representatives should ask for some financial support from their state chiefs organization.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted

William Schmidt, Michigan Representative.