

GREAT LAKES DIVISION / IAFC

Minutes of the August 23, 2007 Annual Meeting Atlanta, Georgia

The annual meeting of the members of the Great Lakes Division (GLD) was held at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia on Thursday, August 23, 2007. The meeting was in conjunction with the IAFC-Fire-Rescue International 2007.

1. Call to Order: President Kenn Taylor called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM. As a first order of business President Taylor appointed Chief Tim Smith, Vincennes Township Fire Department, Indiana as the sergeant at arms for the meeting.

2. Pledge Flag/Opening Prayer: Ohio State Representative Chief Dale Duermit led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and gave an opening prayer.

3. Introduction of Officers: President Taylor introduced the following GLD Board Members who were present: Vice President Hank Clemmensen, Ohio State Representative Dale Duermit, Michigan State Representative William Schmidt, Illinois State Representative Jeff Macko, Wisconsin State Representative Jeff Stauber, Minnesota State Representative Paul Klapprich, and Indiana State Representative Timm Schabbel. Also introduced was Chief Tim Farmer who was assisting Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hutchings, who was ill and unable to attend, by taking the meeting minutes.

President Taylor also welcomed IAFC past presidents, Jim Halsey, John Buckman, Rich Marinucci and Randy Bruegman.

4. Guest: Chief Jeff Johnson, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Oregon, Past President of the Western Division, and 2008 candidate for IAFC Second Vice President, addressed the membership. Chief Johnson indicated that he would be working to ensure that the association continues to provide timely member services, and that the services are of value to the members. Chief Johnson requested that the Great Lakes Division endorse his candidacy. President Taylor thanked Chief Johnson and indicated that the issue of a possible endorsement would be addressed later in the agenda.

5. Recognition of Sponsors: The following luncheon supporters were recognized for their contributions toward the costs of the annual meeting: Plymovent Exhaust Systems, American LaFrance, Spartan Chassis, Crimson Fire and the International Code Council. A representative of Plymovent addressed the membership and invited them to stop at their display on the convention floor, as did a representative of Spartan Motors/Crimson Fire.

6. Nominations and Elections Committee Report: Chief Bill Schmidt, Nominations and Elections Committee Chairman, announced there was one person nominated for the GLD vice president position, Chief Nyle Zikmund, Spring Lake Park/Blaine/Mounds View Fire Department, Minnesota. Chief Schmidt called three times for additional nominations from the floor, and hearing none, asked for a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Nyle Zikmund for the position of GLD Vice President. **A motion was made by Chief John Schuldt, Carpentersville**

Fire Department, Illinois, and was seconded by Chief Keith Wassmund, Apple Valley Fire Department, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Chief Schmidt reported there was one person nominated for the position of GLD president, Chief Hank Clemmensen, Palatine Rural Fire Protection District, Illinois. Chief Schmidt called three times for additional nominations from the floor, and as there were none, asked for a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Hank Clemmensen for the position of GLD President. **A motion was made by Retired Chief Dale Duermit, Sharonville Fire Department, Ohio, and was seconded by Chief Tom Wallace, Farmersville Fire Department, Ohio. Motion carried.**

7. Installation of Officers: International Association of Fire Chiefs Past President Randy Bruegman swore in the new officers and state representatives to the Great Lakes Division Board of Directors. These included: Chief Clemmensen as GLD President, Chief Nyle Zikmund as GLD Vice President, Chief Scott Skeldon as the Ohio Representative and Chief William Mund as the Minnesota Representative.

Chief Clemmensen began his new duties as president by thanking the membership for their support and thanking Past President Kenn Taylor for all of his help and dedication and leadership.

8. Special Presentations: President Clemmensen asked IAFC Past Presidents Jim Halsey, John Buckman, Rich Marinucci and Randy Bruegman to come to the stage for a special presentation. The Division purchased engraved bricks in each person's name which will be placed in the Walk of Honor at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial located on the campus of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Each past president was given a National Fallen Firefighters Foundation certificate recognizing the donations.

President Clemmensen announced that a brick was purchased in the name of James Harmes, current IAFC President, and a presentation would be made at the annual conference banquet. Additionally, a brick was purchased for IAFC Past President Chief Rodney "Rocky" Rockenbach who passed away earlier in the year, and the certificate recognizing the contribution will be presented to his family at a later time.

President Clemmensen then presented Great Lakes Division Immediate Past President Kenn Taylor with a certificate of appreciation from the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) for the purchase of six bricks in the Walk of Honor by the Great Lakes Division, and announced that the Division will begin a tradition of recognizing all future GLD presidents with a brick.

9. Recognition of Company Officers: President Clemmensen noted that the board has decided to recognize people who are attending the conference Company Officer Leadership Symposium. Mike Little was present at the meeting and was recognized by the membership.

10. Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Past President Kenn Taylor noted that Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hutchings is very sick, and he asked that Ron be in everyone's thoughts and prayers. Kenn reported that at the end of the second quarter of 2007, the GLD had a membership of 2391. The breakdown by state was: Illinois 697, Indiana 199, Michigan 348, Minnesota 229, Ohio 624, and Wisconsin 252. Retirees accounted for 28 memberships, and there were 14 temporary memberships. Total dues paying members was 2214 which is an increase of 168 over 2006.

The financial status of the Division was reported as: \$21,933 in the checking account, and \$58,504.00 in a money market account. 2006 income was \$61,568.00, and expenses were \$55,847.00 leaving ending balances of \$27,654 in checking and \$61,457 in the money market. Secretary/Treasurer Hutchings' report indicated that at the end of the first half of 2007, the Division was on budget with all bills paid, and income is meeting projections. **Chief Paul Klapprich, Wayzata Fire Department, Minnesota, moved to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Chief Dave Watson. Motion passed.**

11. Audit Report: Chief Timm Schabbel, Audit Committee Chairman reported that the Audit Committee consisting of himself, Past President Kenn Taylor, and Brian Lott, Fishers Fire Department, Indiana met to review the financial records of the GLD for 2006. The audit found the records and receipts to be in outstanding condition and Timm complimented Treasurer Hutchings for his exemplary service to the IAFC Great Lakes Division. **Motion by Chief Stan Crosley, Sidney Fire Department, Ohio, to accept the Audit Committee's report. The motion was seconded by Chief Scott Skeldon, Jorome Township Fire Department, Ohio. Motion carried.**

12. Presentations to past GLD Board Members: President Clemmensen presented a granite pen and pencil desk set to Chief Kenn Taylor recognizing his time as GLD President from 2005 – 2007. Minnesota State Representative Paul Klapprich and Ohio State Representative Dale Duermit were presented with plaques recognizing them both for their long service to the Division (Klapprich 1991 – 2007, & Duermit 1996 – 2007). President Clemmensen noted that past Great Lakes Division International Director Chief Larry Gorud would also be presented with a desk set at a later time.

13. Special Recognition: Chief Tom Wallace, Farmersville Fire Department, Ohio, presented a plaque to Chief Dale Duermit on behalf of the Ohio Fire Chiefs. Chief Wallace asked the Ohio chiefs in the room to stand, and then declared Dale an "Icon for the State of Ohio." The entire membership joined the Ohio chiefs in a standing ovation for Chief Duermit.

14. Presidential Appointment: President Clemmensen announced that due to the election of Chief Larry Gorud as Second Vice President of the IAFC, he would be appointing Chief Ken Taylor to serve as the Great Lakes Division International Director until the next annual meeting which will be held in Denver, Colorado, August 14 – 16, 2008.

15. GLD Resolution 2007-1: Chief Dale Duermit read GLD Resolution 2007-1, a resolution to Extend appreciation to Chief Ronald B. "Hutch" Hutchings. The resolution read:

WHEREAS, Chief Ronald B. "Hutch" Hutchings has been a member of the IAFC Great Lakes Division since 1969, and

WHEREAS, he has served the Division diligently as Secretary/Treasurer for thirteen years beginning in 1994, and

WHEREAS, his continued devotion and service have been noteworthy and of great benefit to the IAFC, and especially the Great Lakes Division, and

WHEREAS, his wife Pat has been at his side to assist him and the Division throughout his tenure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Great Lakes Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs gratefully extends its' appreciation to Chief Ronald B. Hutchings, and his wife Pat, for their efforts, and commends them for a job well done, and wishes them the best in years to come, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes Division membership does gratefully bestow the recognition of Secretary/Treasurer Emeritus upon Ronald B. Hutchings at its' annual meeting on August 23rd, 2007 in Atlanta, Georgia.

A motion was made by Chief Tom Wallace, Farmersville Fire Department, Ohio, to adopt GLD Resolution 2007-1, and the motion was seconded by Chief Rich Marinucci, Farmington Hills Fire Department, Michigan. The motion carried on a very loud and unanimous vote by the membership.

16. Endorsement of Candidates: President Clemmensen indicated that it was appropriate to endorse 2008 candidates for international office is so desired. **A motion was made by Chief Brad Liggett, Beloit Fire Department, Wisconsin, to endorse Chief Jeff Johnson, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Oregon, for the position of IAFC Second Vice President. The motion was seconded by Chief Timm Schabbel, Clay Fire Territory, Indiana. The motion carried.**

17. Good of the Division: President Clemmensen asked if there were any items under good of the association. No items were brought forward

18. Adjournment: A motion was made by Chief Kevin Decorah, Tomah Fire Department, Wisconsin, and was seconded by Chief Dale Specken, Hopkins Fire Department, Minnesota, to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 12:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Tim Farmer on behalf of Ret. Chief Ron Hutchings
Secretary/Treasurer GLD-IAFC