



Great Lakes Division-IAFC

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, IL August 14, 2013

1. **Call to Order** by President J. Peterson at 8:00 AM (CST) August 14, 2013, present were Baus, Sink, Esbensen, Schuldt, Skeldon, Zikmund, Kluck, D. Peterson, and Holland.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting: **Motion** Schuldt to accept and file, **Second** Skeldon, passed unanimously.
- 5) **Secretary-Treasurer Report**, Holland, 1) Checking account balance as of 8/13/13 \$27,608.77. As of 8/10/2013 investment holdings were valued at \$52,395.83. Investment activity remains with KeyStone Financial Group, Inc. 2) The following financial documents were presented; FOLIO Account Summary data incorporated in annual comparison report(s), a Balance Sheet reflecting total liabilities and equity in the amount of \$82,926.46, and a Profit and Loss statement reflecting a net income of \$13,469.13 as of 7/31/2013. **Motion** to approve financial report by Kluck, **Second** Sink, Approved unanimously.
- 6) **International Director Report**, Zikmund, 1) Karen Fitzgerald has replaced Mary Beth Michos as Deputy Director IAFC. 2) IAFC has determined to focus on pipeline safety training nationally. 3) IAFC board discussed budget revenue and acknowledged Great Lakes Division success in renewing memberships through arrears contact efforts. 4) IAFC is presently operating at 2004 staffing level and 2006 budget level. 5) FRI vendor revenue is down for Chicago 2013. 6) A consideration for discussion would be for the Great Lakes Division to cover a portion of International Director expenses to be discussed under New Business, no action taken. 7) US Forest Service is expecting Wildland events to triple over the next 5-10 years. 8) The IAFC staff proposal for an eMembership program to aid in increasing membership was presented and explained with numerous questions from board members. IAFC is requesting division feedback on eMembership proposal.

- 7) **International Directors Report interrupted** at 9:40 AM for guest Chief Stephen Dean, Mobile AL. Chief Dean spoke about eMembership and explained reason for new approach to increase IAFC membership.
- 8) **Break** 9:57 AM, Reconvene 10:05 AM. Guests, Keith Tyson and Gary Breeze, Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN) spoke regarding magnitude of the cancer problem throughout the nation's fire service with causes and actions that can be taken to reduce cancer exposure. www.firefightercancersupport.org.
- 9) **International Director Report continuation**; 9) SAFER and AFG funding for 2014 has been determined by Congress. SAFER is down from \$44 million to \$41 million and AFG funding increased from \$340 million to \$375 million. 10) IAFC is continuing with a threat risk assessment for the top 100 cities in the nation. 11) The Senate is taking up legislation regarding residential sprinkler systems, S1163, and the Volunteer Incentive Act, S501. 12) The Insurance Services Office (ISO) is publishing new/updated standards recommendations for review and information. Changes in ISO guidelines occur every five years. Those communities that adopt and participate in a risk reduction effort will receive additional credit toward community rating. 13) Kidde has announced a new 10 year lithium battery for smoke detectors. 14) IAFC is encouraging increased efforts and commitment toward diversity recruitment in the fire service. 15) IAFC has received a grant in the amount of \$700K to research and produce a power point presentation to communicate membership benefits toward increasing IAFC membership.
- 10) **Break** 10:21 AM, Reconvene 10:36 AM.
- 11) **President's Report**, J. Peterson, 1) Arrears reports being sent out by IAFC require follow-up by State Representatives with telephone calls and personal contact to obtain membership renewal. 2) Discussion regarding the benefits of the newly released iLearnFire Program sponsored by the Western Fire Chiefs Association. **Motion** Esbensen, **Second** D. Peterson to support the iLearnFire Program. Passed unanimously. 3) President Peterson reminded the board of the meeting with Bio Nexus. Bio Nexus' presentation is on newly manufactured equipment for medical records creation and maintenance, patient assessment, and technology changes. 4) Discussion concerning publishing eTrumpet, irregularity of publishing, difficulty in securing articles, and timeliness in publication. Esbensen recommended replacing the eTrumpet with a blog. A blog would provide timely distribution for information and the opportunity for all board members to post information and ask questions. Coupled with a Twitter account providing a means made available for feedback from membership on given topics. Esbensen stated he would set up a blog account and distribute information on accessing the blog. Schuldt, not in favor of Twitter account and making certain information available to the general public. **Motion** Skeldon, **Second** Kluck to create a blog and couple with a Twitter account in the name of the GLD. Passed unanimously. 5) President Peterson expressed his great pleasure in representing the GLD as President and thanked the board for support during his tenure. 6) Reviewed agenda for Annual Membership Meeting/Luncheon.
- 12) **Vice President Report**, Baus, 1) Statement of appreciation to President Peterson for inclusion on issues and discussions and is looking forward to serving as President.
- 13) **Indiana State Director's Report**, Sink, 1) The Indiana State Fire Chiefs Association is conducting its annual meeting in the coming week and a committee has been established to study and

develop positions on legislative issues coming up before state legislators. 2) The Indiana fire chiefs Executive Director has not renewed the working contract and the new Executive Director is Dale Henson. 3) A panel has been appointed to look into constructing a new state fire training facility (academy).

- 14) **Illinois State Director's Report**, Schuldts, 1) GPO program is moving forward and adding additional equipment and product manufacturers and suppliers. 2) Two firms have donated funds in support of celebration for Chief Hank Clemmenson. Schuldts has been working with representative from Palatine Rural Fire Protection preparing the celebration event. 3) Illinois State Fire Marshal is supporting legislation for residential sprinkler systems. 4) Schuldts is stepping down as the Illinois GLD Representative, however, would like to remain involved with GLD in any capacity the board deems appropriate.
- 15) **Minnesota State Director's Report**, Esbenson, 1) Extended an invitation to all members to attend the Minnesota Fallen Firefighters Memorial dedication on September 29, 2013 in St Paul, MN. 2) Fireworks polls reflect 78% of those polled support expanding fireworks throughout the state. 3) A state ruling has been released stating that sprinkler requirements only apply to structures larger than 4,500 sq. ft. 4) The Governor announced a direct funding appropriation of \$15 million as a pension donation.
- 16) **Ohio Director's Report**, Skeldon, 1) The Ohio Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) turnout for the annual conference in Sharonville has been declining and future conferences will be held in Columbus, OH. 2) A firm has been retained to research the reason(s) for the drop in association membership. 3) The OFCA is relocating its office to 450 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Suite 150, Worthington, OH, (614) 410-6322. 4) OFCA is networking to retain younger/new fire chiefs and keep the association viable. OFCA is discussing creating a Twitter account to expand the networking effort. 5) Ohio is looking into fireworks legislation, no action to this point. OFCA is considering vendor bundling with a marketing firm.
- 17) **Michigan Director's Report**, D. Peterson, 1) Michigan Fire Training Council has received \$1 million from the permitting process (legislation) for the sale of fireworks throughout the state. 2) Legislation is being drafted that provides for an opt-out provision in Michigan Emergency Management Assistance Compact (MEMAC), formerly the Statewide Mutual Aid Compact. 3) MABAS is being expanded in Michigan with more departments participating. 4) Legislation is being considered that creates a state retirement program for public safety personnel. The system would have a guaranteed payout. The legislation would control contributions and eliminate the concern for/of under-funding.
- 18) **Wisconsin Director's Report**, Kluck, 1) The Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association 2014-15 annual conference will be held in Milwaukee, WI. 2) Chief Matt Davies is the new President of the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association. 3) State is redoing the hazmat program to reflect/draw in line with national standards. 4) Representative Kluck's term expires June 2014. A new representative is to be elected at the next Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association meeting.
- 19) **Old Business**, 1) J. Peterson reported the Executive Director RFP was given to IAFC for guidance and recommendations were incorporated into the document. 2) Discussion ensued that supported extending the RFP only to potential interested parties who reside/operate within the GLD. 3) Baus requested that every board member submit name(s) of individuals/firms that

might be considered for the Executive Director position and those individuals/firms would be sent an RFP and given the opportunity to bid on the position. A committee should review the applications and conduct a face-to-face interview. **Motion D.** Peterson, **Second** Sink to only recruit from within the GLD states and Baus to appoint a committee to review applications. The GLD will provide reimbursement for one nights lodging to candidates but, will not pay travel. Passed unanimously. Further discussion determined Baus would be responsible for reviewing the RFP for changes and forward to board members. The RFP is to be posted on the website and forwarded to each state chiefs association.

20) Guest, 11:35 AM, Chief Hank Clemmenson thanked the board and GLD members for their support and encouragement during his tenure as President IAFC.

21) **Break,** 11:51 AM, Reconvene 12:30 PM.

22) **New Business,** 1) Discussion surrounding donation levels being identified/defined based on amount(s) donated, decision to put on later agenda. 2) Discussion about conducting a one day seminar for training chief officer; no decision.

23) Meeting was adjourned by J. Peterson at 1:21 PM (CST) 8/14/2013.

Board of Director Minutes Recorded and Certified By:

E. Dean Holland, Secretary-Treasurer