

Great Lakes Division-IAFC
Board of Directors Meeting
Washington, DC May 8, 2013

1. Call to Order the Great Lakes Division Board (GLD) of Directors meeting by President Peterson at 1:00 PM (EST) March 8, 2013, present were Baus, Esbensen, Skeldon, Schuldt, Sink, Kluck, Zikmund and Holland. D. Peterson absent. No additions or changes were made to the agenda.
2. *Motion by Skeldon second by Sink to approve previous meeting minutes, January 31, 2013, approved unanimously.*
3. *Secretary-Treasurer Report, Holland, current investment account total market value \$52,816.06 and current checking account balance \$24,104.86. Investment holdings account remains with Folio Client and Keystone Financial Investment. Motion by Kluck second by Esbensen to accept Secretary-Treasurer report, passed unanimously. Holland reported on negotiations with Avon Protection (Avon) are underway and that Avon will be making a counter proposal to the Great Lakes initial request. Avon also committed to sponsoring the Annual Division Luncheon at FRI 2013 matching the \$4,000 donation in 2012.*
4. *IAFC representatives Terry Monroe, Cathie Larocca, and Kate Ruhe made presentations on current FRI registered attendance and provided information on programs such as Executive Chief Officer II. Those members who have completed the chief officer courses will be graduating in the near future. Ruhe explained the new FRI Expo hours, Friday 10:30 AM to 6:30 PM and Saturday 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Expo only tickets are available for \$25.00 each. A limited number of free expo tickets are available through Great Lakes Division board members. Members can register for FRI on line at iafc.org. Informational mailings on IAFC sponsored training classes will be sent out in the near future to a targeted audience of members. An IAFC Sales Manager is conducting a telephone effort to secure new members. Schuldt requested that if Illinois chiefs would be needed to assist with FRI logistics that notification to the state chiefs be made as soon as possible that planning and scheduling might be accomplished. Monroe reported that various membership models were being analyzed to determine the most effective system for increasing membership and providing value for members. Some initiatives being considered include multi-year memberships, transferable memberships, one date-one bill for departments, multi-year renewals, and working with divisions to change membership fee to \$175.00.*
5. *Director's Report, Zikmund, the IAFC Board of Directors has completed a performance evaluation of Executive Director Mark Light, reviewed the IAFF report on high rise fires, no action taken, and discussed creating a means for increasing volunteer staff for committee members.*
6. *President's Report, Chief Peterson, announced Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, Austin, Texas, Fire Department intent to run for Second Vice President for the IAFC in 2014. Chief Kerr has requested time with the Great Lakes Division board to present her platform and areas of specific efforts in the event of her election. Chief Kerr is asking for Great Lakes Division endorsement and support, no board action taken. (Chief Kerr met with the Board of Directors on Tuesday evening at dinner and spoke about her bid for office and verbally requested Great Lakes Division endorsement).*

Chief Peterson asked that Chief Bill Mund, St Cloud, Minnesota, Fire Department be recognized for serving as division GPO Representative. Motion by Skeldon Second by Kluck to send Chief Mund a \$50.00 gift certificate and letter from Chief Peterson acknowledging Chief Mund's service and efforts in representing the Great Lakes Division. Passed unanimously. Discussion around the Executive Director (ED) position with a restatement that the division could not financially support the ED at the original proposed salary. Peterson made the board aware that an existing ED (an ED with a state fire chief organization) had expressed an interest in the ED position. It was recognized that it would be necessary to distribute an Executive Director position RFP and accept bids for the position rather than just making an agreement with an individual or firm. After further discussion it was determined there was no urgency for board action due to the current elected Secretary-Treasurer existing term does not expire until August 2014, no action taken. Chief Peterson acknowledged the \$250 donation received from Mike Mikoola, Global Emergency Products, 4212 Perry Blvd, Whitetown, IN 46075. Global Emergency Products is the Pierce Fire Apparatus representative in Indiana and Illinois. The donation was received by Indiana Representative/Board Director Chief Danny Sink. Chief Schuldt was asked to begin soliciting give-away items for a drawing at the Annual Membership Luncheon at FRI 2013.

- 7. Vice President's Report, Baus, acknowledged that the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association worked with the Great Lakes Division in contracting for lodging at The Churchill Hotel for attendance at the board meeting and CFSI 2013.*
- 8. GPO Report, Schuldt, reported the GPO is assisting the state of Oregon in creating a Public Procurement Authority and that the GPO is appreciative that the Great Lakes Division is distributing GPO material through the new member packet and other means.*
- 9. Mr. Ken Lasala, IAFC Legislative Representative, reported on the activities of the 113th Congress through the second quarter. Items covered were administration priorities of Immigration Reform, FY 2014 Appropriations, Tax Reform, and the Debt Limit. The debt limit will remain constant at \$16 trillion and the government will remain solvent until September-August 2013 time frame when Congress will consider new debt legislation. Currently Congress is considering reforming the Department of Homeland Security grant funding program and when revisions have been completed an announcement will go out to all IAFC members. Currently the House and Senate are attempting to resolve a \$91 billion budget difference. The President has proposed a \$41,306 million budget for USFA while the proposed cuts would affect the Harvard Fellowship Program, State Fire Training Assistance Grants, and Wildland Fire Initiatives. The Fire/SAFER budget request is proposed at \$335 million and would extend the SAFER waivers to retain and rehire firefighters. The IAFC had requested \$337.5 million as a recommended funding level. Homeland Security Grants would now be called the National Preparedness Grant Program consolidating UASI, SHSGP, Port Security, and similar programs, The Department of Homeland Security is not a part of this funding. Total funding for these programs would be \$1.043 billion. These programs would be managed by the individual states with two parts; Sustain existing capabilities and maintain the competitive component to build capabilities. States will be required to complete a Threatened Risk Analysis as part of the Homeland Security Grant approval process. IAFC Budget Principles are to 1) Sustain Existing Emergency Response Capabilities, 2) Support Regionalization, 3) Engage Local Stakeholders, 4) Allow Flexibility with Accountability, 5) Protect Local Funding, 6)*

Increase Transparency, and 7) Support Terrorism Prevention. Tax legislation includes the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act which allows small and medium-sized businesses to write off the full cost of sprinkler system up to \$125,000 and reduces the depreciation period in high-rise buildings from 39 to 15 years. Volunteer Tax Legislation includes S. 501 the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Reauthorization Act that would reinstate previous exclusion from 2014 to 2015.

- 10. Old Business, a) The Secretary-Treasurers fee was discussed and the Job Functions Report was reviewed. Motion by Schuldt Second by Kluck to adjust fee upward to \$9,600 annually to become effective the next quarterly payment, June 20, 2013. Passed unanimously. b) Skeldon reported that the following individuals are to be sworn in at the Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon in conjunction with FRI 2013: Chief Jack Baus, President, Chief Danny Sink, Vice President, and other persons from Illinois and Indiana dependent upon election/notification from the appropriate state fire chief' association, c) Skeldon provided printed cost information for consideration of several different give-away items and Holland presented a lighted luggage tag to bear the Great Lakes Division logo with the intent to distribute to members attending the Annual Luncheon at FRI 2013, Motion by Baus Second by Skeldon to purchase 175 lighted luggage tags from Quality Logo Products for \$2.33/each, passed unanimously, a decision on other items was postponed until next teleconference board meeting. d) Other Old Business items on the approved agenda were postponed for a teleconference meeting due to time constraint.*
- 11. New Business, Items listed on the approved agenda were postponed for a teleconference meeting due to time constraint.*
- 12. Meeting was adjourned by President Peterson at 4:22 PM.*