

Great Lakes Division-IAFC

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, February 9-10, 2012

Meeting Facilities Courtesy Motorola U.S.A.

1. Call to Order by President Peterson at 12:05 PM February 9, 2012, present were Baus, D. Peterson, Schabbel, Esbensen, Schuldt, Skeldon, Holland, and two members, Zikmund and Kluck attended by teleconference.
2. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting: Motion Skeldon to accept and file, Second by Schabbel, passed unanimously.
3. Secretary-Treasurer Report, Holland, 1) Checking account balance as of 1/31/2012 \$20,213.60. As of 11/9/11 investment holdings were valued at \$54,717.04 (As of 2/10/2012). Investment activity remains with KeyStone Financial Group, Inc. 2) The following financial documents were presented; Profit & Loss Budget (proposed) for 2012, Profit and Loss Report for 2011, Reconciliation Summary for month of December (year-end), Deposit Detail (2011). 3) Declining membership report (IAFC data) presented. 4) ETrumpet publication is being restarted using bullet-point formatting that recognizes the necessity for timely information release while reducing the time demand for producing extended articles. 5) Division membership is presently 1,955 a decline of 22% over a five year period, with 41 members in arrears (data from IAFC). A five year look at membership trends is attached for information. 6) Corporate insurance premiums have been paid and the policy was renewed with VCIS of Ohio. 7) It is recommended that the per diem rate set by the board be a fluctuating rate and be based upon U.S. General Services Administration guidelines. Rates are listed on the Perdiem Rates Look-Up site gsa.gov/portal/content/110007 which adjusts per diem based upon the travel location. The structured rate provides for a continental breakfast, lunch, dinner, incidentals, and first and last day of travel. Discussion took place no action taken.
1. Zikmund, International Director, 1) IAFC annual budget \$7.3 million with net in 2011 of \$130,000. 2) Emphasis being placed on public safety roadway incidents. 3) ESCI having banner year and will be adding a Washington, DC office. ESCI is seeking employees to conduct evaluations. 4) Fire Chief John DeHooge, Ottawa Fire Service, has announced he is running for IAFC 2nd Vice President, 2012. 5) Decision has been made not to have FRI in Philadelphia. 6) The IAFC Site Committee is seeking site for 2015-2022. A convention site selection Request for Proposal (RFP) is being prepared with the recognition that the long utilized national meeting model is no longer effective. 7) A CEO (Mark Light) to CEO meeting is being planned to meet with vendors to discuss technologies, equipment, methods of operation, and business trends. A CEO contact list has not been released. 8) IAFC is developing a program that assures vendors 90 minutes with 10 major city fire chiefs to discuss product innovation(s) and development. Similar meetings held in the past have been quite successful. 9) VCOS is seeking a grant application partner and has requested the Great Lakes Division be the lead agency on the grant submittal.

**J Peterson asked that the Great Lakes Division board support the VCOS effort in developing a partnership plan for purposes of submitting a grant application. Motion by D. Peterson second by Esbensen. Motion passed unanimously.

2. J. Peterson, President's Report, 1) Discussion regarding future direction to be taken by the Great Lakes Division and programs to be provided. General discussion ensued with no further action being taken. 2) Discussion revolved around the proposal for an Executive Director position with the general consensus being to reevaluate position at FRI 2012. The delay allows for evaluation of division financial position. 3) IAFC is working on room blocks for FRI to make it easier for membership to register in division headquarters hotel. 4) A discussion was prompted concerning a vision and goals for the division. No formal action was taken regarding this matter.
3. Baus, Vice President, no report.
4. GPO www.firerescue-gpo.com Report, Holland, teleconference 2/8/2012, 1) GPO is reengaging with Sutphen Corporation and continuing discussion with KME and Pierce. Rosenbauer has contacted GPO and expressed interest in becoming a part of the GPO vehicle program. Will be a three level feature program which are: A) Economy, B) Value, and C) Loaded. All participating companies would provide an inventory listing of design apparatus. Specifications would allow for a five percent (5%) adjustment in cost. Minor adjustments such as paint would be considered allowable. GPO language can be placed in department specifications. The Southeastern Division is meeting with KME to define and develop involvement and participation level(s). 2) Panasonic computers and Toughbook have expressed interest in providing computers and related products. Further options are being discussed with Apple to include ipods, ipads, and other product items. Apple products would not be offered through a public award, must be negotiated. 3) Invitations have gone out to five vendors to participate in the President's Forum to meet with Western Fire Chiefs Association Board of Directors. 4) Grainger is now offering fire personnel Employee Stipend level discounts on personal items being purchased (a Grainger publication sheet was passed out to members).
5. Indiana State Director's Report, Schabbel, 1) *Right-to Work* has passed and is in effect in Indiana. IAFF is greatly concerned about passage of this legislation. 2) State is considering building a new fire training academy but, due to the recent short legislative session no action has been taken on this project. 3) Due to other pressing issues local government reform has been placed on hold. 4) MABAS has been activated within the state and is progressing.
6. Illinois State Director's Report, Schuldt, 1) The issue of Public Safety Director(s) is being discussed on a statewide basis. Experience has been that only police chiefs are typically considered for this appointment. 2) A 15 person delegation will be traveling to the Whitehouse to discuss fire related issues.
7. Minnesota State Director's Report, Esbenson, 1) The fireworks lobby has disagreement within the industry regarding tents and brick/mortar for sales sites. 2) Fund raising for firefighter's memorial statue to be located at the state capital has been successful. 3) Blue Card program has been robust in acceptance across the state. 4) "Baby Blue" program is being developed that addresses the first five minutes on the scene of an emergency incident.
8. Ohio Director's Report, Skeldon, 1) Fire Officer I and Executive Officer programs are progressing well with high level of participation and interest. 2) A consulting group has been hired to

evaluate the business side of the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association and will be assuming business responsibility of the bimonthly publication. 3) Ohio Fire Chiefs have developed a relationship with the New York Fire Chiefs Association to assist in project streamlining. 4) IMAC has moved through the State House and is moving through the State Senate at this time with approval expected and being forwarded to the Governor by month end (February).

9. Michigan Director's Report, D. Peterson, 1) The Michigan arbitration law has been changed with the requirement for *last-best-offer* to be made at the beginning of the arbitration process rather than the end. 2) Michigan fireworks law has been enacted effective January 1, 2012. No enforcement rules have been created to guide protection efforts. 3) Ron Farr has retired as Michigan State Fire Marshal and an acting fire marshal has been appointed by the governor. 4) The Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs Winter Workshop will be held January 24-25, 2012 in Midland, Michigan at the H Hotel.
10. Wisconsin Director's Report, Kluck, 1) Governor is facing possible recall in June-July based on changes in collective bargaining agreement changes. 2) State Fire Chiefs Association president Doug Doffer has stepped down. 3) Wisconsin retirement age of 53 has been struck down by the IRS and changed to age 58.
11. Old Business, 1) J. Peterson, Vision & Goals, requested input in developing. 2) Policy review was discussed and suggested changes will be made to existing policies and presented at CFSI.
12. New Business, 1) A brief discussion surrounded the recent efforts and related problems in attempting to obtain a meeting room and lodging for board members at CFSI, Holland, no action was taken. 2) ICC Electronic voting was discussed, J. Peterson, no action taken. 3) NEMA is attempting to create one system of grants and grant applications placing AFG and other grant processes in competition with law enforcement and other professional organizations, Kluck, no action was taken.
13. Conference Call with Western Division Executive Director Jeff Johnson, 1) Division is selling advertising for primary products to appear in Daily Dispatch. Nationally Daily Dispatch is experiencing 850 new subscribers per month. 2) Fire Service Bookstore is selling 90 different publisher's products with a percentage of sales revenue coming back to the participating state and the Great Lakes Division. 3) GPO is working to secure three fire apparatus manufacturers to make vehicles available through the purchasing system. Presently efforts/discussions are ongoing with KME, Sutphen, Rosenbauer, and Pierce. 4) Pumper specifications are available and GPO is developing tanker and truck apparatus specifications. Apparatus manufacturers will be posting their apparatus inventory for information.
14. Skeldon, discussion of booth giveaways at FRI to include division poker chips. Chips to cost \$1.10 each and an initial setup fee of \$40.00. Other promotional items were discussed with no action being taken. Schuldt suggested each state organization pay \$200-\$350 to assist in providing division marketing materials, no action taken.
15. Skeldon, reported telephone conversation with Dale Duremit who did not recall the Great Lakes Division obtaining 501C 3 tax exempt status. Discussion ensued regarding nonprofit vs. tax exempt status and the benefits of each, no action taken.
16. Schabbel, discussion of letter of acknowledgement/welcome to new members and as membership dues are paid.

17. Board, discussion with Cynthia Leighton, Director of Motorola Public Safety Marketing, surrounding continued financial support from Motorola for Great Lakes Division Board of Directors attendance at CFSI. Ms. Leighton stated she had not received the annual operating budget and did not know if financial support would continue or at what level. She did acknowledge there would be continued support for the IAFC and its overall programs.
18. Meeting was adjourned by J. Peterson at 10:21 AM 2/10/2012.