

**New England Division
International Association of Fire Chiefs**

February 5, 2009
Board of Director Meeting
Springfield Sheraton, MA

Members Present:

President William St. Michel
1st VP Gerard Dio
2nd VP Michael O'Neil
Sec/Treasurer John Wood

Guests:

Fred Stanley, Past President

International Director

Roger Bradley

International 2nd VP Jack Parow

State Vice Presidents

Steve Locke, VT
Roger Audette, ME
Steve Carrier, NH
David Sayles, RI
Michael Varney, CT
David Jarden, MA

Exhibitors:

Judy Marshall, Secretary
Mark Hooper, President

Immediate Past President

Timothy Wall

President William St. Michel called the meeting order at 8:07.

Pledge to the flag followed by invocation.

EMAC Presentation 1st Vice President Gerard Dio

Chief Dio presented information regarding EMAC, which is funded by HLS. There is an IAFC committee working to develop a model plan for States to use. Each State has a person assigned to it. The purpose of having this resource is to coordinate assistants when there is an emergency in a State or region. This gives the ability to request help from other States after all resources have been used in the State with the emergency. The requesting State pays for all the equipment and personnel responding to assist, unless there is a president's declaration. For more information you can go to the IAFC web site or contact Chief Dio.

Secretary Report

The board approved the minutes for the November 13, 2008 meeting. Motion made Chief O'Neil and seconded by Chief Bradley.

The web page update is in process the secretary has contacted Monty Gearhart to assist in being the web master for the division. He is willing to do the work for the same price that we are currently paying. There has been a problem getting information to him. Chief Varney has offered to assist, however, it has been difficult contacting him. Chief Varney has confirmed he would work with Monty to update the new page. There was a motion to have Chief Varney work with Monty to update the page. An amendment

by Chief Bradley to take the web page down until the updates are completed was made and seconded. Chief Sayles moved to have the amendment carry the motion seconded by Chief Jarden. The amendments and motion passed.

FRI luncheon sponsors are needed for Dallas. After discussion Mark Hooper offered to sponsor \$1000.00 for the luncheon sponsor. Chris Roche, Air Cleaning Specialists will also sponsor fifty percent of the cost.

Attending the June conference from the IAFC will be Ken Taylor, Director at Large.

Treasurer Report

Chief Wood distributed the treasurer's report showing that the checking account had a balance of \$25,413.29 as of January 31, 2009. The two CD's and the money market account had a combined value of \$40,956.51, making the total cash available at \$66,369.80. A more detailed account of the records is attached. Motion was made by Chief O'Neil and seconded by Chief Carrier to pay all bills and to accept the treasurer's report. Motion Passed

President Report

Discussion regarding the hours of operation for the June 24-28, 2009 conference has been discussed. The two executive boards will meet to discuss concerns regarding the joint conference and associations. The division would like to see an improved open discussion regarding events of the conference and input of activity.

Constitution and By-laws committee appointment by the president has been completed. President St. Michel has appointed Chief David Sayles to the committee. He is not going to be available to attend the next meeting. Chief Dio has been asked to attend in Chief Sayles absences. Chief Dio reported that any changes to the constitution and by-laws would have to be in by the March 7 meeting. There was some confusion about whether these changes were for the IAFC or the division. After discussion about making changes it was determined that any proposed changes for the IAFC constitution and by-laws would need to be submitted. The division constitution and by-law changes would continue as directed by the division constitution and by-laws indicate. Chief Bradley mentioned he wants to change the constitution and by-laws for the division regarding the duties of the international director.

Discussion about the division submitting a name, or names to the IAFC for FEMA positions took place. After discussion regarding openings for FEMA positions it was decided to have each state vice president go back to their chiefs association and then provide a name from their State, if they did not have a person interested, then provide who would they support and forward the information to the division president. The president will then submit the names of those individuals that show an interest.

President St. Michel reviewed the strategic plan with the board.

Second Vice President Report

Chief Mike O'Neil reported that GPO has an interest in showing at the June conference. The division will provide space in a booth for them. We would need to double up on the booth space to accommodate their needs.

International Directors Report

Chief Bradley reported that the IAFC has balanced the 2009 budget. He reported that FRI would look different this year. They have cut the give away bags at registration. There will be an increase in membership dues they are increasing by 14.00. There is going to be a procedure/policy for appointments to committees. With all the budget reductions and changes going on Chief Bradley assures business will continue as normal for the members.

State Vice Presidents Report

Chief Steve Carrier reported that NH has a professional development seminar coming up and he plans to attend. Issues with State budget short falls and the effect it will have on the fire marshals office.

Chief Steve Locke reported that VT is working on bringing the IAFF/IAFC CPAT program into the State for candidate testing. There is a new fire academy and burn building being built this spring.

Chief Roger Audette reported that the ME is facing budget short falls as well. Talked about key legislative issues coming up. The annual conference will be held in Bangor, ME this October. He provided a copy of the Training Facilities Work Group Final Report. The chiefs are working to remove the state fire service training from the college system and put the program in the department of public safety. See written report attached.

Chief David Jarden reported that MA is facing budget short falls and the State is reducing state aid to the local communities.

Chief Michael Varney submitted a report in writing please see attached.

Chief David Sayles reported that RI would not be sending a group to the CFSI dinner. They question the cost benefit for attending.

Committees

Education committee reported that the seminar would be held March 25, 2009 at the Sheraton in Springfield. There will be a morning and afternoon session with two different topics. Shipman will sponsor the lunch for the seminar.

Exhibitors Report

Judy Marshall reported that with the economics issues facing the vendors this year, the Exhibitors Association will ask the NEAFC to suspended the increase for the 2009 conference. The exhibitors association is reducing the membership dues from 75.00 to 50.00 because membership is declining. There is concern that there is very little participation allowed during the meetings on Friday with the association and that most if not all business is conducted on Thursday night prior to the Friday meeting.

Meeting adjourned 14:30

Respectfully Submitted,
John G Wood Jr., Secretary