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NEW ENGLAND DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

NEAFC 92nd Annual Conference
NEDIAFC 49th Annual Conference
June 19, 2014
Springfield Sheraton Hotel

- Appearances:
- Chief Michael Varney, President
 - Chief William St. Michel, 1st Vice President
 - Chief Robert W. Spurr, 2nd Vice President
 - Chief John G. Wood, Secretary/Treasurer
 - Chief Charles Doody, Canton, MA
 - Chief Chris Christopoulos, Junior, Lebanon, NH
 - Chief John Duross, Saco, ME
 - Chief Kenneth W. Richards, Junior, Old Mystic, CT
 - Chief Steven Locke, Hartford, VT
 - Chief Timothy McLaughlin, Warwick, RI
 - Chief David A. Sayles, Westerly, RI
 - Chief Roger Bradley, Hanover, VT

1 ***WELCOME***

2 CHIEF MORRILL: Welcome everyone to
3 the Annual Meeting of NEDIAFC. If we could all
4 please stand and pledge allegiance to the flag.

5 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance
6 was recited by all.)

7 CHIEF MORRILL: Remain standing.
8 Father.

9 ***INVOCATION***

10 REVEREND BLUME: Let us pray. Lord
11 God, we ask you to be with us as we begin this
12 conference. May it be a time of growth for all
13 those in leadership of the fire service in New
14 England. May it be a time when we learn from each
15 other and support each other.

16 We ask your blessing upon all those
17 attending, in their travels to and from, and on
18 these days of learning, growing, and becoming
19 better in leadership for our fire service. Watch
20 over and protect all the members as they respond to
21 calls these days. Keep them safe, and may they
22 serve the people who look to them and to us for
23 help. We praise and we thank you Father, Lord

1 forever. Amen.

2 CHIEF MORRILL: Thank you. Please be
3 seated. This year's theme is simply the word
4 Change. It was very appropriate. All of the
5 committees and our partner group have been working
6 diligently in order to provide another nice New
7 England expo and information session.

8 We do have two professional development
9 sessions. Number one, Firefighter Cancer
10 Awareness, which is valuable to most of us, and
11 Hybrid Vehicles, which is kind of unique here.
12 There will be some hybrid vehicles at the expo to
13 look at.

14 The theme night this year is titled Glow in
15 the Dark. The lady partners put that together.
16 We'll have to all get together and see what that's
17 all about. It should be another networking, fun
18 evening.

19 As always, the annual meetings, one to come
20 up right now, the memorial service, and ending with
21 the Presidential Celebration on Saturday evening
22 and the swearing in of the new president will take
23 place.

1 I'd like to introduce Chief Varney, the
2 current president of the New England Division of
3 the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

4 MR. VARNEY: Thank you. Good
5 afternoon. Welcome everybody again to the
6 conference. It's great to see all the members of
7 the International Association of Fire Chiefs that
8 are here, specifically the division.

9 We look forward to a great networking
10 opportunities and teamwork building sessions over
11 the next couple days because that's what we're here
12 about, to learn from each other's experiences and
13 network. We learn more in between these meetings
14 than we do necessarily sitting through the formal
15 sessions. It's how we learn things and share. I
16 look forward to that over the next couple of days.

17 CHIEF MORRILL: Thank you. President
18 of the Mechanics Association, Jack Morris.

19 CHIEF MORRIS: Well, thank you all for
20 coming. Obviously we've got some great weather, it
21 looks like, for the next four days. Hopefully the
22 good Lord is going to take care of that for us.

23 The vendors have moved in, or most of them

1 have, this morning. It looks like most of the
2 apparatus is in already. So like I say, it's a
3 good opportunity for networking and sharing
4 experiences with everybody. So enjoy, and we'll
5 see you at the show.

6 CHIEF MORRILL: Thank you all for
7 coming, and we'll turn it over to the New England
8 Division of the International Association of Fire
9 Chiefs. Thank you very much.

10 CHIEF VARNEY: Give us two minutes.
11 We'll assemble up at the front table.

12 (Pause.)

13 ***MEETING***

14 CHIEF VARNEY: Good afternoon. I'll
15 call the meeting of the New England Division of the
16 International Association of Fire Chiefs to order.
17 First thing I'd like to do is introduce our Board
18 and several guests that are here in the crowd.

19 So I will start on my right with Chief
20 Roger Bradley, our International Director; Dave
21 Sayles, the past President from Rhode Island; Steve
22 Locke, our Vice President from Vermont; Charles
23 Doody from Massachusetts; Chris Christopoulos from

1 New Hampshire; Bob Spurr from Massachusetts.

2 Then starting on the far end, John Duross
3 from Maine; Tim McLaughlin from Rhode Island; Bill
4 St. Michel, the Vice President from the great state
5 of Maine; Kenny Richards from Connecticut; and of
6 course John Wood, our Secretary/Treasurer from the
7 state of Vermont.

8 Also in the crowd today we have the
9 pleasure to have Chief Keith Bryant from Oklahoma
10 City who is the current 1st Vice President of the
11 International Association of Fire Chiefs, the
12 incoming President. We'll hear from Keith later on
13 in the meeting.

14 Also Jack Parow, past President of the
15 Division is also in the room, and we also have our
16 good friends from NFPA, Bob Duvall and Tim Travers.
17 I did see Bruce Johnson from ICC also. It's great
18 to have all of you here. We do have a couple other
19 people that are past Presidents of the Division.
20 If they could just stand and be recognized. I see
21 Fred Stanley and Chief Dio. It's great that
22 everybody is able to attend and show up this
23 afternoon.

1 With that, I'll turn it over to Chief Wood
2 for any communications and cards.

3 CHIEF WOOD: I have one communication
4 here from Kathy St. Michel. As most of you know,
5 she went in to have some surgery recently, and she
6 sent the card to thank everyone.

7 "Thank you all for the beautiful flowers.
8 They made my day. I also wanted to thank everyone
9 for the cards, calls and the texts. They were a
10 big part of my support network and greatly
11 appreciated. Kathy St. Michel."

12 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you, John. The
13 Secretary's report, along with a report for FRI.

14 CHIEF WOOD: I'll be brief. The
15 Secretary's report, I had submitted a written
16 report. I can read it if you'd like me to.
17 There's a few copies up here. But if you'd like, I
18 could submit it as it is. What's the pleasure of
19 the Board?

20 CHIEF LOCKE: Move it as submitted.

21 CHIEF RICHARDS: Second.

22 CHIEF VARNEY: Any discussion? All in
23 favor say aye. (Vote taken.) Opposed? (No

1 response.)

2 ***SECRETARY'S REPORT***

3 "I hereby submit the annual report of the
4 Division Secretary to the members of the New
5 England Division of International Association of
6 Fire Chiefs, Incorporated, for the fiscal year
7 May 1, 2013 through June 19, 2014.

8 The Board of Directors met three times and
9 had one teleconference call during the past year to
10 conduct the general business of the Division. In
11 addition, the Board met in Chicago during
12 Fire-Rescue International for the annual luncheon
13 meeting.

14 Communications between Board members to
15 conduct Division business continued throughout the
16 year using email and telephone conference calls.
17 The President and Secretary performed the task of
18 completing the daily business of the Division.
19 Past President Fred Stanley attended all the
20 quarterly meetings and coordinates the activities
21 for the Division booth at the annual conference.
22 Chief Stanley announced he is retiring from doing
23 the booth at the annual conference beginning

1 June 22, 2014.

2 Chief Roger Bradley has served as the New
3 England Division International Director to the IAFC
4 for many years. Chief Bradley retired this past
5 year and will step down as the International
6 Director at the annual meeting June 19, 2014. He
7 has served the Division well; we all wish him the
8 best in retirement.

9 The Board of Directors encourages you all
10 to visit the website for information regarding the
11 Division and view the links attached. Please
12 forward any suggestions you might have to Secretary
13 Wood. You can view the site at nediafc.org.

14 The annual meeting and conference was held
15 June 19-23, 2014. This is a joint conference with
16 the New England Association of Fire Chiefs. The
17 officers of the Division participated in all events
18 and worked the four days of the conference along
19 with the New England Association of Fire Chiefs
20 officers.

21 The President or his representative, 1st
22 Vice President or his representative, and
23 Secretary/Treasurer attended the quarterly meetings

1 of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs that
2 follow the day after the Division quarterly meeting
3 to assist with the joint conference. Division
4 Board members participated in joint committee
5 meetings throughout the year to help plan for the
6 annual New England Fire Chiefs Conference.

7 The committees that are active during the
8 year are: the education committee, conference site
9 and format committee, registration committee,
10 exhibit committee, advertising committee. This
11 year revenue did not meet expectations; therefore
12 the Division received less than half the expected
13 earnings per the contract with the New England
14 Association of Fire Chiefs. For details, see the
15 annual treasurer's report for 2014.

16 There are Division members and officers
17 that participate with committees for the
18 International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC).
19 These committees are: constitution and by-laws
20 committee, building and fire prevention code
21 committees, elections committee, FRI program
22 planning and site committee.

23 In addition, the Secretary attended the

1 secretary's meeting at Fire Rescue International in
2 Chicago to prepare for the FRI conference
3 registration and programs. The Secretary worked
4 the registration and membership booths, and
5 assisted with other duties of the conference. The
6 FRI Convention was well attended by New England
7 Division members. The luncheon meeting,
8 hospitality room and presidential celebration had
9 good representation by the Division members who
10 attended FRI.

11 Officers of the Division attended
12 testimonials and memorial services throughout the
13 year. On behalf of the officers and members, I
14 would like to thank the New England Association of
15 Fire Chiefs, the Exhibitors Association, and the
16 Mechanics Association for their assistance
17 throughout the year. Together we have united to
18 build a conference that is respected throughout the
19 Northeast. We would also like to thank the many
20 vendors and exhibitors that have made donations and
21 have helped sponsor the Division events throughout
22 this past year.

23 In closing, I would like to thank President

1 Michael Varney, the Board of Directors, and the
2 members of the Division for their support. I have
3 enjoyed working for and with them throughout the
4 year. I consider the opportunity to serve you in
5 this capacity a privilege, and look forward to
6 doing so in the future. That concludes the
7 Secretary's report."

8 CHIEF WOOD: FRI, as most of you know,
9 is coming up August 13th through the 16th. It's
10 going to be in Dallas, Texas. I know a lot of you
11 have been there before. One of the things I will
12 say, I was on the Site Committee, and Dallas is not
13 in the rotation, so this would be your last chance
14 to go to Dallas for the FRI convention because
15 we're going to be San Antonio next time we go that
16 way, which would be in three years. 2016 we go to
17 San Antonio.

18 But I know the last time we didn't have a
19 very good showing, and I'm hoping this time around
20 that the showing is better from New England at the
21 Dallas show. It's a good show. They have a lot of
22 things planned. As you know, this conference is
23 all about change. Well, change is just not

1 presidential celebration on Saturday afternoon
2 between 1:00 and 3:00. It's going to be a
3 luncheon. So it's a presidential celebration
4 luncheon that will take place on Saturday, hoping
5 to get more participation by people because a lot
6 of people end up not going to the banquet because
7 of the formality or the time of day, and they think
8 people are more active during the day. I think
9 that's part of it. Hopefully they'll get more
10 people.

11 It's going to be a casual event. It's not
12 going to be Class A and dress up. So hopefully
13 people will be able to come right from the
14 convention center into the presidential
15 celebration. So that's one change, but there's
16 many other changes that are going on at FRI this
17 year.

18 The other thing is the division luncheon
19 had been at 11:00 in the past. The division
20 luncheon in Dallas now will be at 12:00, so it will
21 go from 12:00 to 1:30, just so you all know. I
22 think in the past five or six years we've started
23 our luncheons at 11:00, but this year it's going to

1 be at noon and there's not going to be any
2 competition. In the past there were some programs
3 going on and it was hard for some of the guys to
4 get away. In this case there won't be anything
5 going on and they'll be able to come.

6 Our headquarters hotel is at the Omni,
7 which is downtown. It's attached. It's a new
8 hotel attached to the convention center, so you
9 never really have to leave the building in that 100
10 degree heat or humidity. You're right there. All
11 the programs that you'll need to go to will be
12 right there at the Omni or at the convention
13 center. So they've made it a little bit simpler.
14 I know in the past we've stayed a few miles out,
15 and I know a lot of you enjoyed that, but we're
16 moving into the city to make it a little bit easier
17 on everyone for getting to go to the programs and
18 so forth.

19 Hopefully we're talking more about this at
20 our fire chiefs organizations in each state and
21 letting everyone know what's going on, and
22 hopefully we'll see a good crowd from the Division
23 there at the FRI. So I'll answer any questions

1 that you might have about FRI, or any questions you
2 might have about the Secretary's report or anything
3 else. Thank you.

4 The Treasurer's report, I did submit it in
5 writing. There's copies up here for those of you
6 that would like to see it. I'll go over briefly
7 what it's about. Our income for the past year was
8 \$36,566.67, our total income. Our disbursements
9 for that same timeframe were \$70,640.78. That's
10 not good business practice, I guess.

11 The balance sheet from April 30th, 2013,
12 was \$65,696.78. The income of \$36,566.67 gives us
13 a total of \$102,263.45, less the disbursements of
14 \$70,640.78. That leaves in the checking account
15 \$31,622.67. With the certificates of deposit that
16 we have in the money market, we have total cash
17 assets available of \$74,358.84.

18 Now I'll just explain a little bit about
19 the income because it's such a lopsided number, and
20 you think what the heck's going on with these guys.
21 There's a couple of things where income was down.
22 Our membership was steady. We kept a good
23 membership. Our membership didn't fluctuate at

1 all. Where other associations and memberships have
2 been declining, as we did for a while, it's come
3 back and we have a level field with that.

4 GPO bookstore royalties, that declined
5 considerably. So we took a hit there in our
6 revenues. The other place was the New England
7 Conference, 2013 New England Conference. Because
8 we didn't meet the expectations and projections of
9 revenues for our conference last year, it was a
10 reduction in what we received of about \$11,000. So
11 that was another considerable hit on the revenue.

12 The other thing is we didn't run a seminar
13 this year, which we normally do, but this spring we
14 didn't run a seminar. We're going to pick that
15 back up again in the spring and get going with
16 that.

17 But I think that the conference, we're
18 seeing this decline in the conference over the last
19 two or three years, and I really think, the Board
20 thinks that we're going to have to start looking at
21 how we're going to do business differently than
22 what we've been doing for the last 25 years, and
23 adjust to some of the these events that are going

1 on in New England to try and get better
2 participation and get more vendors.

3 Our vendors are declining, and we need to
4 work at trying to boost them, get them back and get
5 our participation back from the members. We don't
6 see a lot of the members coming as we have in the
7 past. So hopefully we can turn that around as we
8 look at how we're going to change and how we're
9 going to move forward.

10 The other thing that threw off the budget
11 and disbursements, we had an expense that we paid
12 in this fiscal year that actually was a 2013
13 expense, and that was the school shooting seminars
14 that we had. Because we had them in May, by the
15 time we got all the bills and everything, it rolled
16 over into 2014 fiscal year budget. So again, it
17 makes it look like we've spent more money than we
18 took in. That concludes my Treasurer's report. I
19 don't know if anyone has any questions.

20 CHIEF LOCKE: Move we accept.

21 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: Second.

22 CHIEF VARNEY: Any discussion? Those
23 in favor? (Vote taken.) Opposed? (No response.)

1 CHIEF WOOD: Thank you.

2 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you very much.

3 The next order of business will be just a brief
4 report from myself.

5 Over the last year I was fortunate to
6 follow my predecessors with their great leadership
7 that they have shown me over many years sitting on
8 the Board. As Chief Dio will tell you, it's a
9 decade-long commitment when you get on to the
10 Board. I never felt like I was king like he was,
11 but that's all perspective, I guess. But we were
12 put in a good foundation by Chief Sayles from last
13 year and predecessors of that, and I'm sure that
14 the future will be as productive, if not more,
15 under the future leadership.

16 I have to thank all the members of the
17 Board, specifically Secretary Wood and Director
18 Bradley for their efforts over the past year. The
19 focus really over the last year has been the Board
20 members and their liaison relationships back and
21 forth with the states, back to the International,
22 which is really the function of our Board, to make
23 sure that information is shared on current topics

1 and issues that need to get pushed up to the
2 International so they can advocate on our behalf
3 and vice versa. Those things that nationally the
4 support is needed on from the New England
5 perspective, that we provide that information back
6 to them, and the Board members have all done that
7 at the state level back and forth.

8 We've been very active in all of the
9 international committees, task forces and councils
10 over the past year, providing necessary input and
11 perspective from New England, which of course is
12 the best region. But we were very active over that
13 past year in doing those things.

14 We also worked this last year specifically
15 with the Communications Committee and all the work
16 that they've done on some national efforts with
17 their board and committee, specifically with the
18 new information coming out with regard to FirstNet
19 and the national public safety broadband wireless
20 effort, and that will certainly continue and heat
21 up over the next several years. So that was an
22 initiative that we did participate in.

23 Then one of the things that I was hoping to

1 have absolutely completed for today and in the red
2 zone is an effort that had been worked on by many
3 people in the room today, specifically Chief Dio
4 and the state representatives, was the New England
5 fire/rescue disaster response plan, as several
6 other regions have done, which was something that
7 was put forth, started way back in 2004, about ten
8 years ago after Katrina, where the states wrote
9 their own state plans and then we put together a
10 New England plan.

11 So over the past year with those
12 representatives' support from each of the six
13 states, we did present to the Emergency Managers
14 Association of the states, the National Emergency
15 Management Association for the Division of New
16 England, to present our plan and address any
17 concerns they had from a legal or insurance
18 coverage issue, to make sure that those things were
19 addressed, which is why we put the plan together in
20 the first place. That's in final draft mode, just
21 waiting for their legal counsels to get that back
22 so we can have a final feedback round with the
23 states.

1 So that plan, along with a field operations
2 plan that goes with it, that dovetails all the
3 great work that's happened in the six states. It's
4 at the goal line, and I'll certainly hand all that
5 information over to Chief St. Michel and the other
6 Presidents to work on over the next year and
7 complete that project. So that was a big, heavy
8 lift over the last year, and look forward to the
9 upcoming year.

10 Now if I could ask Chief Bryant from
11 Oklahoma to come on up, tell us an update from the
12 International.

13 CHIEF BRYANT: Good afternoon. It's
14 certainly a pleasure to be here. I appreciate you
15 having me. I really do. Got in yesterday, and
16 treated to a very nice dinner and evening, so it's
17 been great so far. The hospitality is wonderful,
18 and the weather's agreeing with me obviously.
19 Roger and I were in Atlanta last week, and I guess
20 that's where Chief Metcalf, President of the IAFC
21 is, down around South Carolina attending that
22 division conference. So based on where he is and
23 where I'm at, I definitely got the better draw.

1 Again, that's not just because of the
2 weather, but because I get to be with you all. But
3 it's good to see so many of you here, and I would
4 say hello on behalf of President Metcalf and our
5 Executive Director Mark Light. Again, thank you
6 for your invitation and allowing me to be here.

7 Good to see Jack Parow, past President. A
8 few years back, Jack, I think in the same capacity
9 that I was, we had him out at the Oklahoma Fire
10 Chiefs Association conference, and it was during
11 that time that he kind of put the bug in my ear to
12 consider doing what I'm doing now. Just so you
13 know, starting in August, if this thing blows up or
14 whatever, that's one of the people that you can
15 point the finger at, say this is your fault.

16 But anyway, just very briefly I wanted to
17 give you a few things about what's currently going
18 on with the IAFC, and some of that I'm sure you
19 already are well familiar with, so I'll cover it
20 very quickly and let you get on to your meeting.
21 But one of the newest things that's happened here
22 recently was the formation and the approval of a
23 new section within the IAFC, and that being the

1 Executive Fire Officers Section.

2 So I'm sure that many of you again have
3 been through the EFO program and so forth, and that
4 would be something that you might consider if
5 you've been through that program is becoming a
6 member of that section. They're reporting they
7 have about 325 members, so that's certainly within
8 the by-laws rules as far as the minimum number of
9 members you need to establish a section, and we
10 approved their by-laws at our last board meeting
11 earlier this year.

12 A few of the conferences that have been
13 going on, the Wildland Urban Interface was held in
14 March in Reno, Nevada, and had a record attendance
15 there, so very good there. It was good news that
16 the conference continues to gain popularity and
17 participation, so that's a very good thing we have
18 going on right now.

19 As some of you are aware, Fire-Rescue Med
20 was changed from its location in Vegas for the last
21 several years and we took it out to Arlington,
22 Virginia. It was well received, and we had some
23 great presentations there, one being a program over

1 the Boston Marathon bombing and new response
2 strategies for those types of incidents as well as
3 active shooter. But they had 320 participants, and
4 a lot of them I think being out on the east coast
5 this year were new attendees, so that showed some
6 promise there.

7 Let me stop here real quick while I've got
8 it on my mind because we had some of this
9 discussion last night at dinner. Military veterans
10 in the room.

11 (Veterans raise their hands.)

12 CHIEF BRYANT: First and foremost,
13 appreciate that very much. If I could make it more
14 specific, and I'll put my hand down, this time
15 Vietnam veterans.

16 (Vietnam veterans raise their hands.)

17 CHIEF BRYANT: Very good. The IAFC
18 has become a commemorative partner in Vietnam War
19 50th memorial that's going to be coming up here
20 very shortly, so they included us in on that. I
21 think it's a great partnership for us. So I'm sure
22 that we'll have more information out on that as we
23 go along and as this commemoration rolls out, but

1 again, I think for the number of our members of our
2 association that served during that conflict and
3 certainly several thousand firefighters that also
4 served in that conflict, that that's a good effort
5 for us to be involved in and partnered up with.

6 On the legislative front, Congress is going
7 to be considering funding for the U.S. Department
8 of Homeland Security for 2015, and the
9 appropriations committee reported its bill last
10 week and there's some good news in there for us in
11 that the bill would maintain \$44 million for the
12 U.S. Fire Administration, something we've been
13 working very hard on as they're already somewhat
14 strapped and have had some cuts over the past few
15 years.

16 The bill would also maintain \$340 million
17 each for the fire and SAFER programs, which would
18 also -- the bill extends waivers to the
19 requirements of the SAFER grant program for an
20 additional year so the departments can rehire and
21 retain those people that are currently funded by
22 that program.

23 The bill would cut funding for urban search

1 and rescue teams by about \$7.7 million, and that's
2 down to a total of \$27.5 million, and we're
3 currently working on how we could restore that
4 funding so we don't realize that big of a cut.
5 Again, the appropriations committee still has to
6 draft its version for the 2015 DHS appropriations
7 bill, so we're staying on top of that very closely.

8 One of this year's biggest issues is the
9 need to ensure safe transportation of crude oil and
10 other hazardous materials by rail. Many of us know
11 that crude shipments are going up very sharply by
12 rail all over the country. We've been advocating
13 for a while now the need to make sure the fire and
14 emergency services and fire departments are trained
15 and equipped to deal with crude oil and other
16 HAZMAT incidents.

17 Someone very familiar to you, Senator Susan
18 Collins, she's Congressional Fire Service Caucus
19 Senate co-chair, and has taken the lead on this
20 issue. She included funding in the Senate bill
21 that would target training for local public sector
22 emergency response personnel and communities along
23 rail lines that transport crude and other hazardous

1 materials. Also included in that is a web-based
2 training to respond to crude oil and other
3 hazardous materials incidents to ensure that a
4 large amount of fire departments will be -- ability
5 for departments to take advantage of that training.

6 Obviously we're still very involved in the
7 FirstNet issue, and we continue to staff and
8 develop that business plan there. The only thing I
9 would point out there, if you don't already know
10 who your state point of contact is to the governor,
11 if it's not you, make sure that you know who that
12 person is and stay in close contact with them as
13 this whole issue continues to evolve.

14 Some good news as far as the Affordable
15 Care Act as it relates to volunteer departments.
16 We were successful in making sure that a
17 clarification of that law, that the volunteers are
18 not to be counted when determining full-time
19 employees for hours of service and so forth, so
20 we'd be taking them out of that. So again, that
21 was something that was looking like it could be
22 harmful to volunteer departments and that they
23 would have to -- again, if their employees fell

1 under certain level of hours per week or whatever
2 that they have to be covered or not.

3 In addition, there was bipartisan
4 legislation that was introduced in the House and
5 Senate to clarify that fire departments would not
6 have to provide health insurance to volunteer
7 firefighters under the Affordable Care Act.

8 The FCC frequency coordination issue, we've
9 joined forces with the International Municipal
10 Signal Association to provide FCC frequency
11 coordination services, to provide the most rapid
12 and cost effective frequency coordination for the
13 entire public safety community, so we're working
14 with them on that.

15 A few of the programs, things going on
16 right now, Ready Set Go continues to do really well
17 out there on the Wildland Urban Interface front.
18 We've also partnered up with the Insurance
19 Institute for Business and Home Safety. They've
20 provided some additional funding for the Ready Set
21 Go program specifically so we can get funding to
22 smaller volunteer departments so they can conduct
23 that training and that education in their own

1 communities.

2 This past spring we relaunched Near Miss.
3 I don't know how many of you looked at it, but it
4 was all but gone away, and with some partnerships
5 with IFSTA and some other groups we kept it from
6 being lost. In the interim, I've done some major
7 improvements to the program. So instead of just an
8 information sharing or a case study type deal, now
9 there's actually a training component with it. So
10 I encourage you to go to that website and check out
11 that. It's a good training opportunity for your
12 departments.

13 The FSTAR program, I'm not sure how you're
14 familiar with that, but FSTAR stands for
15 Firefighter Safety Through Advanced Research. This
16 is the IAFC component of some of the NIST studies,
17 FDNY and USFA studies that have been conducted here
18 recently. So we're collecting that data and that
19 research from those studies, making sure that we
20 put that out in the way of training and webinars
21 and so forth so you can take advantage of that as
22 well.

23 That's pretty much an update I have, unless

1 there's any questions. The only thing I would say
2 in closing is that for the past two or three years
3 now I've had the pleasure of working on the IAFC
4 Board with Roger, Chief Bradley, and he's one of
5 the people that have been very, very valuable to me
6 as far as learning the inner workings of the IAFC,
7 the politics of the IAFC. Again, it's been a
8 blessing for me to have been around him for the
9 past two or three years now because of the way he
10 represents this division, very professional. He
11 certainly advocates for this division, as he
12 should.

13 In the bigger picture, I heard the theme of
14 the conference was Change, and certainly that's
15 going on, and we have to continue to deal with
16 change. He's provided great leadership in some of
17 the challenges that we've had this past year as far
18 as our finances, and provided some solid and I
19 think beneficial things to go forward that will
20 make the finances of the association more healthy.

21 But again, when you talk about change and
22 when things come up and you're trying to serve your
23 membership, it's always a little bit demographic.

1 about the theme and motto of this year's
2 conference, about change. The only thing I've got
3 to say is you have to stop giving it lip service
4 and you have to embrace it and you have to make it
5 happen. Do not change for the sake of change, but
6 change to improve. I know if you put a lot of the
7 old traditions aside and embrace change, that it's
8 going to be all for the good.

9 Keith alluded to it, but there's one change
10 that he didn't specifically talk about, but our
11 Executive Director Mark Light and the Board
12 embraced some organizational change at headquarters
13 as far as departments and staffing and just making
14 it right so that some of the expenses can have some
15 additional controls put on it, which is what has to
16 be done.

17 John alluded to some of the changes that
18 you'll see in Dallas at FRI. Those changes had to
19 be done. They're not easy. They aren't popular.
20 I've heard: What the hell are you guys thinking?
21 What are you doing? Like with the presidential
22 celebration, changing that format to a luncheon
23 instead of a dinner is tens of thousands of

1 dollars, and those kinds of decisions have to be
2 made.

3 One other change that was made at IAFC, I
4 think it was three or four years ago, was in
5 dealing with the vendors and the exhibitors at FRI
6 and the major manufacturers. We instituted a
7 program called Connections, and four times a year
8 we put together a group of manufacturers, and fire
9 chiefs are invited to meet with them, I think
10 50-minute segments, one-to-one. It's an extremely
11 valuable initiative, and that will continue. It
12 also raises some revenue for the IAFC at the end of
13 the three-day program. So those kinds of things
14 you have to look at and deal with.

15 So enough said. I'd just say you've got to
16 embrace the change. You've got to stop giving it
17 lip service because it's easy to do and it's
18 difficult to embrace, but you've got to do it.

19 The only other thing I've got to say is
20 that I know that my successor will dedicate himself
21 to the IAFC, to the New England Division, and he
22 will, whoever he is, will move the organization
23 forward and will embrace the change. You know,

1 would have the conference in his state. It was
2 usually two days of seminars, annual meeting and a
3 banquet and so forth. But the President was really
4 more involved in setting up the conferences.

5 When I was the President we were having it
6 in Vermont. We had it in Killington, and a lot of
7 people did not want to go to Vermont. They
8 definitely didn't want to drive all the way up to
9 Killington back then. They had vehicles back then,
10 it wasn't just horse and buggies. So we had it in
11 Killington, and we wanted to make sure it was a
12 good show because there were so many people
13 doubting it.

14 So I went next door and I said to my buddy
15 Roger and I said, "How about helping me out with
16 the conference?" He was involved somewhat with the
17 Division then. He said, "Sure." So him and his
18 wife Charlie, we all got together and he helped me,
19 side by side, my right hand working on that
20 conference. It was one of the best conferences we
21 had, and I heard a lot of good feedback from it,
22 and it was because Roger and Charlie helped to look
23 that conference over, give the outside look, and

1 work very, very hard to make sure it was
2 successful.

3 Roger served as the Director of the
4 Division for quite a while, and he was the
5 President of the New England Division in '97 and
6 '98. He's still involved. He became the Director
7 I think it was in '99. Was it 1999? I think he
8 became the International Director in '99 in a
9 runoff race at one of our annual meetings against a
10 worthy opponent, and he's been the Director since
11 then, and faithfully meeting and going to every
12 single event, every quarterly meeting that the IAFC
13 had, every Division meeting that we had.

14 It just goes to show the dedication and the
15 passion that Roger and his wife had for the New
16 England Fire Service, and particularly he served
17 the New England Division and the International
18 Association of Fire Chiefs with great honor and
19 represented us in a very good way. I could tell a
20 bunch of stories about this guy, but I won't just
21 because of the time.

22 CHIEF BRADLEY: Oh, that's the reason,
23 huh?

1 CHIEF WOOD: We didn't roast him.
2 Roger had a retirement party back in January 10th
3 when he retired from work, but we did get Roger a
4 little gift. Thanks for the many years of service
5 you provided to the fire service and the New
6 England Division of the International Association
7 of Fire Chiefs. You will be missed, as will your
8 short, to-the-point reports, similar to the one you
9 just gave.

10 Good luck and best wishes during your
11 retirement. We could always have fun with Roger in
12 meetings. We always joked around about things and
13 poked at him, and he always poked back. I
14 scrambled to go get this gift certificate for him
15 because we watched how he played golf yesterday and
16 I've watched him play golf before, and my wife
17 Carol knows that he's got a real bad banana.

18 CHIEF PAROW: You're talking about his
19 swing, right?

20 CHIEF WOOD: Yeah, where the ball
21 goes, they've nicknamed it. So we got Roger a gift
22 for Florida. So when you get to The Villages --
23 he's going to be going down to The Villages -- the

1 pro shop. They have a great Arnold Palmer Golf
2 Academy down there so he can get some lessons, so
3 he can compete with all them other old people down
4 at The Villages playing golf. Congratulations to
5 you, buddy.

6 (Round of applause.)

7 CHIEF BRADLEY: Thank you. Thank you
8 so much. Pretty cool. I will use it, for sure.

9 CHIEF WOOD: We hope.

10 CHIEF BRADLEY: As you just said, I
11 need it. I don't know if we can have the
12 stenographer shut the record off for a minute.

13 (Discussion off the record.)

14 CHIEF VARNEY: So continuing on with
15 the committee reports from the Division to the
16 International, By-laws.

17 CHIEF LOCKE: No update from the last
18 meeting.

19 CHIEF VARNEY: GPO book store.

20 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: Nothing new to
21 report.

22 CHIEF VARNEY: Seminar.

23 CHIEF RICHARDS: We're working very

1 diligently this year to reinstate our seminar in
2 the spring. As you know, there's a lot of new
3 technology out there. There's been a lot of
4 studies going on. So we've been working very
5 closely with Eddie Buchanan from Hanover in
6 Virginia and Dan Madryzkowski from NIST about
7 coming up into the New England area and doing a
8 seminar on new fire dynamics and the program that
9 Eddie has out called SLICERS. So we're working
10 with them.

11 Our medical training officer in our
12 department in Old Mystic attended an EMS seminar on
13 veterans affairs, how to deal with veterans when
14 they come back from the different conflicts that
15 we're involved in, and we're dealing with veterans
16 more and more out on the street. So it was highly
17 recommended that we look into that at a local level
18 in Connecticut, but I'd like to bring that to a
19 regional level in New England.

20 So I'm on a two-pronged front this year.
21 I'm looking at the fire dynamics and I'm also
22 looking at some possible different programs
23 throughout New England for veterans too. So I'll

1 be discussing it with our incoming President, and
2 hopefully within the next couple months we'll have
3 some information out for everybody to deal with. I
4 hope we get a good event this year, several events.
5 I'd like to do more than one, but we'll see how
6 that goes. Thank you very much.

7 CHIEF VARNEY: Elections.

8 CHIEF SPURR: As I'm sure you're all
9 aware, the election is ongoing. It's got a week or
10 so left in it. It's anybody's ball game at this
11 point. We look at it, it's Washington versus
12 California. This isn't just a west coast thing.
13 Take a look at both candidates. If you haven't
14 voted already, make your decision on which way
15 you're going. I don't care which way you vote, but
16 please vote. We only turned out 26 percent last
17 time. We need a higher number than that just to
18 show we're involved. You know, even though it's
19 the other end of the country the two guys are from,
20 show you're involved.

21 I would like to, not the election committee
22 I sit on, but the SHS section, things came out
23 yesterday on it. Congratulations to Chief Sullivan

1 from Worcester for his vice chairmanship on that.
2 It's good to hear that he got that. Thank you.

3 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you. Any other
4 committees that need to report for the meeting this
5 afternoon?

6 CHIEF RICHARDS: Also on the theme of
7 change, I sit on the FRI planning committee. I
8 represent the VCOS section, and we've met and we've
9 got our program schedule set for Dallas. A lot of
10 changes there. We've cut the amount of training
11 seminars down by almost 50 percent this year. It
12 was just so many in the past, people were running
13 and trying to get to different ones, and we just
14 felt it was chaotic. So the amount is going to be
15 cut down, but the quality is going to be really
16 good.

17 We went through all the applications, and
18 we chose all the ones that were highly rated. I
19 don't think we've got any presentations that are
20 going to be going on that got less than a four, and
21 five is the most you can get, and then four right
22 underneath it. So we hope it works out well in
23 Dallas. We think it was a change that needed to be

1 done. So I encourage everybody that goes to Dallas
2 to take the time out of your schedule and go to the
3 seminars. There's going to be some really good
4 seminars down there this year.

5 CHIEF VARNEY: Thanks, Ken. Any
6 others? We have a presentation or two that we'd
7 like to do now before we get into the election of
8 officers. So with that, I'd like to ask Fred
9 Stanley if you can come on up to the front of the
10 room.

11 Fred, we know that you'll be stepping down
12 this year as chief for close to 50 years. We also
13 know that you've been a very strong advocate for
14 the fire service nationally, New England, and
15 specifically Rhode Island. With all of that,
16 you've been a very active participant and supporter
17 of the New England Division since I've known there
18 was a New England Division.

19 Even when you weren't on the board and you
20 weren't in official capacity, you still attended
21 meetings, you still worked very hard behind the
22 scenes on a lot of activities, one of which is you
23 were the caretaker and the developer every year of

1 our booth, which we use every year at this show and
2 any other activities or shows that we happen to
3 have a booth at over the many years, whether NFPA
4 was in the region or et cetera.

5 So with all those things being said, we
6 have a small presentation to you for your
7 dedication to the New England Division of the
8 Association of Fire Chiefs, for all that work and
9 effort over those years. Truly appreciate it.
10 Thank you very much, Fred.

11 (Round of applause.)

12 CHIEF STANLEY: First off, I'm not
13 stepping down as fire chief. My people won't let
14 me so far. It's 50 years I've got in as of this
15 year. Thank you all, and appreciate everything
16 you've done for me.

17 As we said, progress, you've got to be
18 looking forward and trying to move forward. I
19 didn't stay fire chief 50 years not being able to
20 be progressive and moving forward. I think the New
21 England Division and the Association, you've got to
22 change some of your ways or we're not going to be
23 having a conference here in New England. There's a

1 lot of changes that need to be made, and I'd be
2 willing to help out. I'm still going to be here.
3 I thank you very much for the presentation. Thank
4 you.

5 (Round of applause.)

6 CHIEF ST. MICHEL: Election of
7 officers is fast approaching, swearing in of the
8 new officers, and it wouldn't be fit not to
9 recognize President Varney. If you'd stand up,
10 please.

11 President Varney, for all of his work and
12 his effort. I'm sure you're having a hard time
13 dealing with the fact that the year has already
14 gone by. I know it seems like just a little while
15 ago that we were swearing in the new officers for
16 the Division. I want to take a moment just to
17 recognize you for your leadership, you've done a
18 great job over the course of the year, for your
19 friendship, and most of all, for all you've
20 accomplished.

21 I hope that you have a great time, you and
22 your wife, getting to do something. Maybe come up
23 to Maine and visit. Here is your gift card. Thank

1 you very much.

2 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you very much.

3 (Round of applause.)

4 CHIEF VARNEY: I'll stop up to see you
5 my way up, my pilgrimage north to be a full-blooded
6 Mainer.

7 One of the things I neglected to mention
8 and meant to mention when Fred came up and we gave
9 him his recognition, I wanted to do it then instead
10 of during my report. Every year the International
11 Association of Fire Chiefs in connection with
12 several other groups get to nominate individuals
13 for the opportunity, to have the possibility of
14 being selected for the National Fire Chief of the
15 Year.

16 The New England Division this past year
17 decided unanimously as a group that our
18 recommendation, we get one each year, this year was
19 to recommend Fred Stanley for that honor as the
20 National Fire Chief of the Year. We'll wait to see
21 what they come back with, with their results, but
22 as a concerted group of the six New England states,
23 we put forth Fred's name. I didn't want the

1 meeting to go forward without that being mentioned
2 that Fred was nominated for that award.

3 The next item of business is the election
4 of officers. We'll go in order for those. So the
5 first election or position looking for nomination
6 would be for the President of the New England
7 Division, which would come from the state of Maine.
8 So when you make a nomination or motion, if you
9 could just state your name and where you're from.

10 CHIEF FOURNIER: Darrel Fournier,
11 Freeport, Maine. Gives me great pleasure to
12 nominate Bill St. Michel as president of the New
13 England Division.

14 CHIEF WOOD: Second.

15 CHIEF VARNEY: There's a motion made
16 and seconded to nominate Chief Bill St. Michel from
17 Maine to fill the President's position for the New
18 England Division. Are there any other nominations?
19 If there aren't any, I would entertain a motion.

20 CHIEF BRADLEY: So moved.

21 CHIEF LOCKE: Second.

22 CHIEF VARNEY: All in favor? (Vote
23 taken.) Opposed? (No response.) Carries.

1 Congratulations.

2 (Round of applause.)

3 CHIEF VARNEY: The next position would
4 be for the 1st Vice President of the New England
5 Division of the International Association of Fire
6 Chiefs. That would come from the state of
7 Massachusetts. I would entertain a motion.

8 CHIEF SCOBLE: Mr. President, I would
9 love to nominate, from Norfolk County, town of
10 Avon, Massachusetts, Chief Robert Spurr.

11 CHIEF PAROW: Second. Jack Parow,
12 Chelmsford, Mass.

13 CHIEF VARNEY: Who made the motion?

14 CHIEF SCOBLE: Chief William Scoble,
15 Westwood, Massachusetts.

16 CHIEF VARNEY: Are there any other
17 nominations for the position of 1st Vice President
18 from the state of Massachusetts? Hearing none,
19 again I will entertain a motion.

20 CHIEF LOCKE: So moved.

21 CHIEF MCLAUGHLIN: Seconded.

22 CHIEF VARNEY: All in favor? (Vote
23 taken.) Those opposed? (No response.)

1 (Round of applause.)

2 CHIEF VARNEY: The next position up
3 for election is the 2nd Vice President of the New
4 England Division of the Association of Fire Chiefs,
5 and that would come from the state of Vermont.

6 CHIEF WOOD: John Wood, state of
7 Vermont. I'd like to elect Steve Locke as the 2nd
8 Vice President of the New England Division,
9 International Association of Fire Chiefs.

10 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: Chris
11 Christopoulos, Lebanon, New Hampshire. I'd like to
12 second that.

13 CHIEF VARNEY: Any other nominations?
14 Hearing no other nominations --

15 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: I'd like to have
16 the Secretary cast one ballot for the motion.

17 CHIEF RICHARDS: Second.

18 CHIEF VARNEY: Those in favor? (Vote
19 taken.) Congratulations, Steve.

20 (Round of applause.)

21 CHIEF VARNEY: The next position
22 that's up for election is to fill the term of the
23 International Director for a period of two years.

1 So I'll entertain any motions to fulfil that
2 position.

3 CHIEF SCOBLE: Mr. President, Chief
4 William Scoble again from Westwood, Massachusetts.
5 I am honored and privileged to place into
6 nomination the name of Chief Gerard Dio from the
7 city of Worcester for the director's position.

8 CHIEF ROGERS: Second. George Rogers,
9 Bridgewater.

10 CHIEF VARNEY: Are there any other
11 nominations from the floor? Any other nominations?
12 As I was saying, I would entertain a motion and
13 second.

14 CHIEF LOCKE: So moved.

15 CHIEF SPURR: Second.

16 CHIEF VARNEY: All those in favor say
17 aye. (Vote taken.) Those opposed? (No response.)
18 It carries. Congratulations.

19 (Round of applause.)

20 CHIEF BRADLEY: I've got to be the
21 first to shake Gerry's hand. Congratulations.

22 CHIEF PAROW: Is that how leadership
23 changed last time when you got in?

1 CHIEF BRADLEY: There was no
2 handshake. I just had to show him the handshake.

3 CHIEF PAROW: Now you know the
4 handshake.

5 CHIEF VARNEY: He's got a hand truck
6 full of records right outside the door for you.

7 We have three more positions to elect on a
8 two-year cycle, our state directors. So this year
9 I'd entertain any nominations to fill the position
10 from the state of Vermont as a director.

11 CHIEF LOCKE: Steve Locke from
12 Vermont. I will nominate Chief Mike Bucossi from
13 the town of Brattleboro to fill the Vermont
14 director's position.

15 CHIEF WOOD: John Wood. Seconded.

16 THE COURT: Any other nominations?
17 With none, the usual motion would be in order.

18 CHIEF SPURR: So moved.

19 CHIEF ST. MICHEL: Second.

20 THE COURT: All in favor of secretary
21 casting one ballot, say aye. (Vote taken.) Those
22 opposed? (No response.) Congratulations.

23 (Round of applause.)

1 CHIEF VARNEY: The next state would be
2 the state of Rhode Island as the state director.

3 CHIEF FARRELL: George Farrell from
4 Rhode Island. I make a motion to nominate Timothy
5 McLaughlin from Johnston, Rhode Island.

6 CHIEF STANLEY: I second the motion,
7 against my best wishes.

8 CHIEF VARNEY: Thanks, Fred. Any
9 other nominations? Motion's in order for secretary
10 to cast one ballot.

11 CHIEF SPURR: So moved.

12 CHIEF ST. MICHEL: Second.

13 THE COURT: All those in favor say
14 aye. (Vote taken.) Those opposed? (No response.)
15 Motion carries. Congratulations.

16 The last state director position we need to
17 address today would be for the state of New
18 Hampshire. So I would entertain a motion.

19 CHIEF LOCKE: I just was looking to
20 defer to someone from the state of New Hampshire.

21 CHIEF: I'd like to make a motion
22 for -- it's for you, right? Chris Christopoulos.

23 CHIEF WALL: Chief Tim Wall, North

1 Farms. I'll second that.

2 CHIEF VARNEY: Any other nominations?
3 Hearing none, secretary cast one ballot motion
4 would be in order.

5 CHIEF LOCKE: So moved.

6 CHIEF SPURR: Second.

7 THE COURT: All those in favor? (Vote
8 taken.) Those opposed? (No response.) That was
9 close, Chris.

10 The last order of business before
11 adjournment, I would ask Chief Bryant if he'd be
12 willing to come up and swear in our newly elected
13 officers.

14 CHIEF BRYANT: Absolutely.

15 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: Only if he can
16 spell my name.

17 CHIEF BRYANT: Congratulations,
18 everybody. Before I get into this, I just want to
19 say that as much as I'm going to miss Roger and
20 having him around, I'm excited about your choice of
21 Gerry to fill his spot on the IAFC board. Gerry
22 and I have hung around with each other for the past
23 few years in the metro section. Again, great guy

1 to hang around with, be with, and I look forward to
2 his input and his representing you on the board.

3 CHIEF PAROW: Before he ran did you
4 let him know the new board policy, you can't bring
5 your cell phone into the room?

6 CHIEF BRYANT: We'll have to
7 indoctrinate him on all those things as we go
8 along.

9 Anyway, congratulations, gentlemen. If
10 you'd raise your right hand and repeat after me.

11 (Officers sworn.)

12 CHIEF BRYANT: Congratulations,
13 gentlemen.

14 (Round of applause.)

15 CHIEF VARNEY: Are there any other new
16 business or reports for this meeting?

17 CHIEF RICHARDS: Before we leave
18 today, I'd just like to make a quick announcement
19 as the Director from the state of Connecticut.
20 Back in 2011 the state of Connecticut received a
21 grant of approximately \$700,000 for recruitment and
22 retention which went over very well. We had great
23 success.

1 your state, with FRI upon us, through the VCOS we
2 offer two scholarships to FRI, \$1,500 and we also
3 cover your registration fee. Also an opportunity
4 to go to Symposium in the Sun. Again, we offer a
5 \$1,500 scholarship along with the registration fee
6 waived. So information is available on the VCOS
7 website. You can click on the IAFC and go over to
8 the VCOS.

9 Also to Roger Bradley and the new Director,
10 King Dio, along with 1st Vice President Bryant,
11 Chief Richards mentioned about the grant, and
12 through various activities I'm in and working with
13 association, the IAFC staff is second to none.
14 They're very dedicated, they're very helpful, and I
15 think we've got a premiere staff down in Virginia.
16 So I want to just relay that back to you. Again,
17 thank you very much.

18 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you, Chief Wall.
19 Any other business for this meeting?

20 CHIEF THIBEAULT: Chief Thibeault,
21 Plymouth, New Hampshire, retired.

22 You spoke earlier about the New England
23 plan for like an IMAS system. The IAFC was heavily

1 involved with the Intrastate Mutual Aid, and we did
2 two or three regional meetings. We met in Freeport
3 and we met in Concord, and we're in final draft
4 stages of that, like 18 months out. We really need
5 to meet once again to get that in final form. The
6 IAFC was very instrumental in coordinating the
7 meetings, and since then that has gone away.

8 Now, Chief Fournier will attest I'm sure
9 that everything's in final draft. I think we're in
10 a position to -- the legal jump that we have to go
11 over has already been taken care of by whatever it
12 is, NWF, the forest fire thing. They've all agreed
13 to work with that through EMAC. I think the hurdle
14 needs to come about, and I just wonder how we're
15 going to do that.

16 I know Darrell and I talked about trying to
17 get a meeting here at this conference because most
18 of us are here, but I think it's vital. The thing
19 is probably going to be ready for a rewrite by the
20 time it gets implemented. So I don't know if we
21 can get someone from the IAFC to help coordinate
22 this with the five New England states plus the
23 Commonwealth of Massachusetts or how that's going

1 to happen, but I think it's vital.

2 So much work and so much time has been put
3 into this. To let this go away at this time is not
4 going to happen. I don't know how we're going to
5 do this unless the stakeholders get together to
6 discuss that and meet and do the work on it. Does
7 anybody have any comment on that?

8 CHIEF DIO: I do. I'm the chair of
9 the EMC committee, and what happened roughly 18
10 months ago is our funding dried up on the grant.
11 So of course the IAFC pulled the money back and
12 that made an issue with the funding issue.

13 But now I'm on the board, and Keith and I,
14 we can bring it to the board if you want. It's up
15 to you. I actually have to relinquish my
16 chairmanship of the EMC committee as being a board
17 member. I do not have to give up my position as
18 the IAFC rep on the EMAC sub-committee, advisory
19 committee.

20 I have two options here. If we've got it
21 all written up, I can go to EMAC, and they have
22 funding for education and for certain initiatives.
23 So we could present it to them as a possible

1 funding source because their funding stream has
2 actually increased, whereas the IAFC from FEMA,
3 that's who funded us for the EMC committee, has
4 completely dried up. They don't even pay for or
5 our -- when all of us from the committee went to
6 FRI last year, they didn't pay a cent. We paid it
7 all, our own freight.

8 So that's where that little piece of the
9 puzzle has gone from the funding source, and it's
10 something we can address with the board. Because I
11 am going to have to talk to the board anyway at FRI
12 because I'm giving it up. I mean, I have to give
13 it up. I have no choice now that I'm the
14 International Director from New England. You know
15 what I mean? We can get you together, but the
16 issue is going to be funding. People have to get
17 there on their own means, you know what I mean?

18 CHIEF THIBEAULT: I believe that other
19 than -- I don't know about the meeting in Concord,
20 what we funded there. It was like one night's
21 hotel stay.

22 CHIEF DIO: Yeah, there was still some
23 funding left when we met in Concord. I was there.

1 But it was really starting to disappear. That was
2 a point when it was actually starting to disappear.

3 CHIEF FOURNIER: Chief Fournier from
4 Freeport. I think the framework is there, and I
5 think it's just a matter of finalizing the
6 agreement. We've brought in all these forest fire
7 compacts to address the interstates.

8 I think now the issue, at least in Maine
9 which is a hot topic, which is going to the rest of
10 the states, oil transportation by rail, now is the
11 time for us probably to get back together. So
12 maybe I can make a formal request and see if it
13 gets a second that the Division through you, Gerry,
14 request that we could have funding for possibly two
15 meetings to finalize the interstate agreement for
16 New England and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
17 and then move forward. Because a lot of work has
18 went into it. We're pretty much standardized. All
19 the states have plans now, and that's the last
20 piece and our task is done. I'd like to make that
21 motion.

22 CHIEF THIBEAULT: Thibeault, New
23 Hampshire. Second.

1 CHIEF VARNEY: We'll have discussion
2 on that motion through the Board. We'll draft
3 something to you, Gerry. Chief St. Michel can
4 finish this. Any other discussion? Those in
5 favor say aye. (Vote taken.) Opposed? (No
6 response.) Chief Wall.

7 CHIEF WALL: Chief Wall, North Farms.
8 Just wanted to let you know also the VCOS Board of
9 Directors had their election, and I'd like to
10 congratulate Chief Charles Flynn from Suffield,
11 Connecticut. Welcome to the VCOS board. He's a
12 big supporter of the National Association of Fire
13 Chiefs along with the New England Chiefs. Welcome
14 aboard, Chuck.

15 (Round of applause.)

16 CHIEF VARNEY: Thank you. Any other
17 business for this meeting?

18 CHIEF PAROW: I'd just like to --
19 Chief Wehter walked in right after the meeting
20 started. I just would like to take a moment of
21 privilege as a member of the New England Division
22 and the past President and recognize Dick as he
23 steps down from Secretary/Treasurer of the

1 association this year after 20 plus years, I'm
2 sure. 22 years.

3 Also he served as Secretary/Treasurer of
4 the Mass Chiefs prior to that and during that time.
5 So Dick's dedicated 40 plus years, 50 years, maybe
6 55 years to the fire service. I'd just like to
7 thank Dick for that, and tell him how much we
8 appreciate everything you've done for the fire
9 service in New England. Thank you.

10 (Round of applause.)

11 CHIEF WEHTER: Thank you very much.

12 CHIEF VARNEY: Any other business?

13 Motion to adjourn?

14 CHIEF CHRISTOPOULOS: Motion to
15 adjourn.

16 CHIEF RICHARDS: Second.

17 THE COURT: All in favor? (Vote
18 taken.) Meeting adjourned.

19 (Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.)

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1 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

2 COUNTY OF HAMPDEN

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5 I, Sarah L. Mubarek, Registered Professional
6 Reporter, hereby certify that the foregoing is a
7 true and accurate transcript of my stenographic
8 notes to the best of my knowledge and ability.

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/s/Sarah L. Mubarek
Sarah L. Mubarek
Registered Professional Reporter

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DATED: June 25, 2014

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