



MSFCA

Meeting Minutes Montana State Fire Chiefs Association Board Meeting Teleconference Wednesday, December 2, 2009, 10:30 am MST

Called to order by Chairperson Rich Cowger at 10:31 am MST.

ROLL CALL

Career Chiefs' Section

- Steve Larson
- Jeff Miller
- Jason Shrauger, V.C.

Combination Chiefs' Section

- Rich Cowger, Chairperson
- Tom Kuntz
- Brett Waters

Volunteer Chiefs' Section

- Leonard Lundby, 2nd V.C.
- Kraig Hansen
- Bruce Charles

Ex-Officio's: Butch Weedon, Allen Lorenz
Staff: Jessica Heintz, Jen Winans and Crosby Grindle

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Tom Kuntz, seconded by Steven Larson to approve the Board Meeting Minutes dates October 21, 2009, November 4, 2009 and November 18, 2009, and financial report as presented. Motion passed. Discussion on financial report; Association has been following the budget closely.

OLD BUSINESS

Mid-Winter Meeting –Harold (MACo) is coming to Wildland Committee meeting, not Mid-Winter, there was some confusion. Maybe he could also come and speak at the Mid-Winter Meeting. We have talked to Harold about the Executive Director position and about the state owned fire trucks and workers compensation.

Fire Marshal Training - Jan. 13th and 14th. Rich will follow up with Mike Painter (Chief of Missoula) about this training and whether Gary Honold (elected Chair of the Fire Marshals Forum of Montana at September meeting) will be both representing the Fire Marshals Forum of Montana and attending the new Career Chiefs Fire Marshals section meetings.

9-1-1 Committee Position - Jessica will put on the agenda for the next meeting; would like to see someone from Eastern Montana.

Jason Shrauger joins the call.

Recognition, Award, Gift Policy – Rich wonders if we should include \$75 per event, or is that implied. Others concur that it is implied.

Crosby Grindle joins call.

NEW BUSINESS

WFCA Presidents Forum – Discussion about sending one or two people. Moved by Tom Kuntz, seconded by Jason Shrauger to send Rich Cowger and Brett Waters to the WFCA Presidents Forum. Motion Passed. The 2013 Presidents Forum will be held in Montana.

SAFER Grant – Discussion of using some of this funding for the Executive Director position. Wyoming just got their funding; requested disability coverage for their volunteers. Could be an opportunity to get Montana's volunteers properly covered. SAFER Grant is due December 18. Tom and Rich will work on the grant and then present to the Board at December 16 meeting. Butch may have information on the number of departments. Moved by Tom Kuntz, seconded to Jason Shrauger to use up to \$500 to help put the

SAFER Grant together. Motion Passed. Bruce will check on a person he knows who is putting on a grant writing program and find out how much he charges. Crosby will explore what ESCI could do to help. Nevada used a grant to fund their Executive Director. Rich, Tom, Bruce, and Kraig will get something out to the Board for the next call.

Leonard joins the call. All welcome Leonard back; Leonard thanks the Board for their heartfelt support.

Membership Cards – MSFCA usually does business style cards. Legend ID will do the cards at \$1.50 each. Board approved doing the cards with Legends ID in August. Discussion of card options; additional ideas for background will be sent to Jessica.

CHEIFS SECTIONS' REPORTS

Career Chiefs' Section – Dinner for Chuck Winn and Greg Megaard tonight. Will be giving their plaque and axe to them at the Fire Council meeting at 7:00pm. Rich will pay for dinner and send Jessica receipt for reimbursement.

Combination Chiefs' Section – Question about whether we have someone from the Association on the Fire Alliance. Leonard is on the Fire Alliance and reports there are three open spots on the Fire School Advisory Council. Will forward the Convention outline. Request to add Fire Alliance (Conference and political side) to Mid-Winter Meeting agenda. Rich has begun conversation on health insurance and the available options; will have more information to share at later date.

Volunteer Chiefs' Section – Leonard thanks the Chiefs for their overwhelming support. The basket that the Chiefs donated brought around \$1,300. Leonard will continue to get information out to the Chiefs about the Fire Alliance to cover any communication gaps.

STAFF REPORTS

Jessica has the DUNS number for the SAFER grant, only portion needed is the narrative.

Rich asks for everyone to do some research on the agenda items before the Mid-Winter Meeting including sending out to the Board any information that should be looked at, that way we don't have spend a lot of time with background information.

Jason compliments Jessica on the on-line packet format; Board agrees.

Discussion of how well the Board is doing with communicating to our members. Jessica reports that all approved minutes are on the web-site. Tom puts out the idea to send out a summary of the Board meeting to The Latest. Jessica will get a summary to Butch.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Welcome back Leonard.

Next meeting is December 16th at 10:30 MST.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 pm MST.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Winans, Administrative Staff