



MSFCA

Meeting Minutes Montana State Fire Chiefs Association Board Meeting Teleconference Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 10:30 am MST

Called to order by Chairperson Rich Cowger at 10:34 am MST.

ROLL CALL

Career Chiefs' Section

- Steve Larson
- Jeff Miller
- Jason Shrauger, 2nd V.C

Combination Chiefs' Section

- Rich Cowger, Chairperson
- Tom Kuntz
- Brett Waters

Volunteer Chiefs' Section

- Leonard Lundby, Vice Chairperson
- Kraig Hansen
- Bruce Charles

Guests: Crosby Grindle with NFPA, Chief Jason Revinsky with Big Sky Fire District
Staff: Jen Winans and Jessica Heintz

CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting minutes from the 04-07- 2010 Board meeting were unanimously approved as E-Mailed. Moved by Steve Larson, seconded by Jason Shrauger to approve the Month Ended 4-30-2010 Financials. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

MSFCA Position on Interoperability – Item to remain on the agenda

Strategic Plan – Item to remain on the agenda

NFPA – Crosby Grindle, Northwest Regional Manager of NFPA. Grindle reports he will meet with everyone at the Alliance Conference. NFPA is putting a large emphasis on Wildland fire and Wildland protection programs. Firewise.org is a good place to go to get information on the program. NFPA is doing a nationwide push for residential sprinklers. NFPA will work with Montana on their legislation as well. Firesprinklerinitiative.org is a great place to learn about the fire sprinkler initiative.

Bookstore Proposal Update –Curt Petrick will be retiring from the department at the end of June or beginning of July, and intends to retire from the Bookstore at that time. Question remains, what does the Board want to do with the bookstore: allow the Fire Service Bookstore to be the main Montana bookstore or have the Chiefs maintain a bookstore. **Moved by Kraig Hansen, seconded by Steve Larson to have the Fire Service Bookstore buy out the Montana Bookstore. Motion passed.** Board will do something to thank Curt at The Alliance conference to show appreciation.

ESCI/Booth Space- Alliance Board is not providing free or reduced booth space to its partners. MSFCA will need to purchase a \$500 booth space for ESCI and an additional booth for MSFCA/Bookstore. **Moved by Leonard Lundby, seconded by Bruce Charles to purchase a booth for ESCI and a booth for MSFCA/Bookstore at the Alliance Conference.**

IAFC Money from MMA – Money was spent on three items: video production, printing of books and a second set of books. IAFC printed those and the money was paid directly to IAFC. The grant has been exhausted.

Alliance Registrations – 18 individual registrations and 14 vendor booths sold to-date. Board concerned that there is not space identified for a regional HazMat presence at the Conference; Alliance Board states that they can purchase vendor booth space. There is an education mandate tied to funding. Jason Shrauger will follow-up on this. Chief Plaughter has canceled; his spot has been filled by Tim Sendelbach, Editor in Chief of Fire Rescue Magazine. Mr. Sendelbach stipend is \$1000 plus expenses.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Language for Per-House Assessment for EMS – Wording may be either ‘Fire Districts can levy taxes the way they currently do’ or ‘Fire Districts may levy additional taxes by accessing the special district assessment tax language’. May be able to make a case on per-house assessment on a separate statute, may have a problem when the two are together. Tom Kuntz will continue to work on wording and will follow-up with Leonard Lundby.

SHGP – Subcommittee meeting over distribution of Homeland Security funds. Some are state, some are local. Governor has agreed to the decision that the subcommittee came up with for spending funds.

Insurance - Discussed the possibility of group coverage as a member benefit for the Association. MSFCA will put a questionnaire together to glean interest from members. Insurance company is very interested in what our members feel would be of benefit. Possibility of partnering with the volunteers.

License Plate - Sent out Press Release with License Plate Agreement to Montana Newspapers. 436 plates have been purchased to-date. 10% of that is \$872 which has been allocated to the volunteers; check will be presented to the Volunteers at the Alliance Conference.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Next Board Teleconference: June 2nd, 10:30 AM MST
MSFCA Board Meeting @ Alliance: June 17th, 2-3pm in GSA
Fire Alliance Conference: June 17th-20th in Butte

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jen Winans, Administrative Staff