



Volunteer & Combination Officers Section of The International Association of Fire Chiefs

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VCOS Board Teleconference Wednesday, March 9, 2016

4 p.m. Eastern/3 p.m. Central/2 p.m. Mountain/1 p.m. Pacific

1-866-809-4014

Passcode: 4230611

MINUTES

Present: Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Shane Crutcher, Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Ed Rush, Chief Timothy Wall, and Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Donna Black, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief Jim Seavey

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 4:00pm.

Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall

Chairman Wall started the meeting. He turned the meeting over to Chief Crutcher to run as Vice Chair. We will discuss the Vice Chair position and Chief Crutcher's remaining term at the end of the call.

Cancer Initiatives Update – Chief Eggleston

Chief Eggleston was not on the call and we will get an update later on this.

Kidde Program – Chiefs Crutcher, Flynn, Larson

There is a program webinar on March 29 at 2pm. It will discuss the campaign and also give tips for community engagement, recruitment, and retention. A new page was built on the VCOS website about the program. You can get to it from the home page or the Resources page and the address is: www.vcos.org/StepUpStandOut.

Craig Morgan's tour dates were announced. We are working to target 4-5 cities for the media events. We're putting together GIS maps of the tour cities with VCOS members and volunteer/combination departments. The committee will make a recommendation on cities to Kidde. Board members are encouraged to promote the program on their social media. We should also promote the VCOS Recruitment and Retention Award through this program as much as possible.

Symposium in the West – Chief Collins

- Reno, Nevada at the Peppermill Resort

- Conference: May 13-14, 2016
- Board Meeting on Thursday, May 12
- Board should book flights now (Come in Wednesday and leave late Saturday or anytime on Sunday)
- Theme = "Dare to Lead"
- Registration is around 50 attendees. A few new speakers were added since 2 had to drop out.
- Marketing
- Sponsorships
- Future locations -The Executive Committee is supporting the committee's recommendation for 2016 and 2017 at the Peppermill. May 5-6, 2017 are target dates.

Bylaws Election – Chief Windisch

Voting is open until March 31. There are a total of 232 votes as of 3/7. A reminder email from the online election system will go out on March 17 to those that haven't voted. We must have a 66% approval rate for the amendments to pass.

Target Solutions Partnership – Chiefs Collins, Eggleston & Captain Sedlak

The 2016 partnership agreement was signed. The committee had a call last week with Target Solutions to discuss the Training Officer Award which opens in April and the application deadline is May 31. This award is presented at FRI at the VCOS annual meeting. They offered to host a board meeting again in the San Diego area.

Communications Committee – Chiefs Crutcher, Black, Rush, Larson

We need to come up with the most important themes for Praetorian Digital. The committee will work on getting a list to Chief Buckman. Send articles on any relevant topics to the Communications Committee. They have already received a few articles.

Chief Crutcher will send an email to the Communications Committee to set-up a conference call in the next few weeks.

Awards and Scholarships – Chief Wall

- Buckman Award -Ed Rush, Norvin Collins
- Retention & Recruitment Award – Fred Windisch, Chuck Flynn
- Illness & Injury Prevention Award- Fred Windisch, Chuck Flynn
- Training Officer Award – Norvin Collins, Ken Sedlak, Dan Eggleston
- FRI Scholarship - Randy Larson, Donna Black
- Symposium Scholarship - Jim Seavey
- Emerging Leader Scholarship - Tim Wall

We should put in the new board member packets that board members are ineligible for awards.

Old Business

- The FRI scholarship application period is open.
- Action items for February board meeting:

- Let NFPA know what committees are most important to us and that we want to be involved with. The VCOS is only funding 2 NFPA committee slots – 1720 and Data in the Fire Service. We are not funding Confined Space.
- Supplemental Funding Requests from IAFC – Chief Collins
- National SAFER Program – identify 5 VCOS members to be part of a more in-depth working group to review training materials and resources developed by the program. Chief Wall explained we are looking for non-board members and will reach out to past award winners, etc. If you have any suggestions, send them to Chief Wall.
- FLSA manual webinar or educational seminar with Mr. Dodge – Chief Windisch reached out to Mr. Dodge and Chief John Oprandy. They are finalizing a date for this.

New Business

The Fire Chief of the Year nomination period is now open through May 27. Think of people to nominate and send to Chief Wall by May board meeting for a career and volunteer. This award can be a board member. More information is available at <http://www.iafc.org/chiefoftheyear>. Chief Windisch is going to Pierce this week and will let Mr. Johnson know we will be nominating someone. This will be an agenda item for the May board meeting.

There will be a Division Secretaries meeting at the IAFC on March 18. Chief Flynn will call in to give a VCOS update and talk about the Kidde volunteer campaign, Symposiums, etc.

Roundtable and Committee/Project Updates

Larson: The iWomen conference was last week. Chief Eggleston attended part of it. They had a breakfast for volunteers there. Both organizations are doing joint promotion and marketing. iWomen is working on a Camp project that they want us to help advertise in the future.

Rush: NFFF Heart to Heart - maybe we can have a Symposium speaker on this issue? Chief Eggleston is willing to get involved in that program if needed. Chief Windisch added that to the potential speakers for Symposium in the Sun. Near Miss – Ms. Bell has been reassigned, but a contractor, Mr. John Russ, is working on the program in the meantime.

Windisch: There is a You and ISO class in Wisconsin on March 12 with about 50 people currently signed up. He will be meeting with Pierce. He asked about the status of the Diversity paper. It is currently being edited by Ms. Janet Wilmoth and copies should be available in time for Symposium in the West.

Flynn: He had a NVFC SAFER call earlier today. NVFC will be submitting a new SAFER grant to study retention. A BH&H class was conducted last weekend and there were 42 people. It was sponsored by the CT VWS grant. The grant is also sponsoring a Volunteer Summit April 1-2 in CT. Fire service and municipal officers of communities will attend. CT will do a FROG class in June hopefully.

Wall: VCOS is staying very busy and active as there have been lots of committee calls, etc. VCOS is doing a lot of great work.

Crutcher: So far there are only 16 non-members coming to Symposium in the West so we will wait and see if we will need Ms. Cathy Feyh to attend to sell memberships. There is a FROG class in KY this weekend. He is now stepping down as Vice Chair so the board can

appoint a new one as soon as possible. He will be on the next call as a board member and then he will step down from the board after that.

Wall: Thanks to Chief Crutcher for all of his dedication to the VCOS board. We will appoint a new Vice Chair by April 13, the next call. At the February board meeting, 2 people expressed interested. We will email out the process for submitting interest, voting, etc. Chief Wall will fill in Chiefs Black, Seavey, and Eggleston about the Vice Chair position.

Ameen: CFSI is May 4-5 with the dinner on May 5. VCOS has 10 seats at the dinner. Let Chief Wall and Ms. Ameen know if you want to attend. Ms. Diana Rothe-Smith from IAFC staff will sit at the VCOS table too. Don't forget to book your Symposium in the Sun travel and get that to me.

Wall: He participated on an IAFC Professional Development call with reps from other IAFC groups. Notes from the call were attached to the agenda. He offered doing a VCOS webinar.

The next call is April 13 at 4pm ET. The call ended at 5:03pm.