



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

4025 Fair Ridge Drive • Fairfax, VA 22033-2868 • Tel: 703/273-0911 • www.iafc.org



VCOS Board Teleconference

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

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 Donna Black, Chief Norvin Collins, Chief Jim Cook, Chief Charles Flynn, Chief Randy Larson, Chief Ed Rush, Chief Timothy Wall, Chief Fred Windisch

Absent: Chief Jason Catrambone, Chief Dan Eggleston, Chief James Seavey

Staff: Ms. Kelly Ameen

The call started at 4:02pm.

Welcome and Agenda Overview - Chief Wall

Chief Wall started the call. The board reviewed the May meeting minutes.

Motion by Chief Flynn and seconded by Chief Collins to approve the minutes from the May board meeting. Motion carried.

2017 VCOS Executive Committee & International Director Selection Process – Chief Rush

Per the bylaws, Chief Rush sent an email polling board members' interest in being on the Executive Committee and for the International Director position. The following people submitted interest:

- Chair: Chief Tim Wall
- Vice Chair: Chief Chuck Flynn
- Secretary-Treasurer: Chief Norvin Collins
- International Director: Chief Donna Black and Chief Norvin Collins

Chief Collins withdrew his name for International Director but kept it for Secretary-Treasurer. He will submit that in writing as well to Chief Rush.

In the future, we should consider proxy or absentee voting for board members that cannot attend FRI, but want to vote when there are multiple people interested in the same position.

The election of the VCOS executive committee and International Director will be held at the FRI VCOS Annual Meeting.

Fire-Rescue International – Chief Wall

- Charlotte July 26-29

- Draft logistics document attached with schedule, dress code, hotel confirms, & flights
- Hotel = Westin (HQ hotel)
- IAFC Business Meeting – Thursday, July 27 from 11am-12pm
- Division Luncheons – Thursday from 12-1:30pm
- VCOS Annual Meeting Thursday, July 27 from 2-3pm
- VCOS Meet & Greet reception 3-5pm on Thursday. (Exhibit floor grand opening after that from 5 -7pm).
- VCOS Board dinner 7:30pm Thursday
- Diversity breakfast Friday 7-8:30am
- USFA/NFA meeting Friday 11:30am or 1pm TBD
- VCOS booth schedule – Chief Rush (see logistics document)
- Thursday dress code – Wear new yellow shirt, but if it doesn't fit you can wear something else that is appropriate. Shirts will be mailed to Chief Collins at the hotel in Charlotte.

Symposium in the Sun – Chief Windisch

There are currently 174 attendees registered, which is about the same as last year. There is usually a surge after FRI. We are expecting a sellout again.

The Hilton is sold out, but there are still other hotels available.

Overall, the schedule is full for speakers. VCOS Talks opportunities went out to current registrants. Chief Windisch read the list of confirmed speakers. Some presentations have military themes since that is Veteran's day weekend.

Old Business

- Yellow Ribbon Report is done! Roll out at FRI – Chief Flynn
 - Eggleston will give copies to the IAFC board at FRI. There will be a session on the topic/report. It will be mentioned during the General Session and VCOS annual meeting.
 - VCOS members have been alerted it is coming out on July 24.
- Step Up & Stand Out – Chief Flynn
 - www.vcos.org/stepupstandout
 - Partnership with Kidde and Allstate. We will play this up at FRI. The award is for a department and not an individual.
- FRI scholarship offered to NC chief officers
 - 15 applications were received
 - Winner = Chief Jonathon Mills of Olympia VFD
 - We only had 1 applicant originally.
 - Released through NC fire chiefs and NC firefighters group.
 - Didn't have to be a VCOS member to apply. Looking for a first-time attendee.
- LEC Update – The board was sent an email from Chief Struble to review as an update to the project.
- Firehouse Expo –
 - October 17-21 in Nashville
 - Working on details
 - Send a note to Chiefs Wall and Rush if you want to attend

New Business

- NFIRS Stakeholder Workshop – Sept 12-13 in Emmitsburg. Need NFIRS Program Manager, Data Analyst, Data Entry personnel from combination departments. Need names/contact info ASAP. (see attached letter). Chiefs Rush, Flynn and Windisch have people in mind. Chief Windisch commented that this is important. The board agreed that the VCOS Executive Committee could make the selection prior to FRI. VCOS could pick up meal cost if needed. Send any names to Chief Wall and Kelly by the 17th.
- Summer newsletter content, theme, and deadline – Chief Rush
 - Need articles by July 21
 - Chief Collins will write an article on Symposium in the West
 - The IAFC Wildland team is writing an article
 - Training Corner – Chief Rush is working with his training officer on this
 - News and Notes – Send any items to Chief Rush.
 - Article on Yellow Ribbon or put in News & Notes
 - Looking into a Chief's Concern column
 - Department profile: Chief Cook will write about Leesburg.

Roundtable, Announcements, Committee/Project Updates

Black: Thanked the board and is looking forward to the International Director position. There will be a Women's Fire Chiefs Council meeting on Wednesday at FRI. Another Get Checked t-shirt will be released at FRI.

Cook: Looking forward to FRI and meeting/catching up with everyone.

Ameen: Please review Ken LaSala's email regarding comments on a proposed bill. Several VCOS board members have already commented. Let me know if you plan to bring a significant other to the VCOS FRI dinner. An IAFC staff member who is also a volunteer fire chief, got "checked" at Symposium in the Sun and they found something irregular with his thyroid. He then went to the doctor back at home and discovered he had thyroid cancer. He got treated and is now cancer-free. The "Get Checked" program has made a difference! We will do an interview with him in an upcoming VCOS newsletter.

Larson: Thanks for support on the board these last 4 years. He has enjoyed his time on the board.

Windisch: Asked about Pierce money for Yellow Ribbon Report. Yes, printing will come from the Pierce fund. He asked if Mike Macdonald received his thanks for the work on the report. Yes, he received it and will also get a yellow shirt.

Wall: He will work with the executive committee on how we present/swear in officers.

Rush: His wife is doing well after surgery. NY show – didn't get a lot of people stopping at booth, but he still thinks it is worth it. We need a better location next year.

Wall: Thanks to everyone for their dedication. The unexpired term from Chief Donna Black will be handled after FRI after Chief Eggleston is IAFC 2nd VP and Chief Black is sworn in as International Director. There are several ways we could determine who should fill that position.

The next meeting will be July 27, 2017 at FRI in Charlotte.

The call ended at 4:58pm