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VCOS Board Telecon June 11, 2024

Participants:

VCOS Board Members Present:

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair
Chief Al Yancey, Vice Chair
Chief Fred Windisch, Secretary/Treasurer
Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director
Chief Spencer Cheatham, Board Member at Large
Chief Jason Caughey, Board Member at Large
Chief Brita Horn, Board Member at Large
Chief Shawn Stokes, Board Member at Large

VCOS Board Members Not Present:

Chief Paul Sterling, Board Member at Large

IAFC Guests/Staff:

Ms. Mikel Robinson, Staff Support Contractor

Call to Order

Chief Rich Cowger chaired the meeting. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present. The meeting came to order at 1404 hrs ET.

Approval of May 17-18, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair

MOTION: May 17-18, 2024-01

Motion made and seconded to approve the May 17-18, 2024 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Catrambone/Yancey

Chair Report

Chief Rich Cowger, Chair

Chief Cowger provided the topics covered during the Executive Committee meeting

all of which were a review of topics on the Board agenda.

Chief Cowger informed the Board that VCOS has members in all states except Hawaii, North Decota and West Virginia and that the Board should consider recruitment efforts to address them.

Chief Cowger reported that Dan Seidberg is drafting the Rapid SOS support letter and is standing by to receive it once the letter is written.

Vice Chair Report

No report.

International Director Report

Chief Jason Catrambone, International Director

Chief Catrambone informed the Board that the 2019 IAFC loan was fully repaid in the previous week.

Secretary Treasurer Report

Chief Fred Windisch

Chief Windisch stated that the financial statements were sent to the Board by email. He expects to receive more detail in subsequent financial reports.

OSHA Draft Emergency Response Regulations

Chief Jason Caughey

Chief Caughey reported that the public comment period for the draft regulations was extended to July 22, 2024. Also, NVFC is conducting an action day on the OSHA topic.

Communications Committee

Chief Spenser Cheatham

Chief Cheatham informed the Board that the Newsletter will have the first legacy partner article. He also reported that the Newsletter release is behind schedule.

Training Program Update

Chief Windisch reported that speakers for Symposium in the Sun are selected. Registration is now open for those who attended last year's symposium before opening to all.

Health, Wellness and Safety Committee Report

Chief Yancey

Chief Yancey informed the Board that a report from the last committee meeting was sent to the Board. Chief Yancey will bring forward committee member ideas for cancer prevention and mental health issues.

2024 Strategic Initiatives

Chief Al Yancey

Chief Yancey is preparing the 2024 Strategic Initiative that were supported by the Board for a presentation at the Annual Meeting at FRI. Chief Yancey requested to be placed on the July agenda for Board approval of the presentation.

Board Policies and Procedures Report

Chief Shawn Stokes

Chief Stokes advised that the policies and procedures approved by the Board in May were sent to Mikel Robinson for distribution.

Staff Support Contractor Report

Ms. Mikel Robinson

The Deccan International Grant is ready to be posted.

Mikel is preparing the SITS scholarship application announcements and award nominations announcements to be released earlier than in past years.

Staff Liaison Report

Kevin McGee

FRI scholarship application period closes on June 19, 2024.

Kevin will update the Committee Roster due to the large number of changes since the last version from November 2023.

Old Business

Chief Windisch ordered pens with the VCOS logo for FRI. He also sent a design for a new challenge coin to the Board for their feedback.

New Business

Chiefs Stokes, Windisch and Cheatham will do the Deccan International grant award selection.

Mikel was requested to send a sympathy card and plant to Chief Donna Black as condolences for the Board on the passing of her mother.

A Charleston Nine Memorial brick will be considered on behalf of the Board.

Good of the Order

The telecon ended at 1510 hrs ET.

Minutes submitted by:

Mr. Kevin McGee
VCOS Staff Liaison

Fire Chief Fred Windisch
Secretary/Treasurer

Chief Rich Cowger
Chair

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