

Minutes EDIAFC Conference Call Mar. 12, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Walton, Warrick, Pienkowski, Askenstedt, Watson, Lowden, Gouty, Showmaker, Cohan, Stahl

Absent: Stahl

Minutes: The board received the minutes from the conference call of 02/12/06.

There was a **motion** by Showmaker and a second by Gouty, to approve the minutes of the 01/22/06 conference call. **Motion passed.**

Secretary Treasurer Report: A report was sent to the board on 2/28 via email.

Conference Calls: Remember the new conference call phone number is: **1-866-809-4014** and the code is **2730202**. The proposed schedule for 2006 Conference calls is as follows:

Apr 23, May 21, Jun 11, Jul 16, Aug 13, Oct 15, Nov 12, Dec 17

All of the calls are Sunday at 7:00 PM.

IAFC Report: Bill Walton reported that many alerts were sent out providing info. Bill reported from he made inquiries about Nepal Firefighters. Bill Killen is retiring as Fire Chief of his department. This is no surprise. Bill Walton said that when the release went out he was upset about the comments in the release using the word "professional" instead of "career" Bill announced that IAFC was being recognized as the Fire Service Organization of the Year because of their work on radio spectrum.

Bill announced that the ad for the Near Miss program was out. There was also a letter sent out about the importance of attendance at FRI. There was a heated discussion in Orlando about the GPO and how it is operating poorly. Some Divisions are considering pulling out. There are lot of issues still hanging out which need fixing.

Bill said he received an email from the secretary who got it from NY, announcing the dates of the stand down. The information was not finalized, but had been leaked. The IAFC had to hustle to finalize the dates with their partners because of the leaked info.

The IAFC discussed NFPA 1971 and 1966 which will be merged into 1971.

NFPA 1851 is staying the way it is. There is a question over taking the gear out of service based on the years of life. Bill did not know the status

The IAFC and other groups are drafting a white paper on how FEMA should be redefined. The hope is to get more fire input during Paulisons term. The idea would be to get FEMA further away from DHS.

Mark Showmaker asked about the conference selection process and if the Divisions have any input. Bill explained there was a committee and defined some of the players on the committee. Bill stressed the financial importance of the FRI Conference. Bill suggested that we have Garry or Julian on the next call to explain the process. Bill said that Dallas was well liked by the vendors.

Mark said he was concerned with the selection of Philadelphia. Bill said he was concerned about the union problems. Bill said the city has restructured its union process. The board agreed to have Julian on the next call

Les asked about when the Division decision to leave GPO was made. He was informed that it was only discussed.

Committee Reports:

Les asked for any info on deceased members for the Memorial Service.

Les asked Steve Reid to take on the Valor Committee Chair and he seems willing. Jimmy Watson agreed to appoint Steve for next year. Les said he has only received nominations from DC and NY. Jack asked for an electric copy of the application.

Old Business

FRI Issues: The President and 1st VP have previously emailed the Board that there will not be a board meeting at FRI. There will be a conference call on the Sunday prior instead. The President and VP also stated that we will go forward with plans for a lunch. The Board previously agreed to have a lunch, but there had been discussion about the possibility of canceling the lunch because it might be poorly attended and there might not be enough board members present.

There was a **motion** by Watson and a second by Cohan approve the luncheon and set the number of attendees at 100. **The motion was approved.**

There was a **motion** by Pienkowski and a second by Showmaker to approve hotel and meal expenses for four days, and travel costs to and from FRI. **The motion was approved.**

Fire Service Excellence Award

A date and means for rolling the award out needs to be determined. The Board decided to have the committee work on this. Mike Chiaramonte said he would like to have a conference call with the Committee. The Board also agreed to start the award in June 2007. (Tabled from February)

2006 EDIAFC Conference

The Secretary has requested all of the board members to solicit sponsors for the conference. Sponsors may submit ads and will be recognized in the program, on the web site and at the conference. The Secretary contacted ICC, Nextel and VFIS to support the conference. ICC sent \$1,500 and we are awaiting answers. Ted Lowden has already received several commitments and is working on more. Please help him. We have had pledges from MD, NJ and DE Chiefs but no checks as yet. Burlington County has given \$500.00

Les Warrick was asked to prepare the Memorial Program and Submit the Valor Report for the Conference. Father Steger plans to attend at this point and assist with the Memorial Service.

Jon Townley was asked to attend and handle the C&B Report and any Resolutions which may arise at the conference. He has agreed.

Larry Vaughan was asked to attend and give the elections report.

Templates will be sent to all Board Members for their reports which will be included in the program

The liquor liability insurance and bar tenders are being worked on. We have the room at the Radisson on Friday at no charge.

Conference Program Books, Banquet Programs and Registration forms are all in progress. There is still a great deal of information to get before we can make any real progress.

Ted is working on the final speaker. The other speakers are on the web site.

The Secretary asked the board to approve printing and mailing of a registration flyer, printing of the conference program books and printing of the banquet flyers.

There was a **motion** by Warrick and a second by Cohan to approve the Secretary's request. **Motion was approved unanimously.**

There was a **motion** by Watson and a second by Gouty to keep the registration fee at \$50.00 and the banquet tickets at \$35.00 and to have all attendees pay the registration fees. **Motion was approved unanimously.**

National Mutual Aid System: Chief Lowden reported. Next meeting is end in April in Ls Vegas.

NY Line of Duty Death Meeting: Ken has been attend these meetings representing the EDIAFC. The newly formed group is looking into the number of LODDs in the state and they are putting a program together which they hope to use to lower the LODDs.

Ken Pienkowski submitted a report to the Board related to the NYS Fire Service Health and Safety Ad Hoc Committee Meeting. The issue of supporting the program and continuing to attend meetings needs to be decided. (Tabled from February)

The group will be putting together posters about how a FD physical saved their life. The organizations involved will have their logos on the poster.

Jim Watson proposed a motion to have Ken continue are involvement and pay the costs of his travel. The board opted to direct Ken to continue at this time by consensus.

Ken said that the group has asked all of the organizations involved to adopt the 16 life safety initiatives. No action was taken at this time.

Mark Showmaker asked about the ramifications of the other 5 states starting their own groups and how that would affect budget.

There was discussion of the use of the EDIAFC logo as a participating organization. The secretary said the board should only allow use of their logo by vote and suggested no action until the board reviewed the actual material on which the logo would be used. The board agreed.

NFPA Air Cylinder Issues and Other Issues.

The President submitted a position on the controversial proposals for air cylinder compatibility and to send comments to the NFPA and the IAFC. (Tabled from February) Bob Stahl suggested the air cylinder issue would fail at the NFPA committee vote on the proposed changes.

New Business

Fire Corps: President Chiaramonte asked for this to be on the agenda, but was not on the call so the item was tabled.

IAFC C&B Meeting: Ken Pienkowski reported that VCOS was trying to change their By-Laws to have the officers elected by the VCOS Board instead of by general membership at the annual meeting at FRI. The By-Law change was submitted improperly and will therefore not be voted on. The secretary suggested that

this was fallout from the large EDIAFC turnout at the last conference. He stated he doubted the By_law change could get the required 80% vote even if it was properly submitted.

The VCOS By-Laws also state that Larry Curl should have been sat on the VCOS Board as the immediate past chair and should have lost his eligibility to run for chair again.

Bill Askenstedt stated that the EDIAFC should look at supporting someone for the VCOS seat on the IAFC Board. Bill Walton said he did not think the incumbent director would run. He said whatever candidate we supported, they need to have universal backing of VCOS. He suggested we first find a good candidate to run. He suggested the Secretary discuss the position with our VCOS rep. The board agreed.

CFSI: Bernie Cohan said the Hilton was sold out for the CFSI dates.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15