

WISCONSIN FIRE INSPECTORS ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Monday 31, August 2009

The Plaza Hotel & Suites, Wausau, WI

Call to Order at 1002 hours

Roll Call

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| President | Ron Omernick | present |
| 1 st Vice President | Sue Phillips | present |
| 2 nd Vice President | Tom Clark | present |
| Exec. Sec. Treasurer | Laurie Frey | present |
| Recording Secretary | Kevin T. Erdmann | present |
| Past President | Tod Doebler | present |
| Parliamentarian | Jeff Pollard | present |
| Area 1 | Vacant | |
| Area 2 | Scott R. Wagner | present |
| Area 3 | Vacant | |
| Area 4 | John Niederer | present |
| Area 5 | Gordy Jepsen | present |
| Area 6 | Tom Wendt | present |
| Area 7 | Joe Gabe | present |
| Area 8 | Bill Becker | present |
| Area 9 | Ken Zarecki | alternate |
| Area 10 | Tom Waydick | excused |
| Area 11 | Vacant | |
| Area 12 | Josef Eklund | present |
| Area 13 | Dave Krupich | present |
| Area 14 | Vacant | |
| Area 15 | Arthur Gil de Lamadrid | excused |
| Area 16 | Dave Neihaus | present |
| Dept. of Commerce | Joe Hertel | present |
| Guests: Dave Lind, Matt Mertens, Jill Glanz | | |

The meeting started off with Sue Phillips talking about the survey that she had sent out to the Fire Chief's in the State. The replies were as follows, 60 were returned, 19 Volunteer, 5 Paid on call, 19 Fulltime and 26 Combination. She went over the survey. Tod Doebler made some comments on the survey. There was discussion on how and where the survey was made and where it went. Ron Omernick questioned that if there is a money problem in departments why are there no applications for the scholarship. Tom Clark stated that we cannot even get nominations for Chief of the year and Inspector of the year.

Dave Lind suggested that we have a liaison with the Chief's Association to exchange hot topics. Tod had comments on the same. It was suggested that the President of the Chief's Association be invited to the conference this year to give a short talk. Ron thanked Sue for her efforts on the survey.

New web site. Matt spoke on the new site. Looking to add an education link of the web so that areas can share trainings. Power points or other videos would be posted. Ron stated that as long as they are not copy written it would be ok. Sue Phillips said that we need to get a waiver from the person submitting the materials. A link for quick resources from as an example the Department of Commerce. Matt asked about advertising on the web site. There are questions of how and what to do. Ron stated that Sue came up with an SOG for web site advertising. There are still some things that the web master is working on. Ron asked Sue to bring the SOG to the next board meeting. Ron asked if anyone has any changes. Tod asked why the mission statement is different on the web site. There was some discussion on the mission statement and does it need to be changed. If so it will be presented at the next business meeting. Dave Lind stated that he thinks that advertising need a disclaimer that the association does not endorse the advertisers. Dave thought that the board should be doing the web site and have the web master at the board meetings. Ron thanked the web site committee. The web master is looking for a place to put a disclaimer. Dave commented that what the disclaimer might say for sponsors and advertisers. Tod made comments on the same. There are no sponsors for the web site at this time. They are only examples at this time. Dave and Tod spoke on what links to have on the web. Tod stated that the association needs parameters for corporate sponsors. Dollar amounts and the credit the sponsors get. ??? Dave questioned where the extra revenue would go from the web site. Would it go to the scholarship fund or general fund. There was discussion on that topic. Matt asked about a page on the web for the Associations position on the latest hot topics. Jeff Pollard made comments on position statements. Dave stated that the Association should not contradict what the Chief's have. Tom Clark spoke of the same.

Ron talked about burn camp. The Association donated \$2924 to burn camp. Ron stated on how moving the experience was.

Ron Omernick and Jeff Pollard attended a meeting with the Wisconsin Technical College System. The Tech College is coming up with a new mission statement. Ron talked about how the schools are trying to update training for the Fire service. Tod Doebler asked where the 2% monies they receive are going. It seems that we still have not received an audit statement from them as requested.

Laurie Frey spoke about Steve from the Florida Fire Marshals Association. He will be attending the next board meeting and speaking on how they turned their Association around. Sue Phillips made a motion that the Association pay for Steve's travel and hotel. Ron seconded. The motion carried.

Dave Lind suggested that the mission statement be e-mailed to all members for feed back and the executive board go over the returned Mission Statement and come up with a new one for the members. There are some questions on the mission statement and that there are a couple of different ones floating around. There were some questions on a political sentence in the mission statement. Jeff Pollard suggested that a committee be set up to review the mission statement. Ron Omernick, Sue Phillips and Tom Clark will be on the committee. Tod commented on ways to get the changes to the members before the conference. Laurie Frey commented on a way to change e-mail addresses on the web site. There are a lot that are incorrect. Matt will check in to it.

Ron thanked Laurie for all the work on the audit. Laurie stated that the audit will be done in about a month. It will be read to the members point by point at the business meeting in November, It will also be posted on the web site.

There was some discussion on lifetime membership.

By-Law updates and changes. Jeff Pollard handed out the changes to the board. Jeff spoke on the new position of assistant secretary treasurer. There was discussion on the 8 year commitment. There was discussion on the Annual Fall Conference Committee. Changes were made to give the committee some structure. Laurie spoke on the changes. Sue Phillips suggested that the next changes have old and new language on them so all can see the changes. Tod made a motion to accept the changes as presented. John Niederer seconded, motion carried.

Break for lunch at 1159
Reconvene at 1257

Ron asked that everyone document every thing that we have done for the Association this year and be prepared for questions from the members.

Jeff Pollard then went on to SOG's. Laurie spoke about SOG #104. There was discussion on the \$250 a year dollar amount the Areas are allotted. Can they carry it over year to year? All expenses need to be documented. A voucher needs to be submitted for money spent or requested. There was further discussion. Tod made a motion to adopt SOG #104 as written Ken Zarecki seconded. Motion carried. Jeff then presented SOG #110. There was discussion on 4 year audits, cost and need. It is very expensive to have a professional audit.

Tod Doebler made a motion that as written we change audits done by a professional from 4 years to 3 years. Scott Wegner seconded. There was discussion on the motion. There was a question that can the Executive Secretary Treasurer be reaffirmed after 4 years to another 4 year term. There was then discussion on should it be 4 consecutive years. After discussion the motion carried.

Jeff continued with changing the By-Laws on the Exec. Sec. to 4 years consecutive. There was discussion on same. There then was discussion that should the position be reaffirmed annually. Sue and Jeff will work on verbiage for the next meeting.

Tod made a motion to resend the previous motion on By-Law changes to the Exec. Sec. Treas, and Assistant Exec.Treas. John Niederer seconded. Motion carried.

NFPA Conference Report. Ron stated that he could go on for a long time however to keep the meeting going most of his report is in the Fire Journal. Laurie than went on to say she had gotten some speakers to come to our conference.

Treasurer's report Checking \$1,560.43 Savings \$27,956.38. Laurie said this is all she has at this time because of the audit. Membership renewals will be going out in September. She will be sending new forms for mileage forms. She will also be getting new quarterly reports for the area's. They will be on the web site.

2009 Conference Report. Laurie stated that sponsorship numbers are down this year. Vendors are also down. All the speakers are confirmed. There will be two lunch and learns one will be code and one will be public education. It is \$6.00 for lunch. Please ask your members to come and to sign up early so we can get a lunch count. At this time we have 25 registered for the conference. Flyers will go out today or tomorrow. Banquet will be a marti gras theme. There will be music during dinner and after. There will be a DJ for vendor night.

Laurie made a motion that each member of the conference committee receives one night for the conference. Tod seconded the motion. Motion

carried. Scott Wegner would like each area supply a prize or a gift basket for the raffle. Please notify Scott if you have prizes or contact him for help if needed. Scott also has a special person coming to the vendor night. If any board members want to help setup prior to the board meeting please arrive at 1300 to assist. Help is needed to stuff bags and set up for the conference.

Department of Commerce. Joe Hertel Fire safe cigarettes take effect on October 1st. Bob Dupont will be retiring on the 25th of September. Joe asked Bob if he could come to the conference and Bob said that would be a conflict of interest because he is on leave after the 25th and not gone until the end of the year. Comm. 14 will have a meeting in September. Friday there will be 8 layoffs in the Department.

Tank Committee. Ron stated that there will be an LPO tank class at the conference. There has been some discussion concerning charging for the class at the conference. The cost can be deductible and justified because of CEU's. There was continued discussion on charging. Dave Lind feels that if the tank people stay for the conference that the program should be part of the conference. There was more discussion on ERS the department that runs the tank program. There was talk that they are out of money. Tod, Sue and Ron spoke on ERS having classes.

Fire and EMS Coalition. Tom Clark reported that they last gathered on July 9th. Discussion on Haz-Mat training. It varies from State to State. Residential sprinkler committee. They were given a sub committee. They are in the process of forming training for builders and the like. The sub committee is well versed and represented. They are trying to overturn the 1978 mini-max sprinkler code. The sub committee is working on getting the State to adopt the IRC. The Chief's are against it, they would like to see the NFPA building code. Joe Hertel feels that at some point the state will adopt the IRC. Sue Phillips talked on the IRC and what the builders are saying. Sue also stated the someone from the Chief's Association come to the conference so we could get their prospective on this subject. Dave Lind also spoke on the subject.

Sue Phillips stated that maybe because of all that Bob Dupont has done for us; we make him an honorary member of the Association. There was discussion on if he could come to the conference or not. Sue checked it out during the discussion and found nothing on an honorary member. She said maybe hold off until next year and consider a lifetime membership.

Site Selection Committee is still receiving proposals for 2013-14.

Around the Table: The next meeting will be in Wausau on November 2nd at 1600. Please arrive early to assist the conference committee.

1st Vice President Sue Phillips, talk up the conference to everyone, vendors, sponsors and members.

2nd Vice President Tom Clark, vendors are down for this year. We need to send out our letters of support to causes that we support. There was some discussion on how to come up with the letters and does the general membership need to vote. There was discussion that we need to get them on the web site. Joe Ekland makes a motion that Tom writes 4 letters on the positions the Association supports. Joe amended the motion to only 3 letters. Motion carried.

Executive Secretary Treasurer Laurie Frey, There are some office items that we need to get rid of. Laurie is looking on what to do with them. They are Association items. We need to keep track of what we do for them for the auditors. Suggestion was to see if any of the Area's can use them. The items will come to the Conference and we will deal with it then. The banquet has a Marti Gras theme and there will be a mask contest. The colors are green, gold and purple.

Past President Tod Doebler, spoke about an assistant business manager.

Parliamentarian Jeff Pollard, will come up with a new policy for voting.

Area #2 Scott Wegner, training on September 23rd high rack storage.

Area #4 John Niederer, looking to have a meeting before the conference.

Area #5 Gordy Jepsen, will start meeting in September and have 30 to 35 members at a meeting.

Area #6 Tom Wendt, having a meeting in Waupun on September 9th.

Area #7 Joe Gabe, next meeting is October 22nd.

Area #9 Ken Zarecki, had a meeting a couple weeks ago.

Area #12 Joe Ekland, the next meeting will be at the conference.

Area #13 Dave Krupich, had a meeting in Elmwood.

Area #16 Dave Neihaus having a meeting on Thursday September 3rd.

Motion to adjourn at 1525

Respectfully Submitted

Kevin T. Erdmann, Recording Secretary