

NORTH IDAHO FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2002

Opening:

President, Chief Ken Gabriel, called the regular meeting of the North Idaho Fire Chief's Association to order at 19:54 on 21 November 2002 at Sagle Fire.

Present:

President - Chief Ken Gabriel, Coeur d'Alene Fire

Vice President - Chief Chris VanNess, Sagle Fire

Secretary -

Treasurer - Bill Cowin, IDL

Dep. Chief Dan Cochran, Coeur d'Alene Fire

Chief Rich Graeber, Timberlake Fire

Glen Lauper, Idaho State Fire Marshal

Jim Macklin, Idaho State Fire Marshal

Brad Mitton, Northside Fire

Chief Ron Sampert, KCFR

Chief Jim Shubert, St. Maries Fire

Chief Larry Simms, Hauser Fire

Ben Theard, KCFR

Chief Bill Turner, MKI Fire

Chief Jim Walton, Eastside Fire

Chief Bob Wathen, Sam Owen Fire

Chief Jeff Welch, Northern Lakes Fire

A. Approval of Minutes

Chief Sampert advised that Don McNett was no longer with KCFR and therefore there were no minutes from the last meeting and a vacancy for the Position of Secretary.

B. Treasurer's Report

Bill Cowin gave the Treasurer's Report (copy attached). It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as given, motion passed.

C. Correspondence

There was no new correspondence received. President Gabriel advised that he had written a congratulatory letter to each of the newly elected official.

D. Committee Reports

- a. IEST Chief Gabriel chaired a lengthy discussion regarding the current status and dissatisfaction with IEST. Several members attended the board meeting in Boise during which everyone present voiced their concerns to Jerry Schwarz that IEST is not working which was apparently ignored. Ann Stevens, administrative controller for IEST, is of the opinion that the Chiefs do not have the strength to make a difference in effecting any changes. No catalog has been received due to IEST "not having money to pay for mailing" and no posting has been made on the IEST web page or notification by e-mail. Consensus of this group was "where do we go from here" for which there were several ideas put forth (i.e. reorganize IEST under ISP or BDS). It was agreed that NIFCA and individual chiefs would send letters to their respective legislators regarding the concerns with IEST and suggestions for solutions. Also it was agreed to query the Idaho Chief's Association as to their thoughts on the future of IEST. Chief Graeber emphasized that in

the mean time we still have local issues that need immediate attention. It was moved and seconded that NIFCA support the direction of IEST's future, that direction to be determined after making further inquiries of relevant parties in the state, motion passed. A decision was also made to reactivate the local training committee, with the following members: Chief Graeber (committee chair), Chief VanNess, Chief Tyler or his designee, Lt. Kramer, Ben Theard, Chief Wathen. Committee will meet at Timberlake Station 11 December 2002 at 12:00.

- b. Firefighter Death & Assistance No Report
- c. Idaho Fire Chief's Conference Dates 4-7 May 2005. Glen Lauper will contact the Coeur d'Alene Resort and Chief Sampert will contact Templin's as possible locations. Bill Cowin gave a brief report on the upcoming 2003 conference, 30 April thru 3 May 2003 in Lewiston. Jeff Johnson is the main speaker. Bill also asked for input for incentives to encourage attendees to stay until the end of the conference, several ideas were suggested including a gift certificate to Home Depot, guided float trips and others.

E. Old Business

- a. Banquet Chief Shubert advised that the banquet is set for the Coeur d'Alene Casino on 17 January 2003, notices to be sent out.
- b. Wildland Classes A representative is needed as liaison. Moved and seconded to table until the next meeting, motion passed.
- c. Committees The standing committees and members were reviewed and revised as needed (see attached)

F. New Business

- a. Fire Prevention Conference Deputy Chief Cochran reported that the Fire prevention Conference would join with the Code Officials meeting & Arson Conference. Dan is also the 1st District representative for the Association of Arson Investigators, Who plans 4 seminars in the coming year. The next Prevention Conference will be in Post Falls and they are trying to arrange a \$-0- tuition.
- b. Officer Development Seminar The committee is trying to get Vince Dunns or Al Brunicini (FF Safety & Survival) as primary instructor. Chief Brunicini's schedule will probably not make 2003 possible but possibly 2004. IEST will help with costs. Preferred dates would be 22-23 February 2003, Chiefs Gabriel and Tyler will follow up.
- c. North Idaho Fire Academy A meeting is needed to get the academy going, Chief Tyler will set up a meeting to be at CdA Fire station 3. In the past the cost for swift water rescue was \$4,050 for twenty students
- d. Filling Secretary Position The following members were nominate for officers positions:
President—Chief Gabriel Vice President—Chief VanNess
Secretary—Chief Simms Treasurer—Bill Cowin
Moved and seconded that nominations be closed, motion passed. Moved and seconded that a "white ballot" be cast, motion passed.
- e. Legislative Meeting It was suggested that the Governor receive invitation to the meeting. Moved and seconded that Chief Sampert contact Governor making such invitation, motion passed.

G. Open Forum

- a. Jim Macklin advised that there would be classes in January on the International Fire Code.
- b. Bill Cowin advised that the FFEP and Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant applications were due the end of December and that training CDs are available.
- c. Bill Cowin advised that he has resigned as Chief of St. Maries Fire (along with one of the Captains) and Jim Shubert stated that he too would be resigning. Chief Gabriel will write a letter to the press regarding the loss of such a valuable asset to the St. Maries community, the letter should be sent after 10 December.
- d. Chief Welch advised that the IFC Summit Meeting will be in Post Falls 20-21 January and requested input regarding the future direction of the IFC.
- e. Chief Simms invited all members and their departments to the Hauser Breakfast with Santa Benefit.
- f. Chief Tyler welcomed Bob Wathen as chief of the new Sam Owen Fire Department and encouraged anyone with serviceable surplus equipment to help them out.
- g. Mark Larson has donated a computer to go to a department that is not yet reporting on NFIRS with the provision that they start to use NFIRS.

H. Thank you, to Sagle Fire for hosting the meeting.

I. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 20 February 2003 at Sandpoint Fire.

Adjournment:

President Ken Gabriel adjourned meeting

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Larry Simms