



# NORTH IDAHO FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

10728 N Hauser Lake Road  
Hauser, Idaho 83854

EDUCATION      PREVENTION      INVESTIGATION

Meeting Minutes  
August 20, 2009

The regular meeting of the North Idaho Fire Chief's Association was called to order at 1109:008 on 20 August 2009, at the Eastside Fire Dan Ryan led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- A. Minutes - Motion by Chief Dan Ryan, seconded by James Cleveland, to accept the minutes. Motion passed.
- B. Treasurer's Report – Motion by Chief Ryan, seconded by Chief Crawford, to accept the Treasurers Report, motion passed.
- C. Kenny Capaul with Board Up (Klein's) advised members of the fundraiser for the Fallen Heroes Plaza. The company owner, Rudy Klein, is donating a pig to help raise money for plaza and they will host the event just prior to the dedication. Tickets will be \$25 and there will be food and music. This should be attended by more than those in the fire service. He handed out flyers. Glen Lauper offered information on bricks. Chief Gabriel reminded us that 1800BoardUp does a lot to support the fire service.
- D. Correspondence – None
- E. Committee Reports
  - NIESA – Chief Maines has list of classes, Chief Crawford advised that the list was sent to the state (IEST); it looks like a good group of classes with the basic core classes plus others.
  - a. FODA – Fall and Spring both doing well, Chief Gabriel met with Chief Maines regarding funding from IEST—Status quo with no major changes. Discussion continued with what to do with the state fire school. Chief Maines is on the Board, with regional academies there are challenges with for state fire school. We discussed combining NIESA & the state academy. Chief Sampert advised that his commissioners have eliminated all out of town travel for training, many departments may be in the same boat. The state school used to be only show in town but that is not the case any longer. Jerry Schroeder wants to change emphasis to FF1. We may not get funds for spring FODA. Chief Costa asked about profits and

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suggested the state school may have outlived its usefulness. Chief Maines will suggest combining the state school with the North Idaho Academy.

- F. Legislative update – Letter to legislators – Chief Gabriel went over the rough draft and asked for Ideas. Dennis & Ed from Kootenai County suggested that the key is communication & education. Legislators appear to think we are “thugs” but are not getting the entire story. We need to get information and education to legislators and maybe include building officials in our efforts. AIC has established a committee and Chief Sampert observed that there is no representation from the north. We need to use the relationships we have to impact what happens at the meeting(s). Discussion on how can we get representation, HB218 came from north Idaho (Phil Hart) and Chief Marcus has requested to meet with individual legislators. Phil Hart will not communicate. Senator Getty will be happy to talk to us. We need to get to legislators in a small group to learn what issues are. We need to educate to avoid a repeat in this year legislature. Chief Costa suggested taking them out to visits of areas that are examples of what we have to deal with. Chief Gabriel pointed out that we need talking points before meeting with Legislators and also asked if our position would be different than the state chiefs association. Chief Marcus asked to be kept in the loop but that is the same problem down south. Chief Tyler discussed how we got in this situation with speaker of house. Maybe we need to have latitude with property owners such as a possible letter to an owner on limitations of service. Other points: Can we even get on the same page; maybe stronger leadership needed. Chief Sampert suggested that we need to present a unified front. Dennis suggested starting a picture record to help educate. Ben Theard discussed communication with PFFI and maybe they can help us with advocacy. Chief Sampert asked again what is state Association vs. NICFA. We don't know what the IFCA position is. Chief Marcus suggested the Commissioners association as a possible partner. Chief Sampert suggested that, as president, Chief Gabriel get a statement from IFCA as to their position very soon so we can set our position and have meaningful discussion with legislators. Chief Gabriel asked for ideas for letter within one week. Chief Lauper suggested that working with legislators one on one might make us more effective. Chiefs Gabriel, Marcus, Sampert,

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Costa and Ryan will form a committee to come up with talking points within a week...collection point Dean. Chief Lauper asked if we have any idea what Larson's position is. We need to get him on record, in writing. Chief Borders is now the Idaho Chiefs vice-president and Chief Marcus is our regional representative.

G. Dan gave update on IDABO.

H. Ali from IVFESA gave a presentation on the conference in Worley 9-25,26,27. Tyler can answer questions on live fire, Brian Ipsen for grant writing. Chief Holstein on leadership challenges for Chief Officers. Train the Trainer program to take CPR and AED to high schools. Responders oriented and can register, on website. Conference numbers getting there. Flyer on NIFCA website. Chief Tyler has volunteered time for training with live fire, will be 1403 compliant. Trailer will be in Sandpoint on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, suggested that maybe we should take a look at it. Also looking to see if the trailer would be a good tool for evaluations for FFI. IVEFSA membership is \$35.00.

I. Other Business

Chief Tyler gave a brief report on the license plate grant. \$118,558 in requests; \$50 to 55K available. Will try the same approach as last year (some is better than none) applicants may not get full request and awards will be based on who meets and touches the most people for the dollar.

Meeting adjourned

Thank you to the Eastside Fire for hosting the meeting. Next month's meeting is scheduled for Bonner County.