

NORTH IDAHO FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 3539
Post Falls, Idaho 83877



EDUCATION	PREVENTION	INVESTIGATION
President- Chief Dan Ryan		Vice President-Chief Tom Grief
Secretary-Chief James Cleveland		Treasurer-Chief Larry Simms
	Director at Large- Chief Bob Maines	

Meeting Minutes
May 16th, 2013

The regular meeting of the North Idaho Fire Chief's Association was called to order by Chief Ryan on May 16th, 2013, at 1000 hours at the Idaho Department of Lands, Kingston, ID.

ATTENDING

MARCUS

Chief Tom Grief, CDA Fire	Chief Dan Ryan, KCFR
Chief Brad Van Ert, NLFD	Chief Kevin Kleinworth
Chief Ken Gabriel, CDA Fire	Chief Warren Merrit, KCFR
Chief James Cleveland, PM Fire	Chief Heath Sheppard, KCFR
Fire Warden Len Young, IDL Cataldo	Greg Wetzal, Retired
Chief Tony Rohwasser, South Boundary	Chief Doug Allman, East Side Fire
Chief James Walcker, Shoshone Dist 1	Mark Aamodt, State Fire Marshall
Don Strong, State Fire Marshall	Chief Larry Simms, Hauser Lake Fire

- A. **Minutes** – Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made by Chief Gabriel, second by Chief Merritt motion passed.
- B. **Treasurer's Report** – Clothing sales at the academy went well and there is still money coming in from the academy itself. There are also some un-collectable accounts from as far back as 2010 that Chief Simms would like to write off. Motion to write off the bad debt and approve the treasures report, passed unanimously.
- C. **Committee Reports**
- a. Training Committee:
 - i. The training officers reviewed the academy including the various processes. There were problems noted in the lunches and clothing sales and because of that there will be focus groups to assure that all components of the academy are brought up to standard. There were verbal complaints about registering with Eventzilla but the

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evaluations came in high. Chief Simms said there were also problems with PayPal as well. Chief Simms feels that Eventzilla works great for individual events like the FODA but may not be the best for the academy with multiple classes going on in the same

- ii. Rick Lasky conference is coming up in Worley at the CDA Casino.
- iii. Appreciation cards and gift cards for those who helped with the academy. Motion by Wetzel, Second by Merritt to give \$100 for each person who volunteered 16 hours for the academy and \$300 for the Hauser Lake Auxiliary passed unanimously.
- iv. Fall FODA – They are getting a speaker for a leadership topic that will be a one day class for officer development. November 16th will be the fall FODA at the Crock Center in Coeur d'Alene. They are working on getting Goldfeder for the spring FODA.
- v. Rehab class coming up May 30 and is being put on by Masimo.

D. Idaho Fire Chiefs

- a. Chief Gabriel – There are new officers at Idaho Chief's including Dave Gates as the new president, Chief Tyler is the new District 1 representative with Chief Riley as an alternate, Chief Blubaum is now the Training Committee Chair.
- b. Chief Gabriel talked about the different committees at the state level and concern about low participation levels and how that impacts everyone.
- c. The Idaho Chiefs conference was not well attended with only 50 or so participants. Chief Gabriel talked about the numbers being down and expressed a concern that it may be because of the lack of value that the conference gives. Chief Allman discussed the possibility of getting the conference moved to the weekend to improve volunteer agency attendance and expressed concern about the dues for the Idaho Fire Chiefs Association being difficult for small volunteer agencies..
- d. Chief Gabriel talked about the changes in regard to mutual aid within the state with the new mutual aid plan that has been developed. Chief Marcus said there were several things clarified concerning the plan at the state chief's conference. Chief Marcus feels that there will be an increase in mutual aid use now that the plan is in place. The first 12 hours can be provided free of charge to the requesting agency, but it is not automatically free.
- e. Chief Merritt asked about a charge that was mentioned concerning air attack resources. Warden Young talked about ordering air resources and stated

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- that the best course of action is to get into a joint command and allow the wildfire agencies to order the air resources because of the cost.
- f. There was some discussion about incident management teams and Chief Simms stated that the all hazard teams are going to be shadowing the wildfire type 3 teams this year as an educational opportunity. Warden Young talked about the organization of the incident management teams and the lack of management teams in the south part of the state.
 - g. Chief K talked about the Idaho Fire Chiefs conference and was happy about it as he came from Nevada and said that the Nevada Chiefs do not put on a conference and it was very enlightening and beneficial to him.
 - h. Chief Simms expressed his thanks to Chief Merritt and those that were involved in hosting the Idaho Fire Chiefs Conference.
 - i. Chief Gabriel stated that he would like to see the dues reduced overall but specifically for volunteer agencies. He said that it needs to be taken to the Idaho Chief's Association for consideration.
 - j. Chief Merritt discussed that Washington State uses vendor sponsors for their conferences and this helps in reducing dues and other expenses.

E. Legislative Update

- i. Discussion of the changes to the EMS rules and regulations including that there will be a follow up report to the legislature on June 12 concerning them. The state is looking to move toward licensing counties and not individual agencies. Chief Gabriel feels that there may be a recommendation to not support the proposed changes. Chief Simms said that he feels the state is overstepping their authority in asking for audited financial records from agencies that have a license. He stated that there are still problems with data submission and the use of optional modules within the agency as well.

F. Other Business

- a. Chief Ryan attended the cost sharing webinar. There is a link on the agenda to attend and review the webinar as it is recorded. Chief Merritt felt that there needs to be mutual aid and payment legislation that can help pay for large fires in local jurisdictions that mirrors legislation of other states. Chief Gabriel says that there is money available through the Governors discretionary fund.

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- b. Chief Marcus talked about the BHS resource tracking database and recommends not updating their information as there is a new database that will be coming out.
- c. Liability insurance has been renewed and paid for the Association. The deductible has been increased to save us some money on the policy.
- d. The North Idaho Type 3 incident management team plan needs to be signed by the Association. The agreement includes delegation of authority, the mobilization of the teams and other components. The agreement is signed by the several regional agencies including the North Idaho Chiefs. Chief Gabriel moved to approve, motion passed.
- e. A press release has gone out about the new online burn permit system. Warden Young stated that the new system opened up on May 10th and provided a handout with information about the new system. Warden Young said that there are problems with the system and there will likely be problems. Don Wagner is the contact point for this and everyone is asked to forward all problems to him.
- f. Chief Cleveland has given notice to his department and is resigning as the secretary of the association. Chief Gabriel moves to replace Chief Cleveland with Chief Simms on an interim basis and then come back next month with a formal nomination for the position.
- g. Chief Simms is planning on changing web hosting. It is still in the works and it should reduce the cost to the Association
- h. Motion to adjourn by Merritt second by Young.

G. Thank you to Cataldo IDL for hosting and snacks! Next Meeting will be June 20th, 2013 at 1000hrs at Timberlake Fire.