

Iowa Firefighters Association
Convention Meeting
September 12, 2021 – Grinnell Fire Station

President Nick Riley called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Chaplain Tony D. Ede gave the invocation

Resolution #1:

Whereas the firefighter's association is meeting today in Grinnell, Iowa to hold our annual convention business. Whereas we applaud the Grinnell Fire Department on putting on a fantastic convention. Read by Gene Evans. All in attendance gave a standing ovation.

Introduction of Guests:

Muscular Dystrophy Association – No report. The Board passed around the MDA donation book. We collected \$330 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

State Fire Marshal – Dan Wood gave a brief report. They had 63 departments apply for grants and they were able to award 55 of those departments.

ESTB – Bureau Chief John Kraemer gave a brief update. He mentioned that they continued to receive an additional \$50,000 to use towards training. They are loving the new facilities at the new camp Dodge location. It is helping them save a lot of money which in return helps them offer more trainings. They have been fortunate to continue to receive SAFER grants for the last 4 or 5 years. The bureau will be able to offer computer based service testing next month. Their Pro Board Accreditation site visit has been scheduled for December.

Iowa Department of Public Safety – No report.

Iowa Fire Chiefs Association – Roger Biesen gave a brief update and mentioned that their seminar is coming up.

Iowa Association of Professional Fire Chiefs – Their fall professional development day is scheduled for October 5-7, 2021.

Iowa Emergency Management Association – No report.

Iowa EMS Association – No report.

Consortium of Community Colleges – No report.

Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors – No report.

Iowa Hazmat Task Force – No report.

Iowa Association of Arson Investigators – No report.

Other IFA Guests – No other guests

Approval of Minutes from Midyear Meeting: **A motion was made by Roger Carr and seconded by Britney Deeringer to approve the Midyear minutes with the correction to John and Cyndi's report. All approved.**

Executive Directors Report: Taylor thanked Grinnell for putting on an amazing convention. She mentioned that her and the AAM staff had a great time and enjoyed their first convention. They were able to learn the ins and outs of running the drills competition and voting credentials. Since we last met at Mid-Year, Taylor has finished the new IFA website and that new site is now live. Alyssa and Taylor have continued to fix and update membership. Taylor mentioned that 2022 renewal forms will be going out in the next couple weeks.

Legislative Report: Cyndi gave the legislative report and reminded everyone that we are in the second year. She touched on SF 619, and the fireworks grant fund. She reminded everyone to get their \$250 tax credit. John and Cyndi worked with EMS to get some funding as an essential service. Some items for the 2022 legislative session that they will be working on is a grant program for a firefighter diagnosed with cancer. Minnesota passed a similar bill. Cindy asked if there was anything we needed them to work on for the 2022 Legislative Session. They are looking into a bill that Minnesota got passed that would establish a grant fund that would provide funds for a firefighter diagnosed cancer or heart disease.

Financial Report: Taylor gave the financial report, which was included with the agenda and previous meeting minutes.

Quick break at 9:55

Reconvened at 10:05

Officers Reports:

1st Vice President, Jason Barrick– Jason thanked everyone for attending and thanked Grinnell for their hospitality. He also informed everyone that he has presented several years of service awards and have a couple more to do this month. He also mentioned that it is great to hear about several people wanting to run for 5th Vice, which is great to see. He ended by talking a little bit about his upcoming plans for the next year.

2nd Vice President, Chuck Raska – Chuck thanked everyone for attending and gave a quick update. He gave an update on his health and thanks everyone for their support. He mentioned that he went to the memorial back in June. He also touched on a couple goals for the IFA.

3rd Vice President, Roger Carr – Roger thanked Grinnell and everyone for attending this week. He mentioned that he has had the honor to present several length of service awards and attended several firefighter funerals. He also encouraged everyone to run for 5th Vice.

4th Vice President, Aaron Clemons – Aaron thanked everyone for attending and thanked Grinnell for a wonderful convention. Aaron mentioned he has had a busy summer personally. But he was able to attend the State Fair and help with the Hall of Flame.

5th Vice President, Kent Brix – Kent thanked everyone for coming and asked all the first timers to please stand up and be recognized. He also mentioned that he has attended several funerals and length of service award ceremonies. He also thanked everyone for their support.

Past President, Gene Evans – Gene mentioned that he was voted onto the board and finished his time on the board both in Grinnell. He has truly enjoyed his time on the board. He touched on the difficult time the board had needing to fire and hire a new management team. He thanked everyone and his wife for their continued support.

President, Nick Riley – Nick thanked Grinnell for putting on a great convention. He has attending several funerals since we last met at the Iowa Firefighter Memorial. He went on to thank each of his board members individually. Nick mentioned that he forgot to thank his wife in his final article as the IFA President, and not a day goes by that he doesn't hear about it. Nick also thanked his smoking hot wife for all of her support.

Credentials Report: Brian reported that we have a quorum for this meeting. There was a total of 32 departments represented and 1,072 total votes. Anamosa – 30, Atlantic – 41, Belle Plaine – 40, Chariton – 41, Cumberland – 45, Dyersville – 68, Edgewood – 25, Eldora – 33, Forest City – 46, Garner – 35, Garrison – 23, Granger – 12, Grand Mound – 21, Grinnell – 42, Harlan – 34, Hawkeye – 25, Holland – 20, Iowa Falls – 33, Jesup – 37, Le Mars – 62, Low Moor – 13, Manchester – 36, Maquoketa – 34, Hansell – 20, North Liberty – 27, Osage – 48, Radcliffe – 26, Solon – 41, Stuart – 30, Traer – 35, Waucoma – 23, Wellsburg – 26.

Proxy/Absentee Report: 11 towns, 340 votes. Anamosa – 30, Chariton – 41, Dunkerton - 25, Hawkeye – 25, Jesup – 37, Jewell 23, Le Mars – 62, Mechanicsville 20, Plainfield 24, Stuart – 30, West Union 23. Jack reminded everyone that they can't file both credentials

and a proxy vote. **A motion was made by Chuck Raska and seconded by Gene Evans to approve the credentials report.**

Other Resolutions: No other resolutions

Drill Rules Committee: Chuck mentioned that there were some issues that came up during drills yesterday, so the drills committee will get together and see if there is anything that we need to clean up.

State Fair Committee: Rusty mentioned that they had a great state fair. He mentioned that they had to restrict a bunch of items due to covid, but overall had a great State Fair.

Memorial Committee: Mike Reuman didn't have anything to report.

NVFC: Roger mentioned that they have not met in person for the last couple years due to covid. Roger and Marv plan to go to the Spring conference next Spring and they will be attending the Fall meeting in Wyoming. Roger mentioned that Anheuser Busch continues to donate free drinking water for firefighters. He mentioned that all you need to do is log onto the NVFC website and fill out a form, and the water will be delivered to your department.

Other Committee Reports: Jason mentioned that he is continuing to work on the convention host city document. There was conversation about the electrical boxes for convention and what we need to do going forward.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business.

Election/Installation of Officers: A motion was made by Dave Zimple and seconded by Kirk Rice that we advance all the chairs up one slot and open nominations for 5th Vice president. All approved. Nick Riley passed the gavel to Jason Barrick and presented him with his new President's badge, nametag and business cards. Jason Barrick then presented Gene Evans with his new Past President's hat, badge, pin, nametag, and business cards.

Brad Wickham and Nolan Newhall nominated Mike Kime for 5th Vice Candidate. **A motion was made by Jack Runge and seconded by Marv Trimble to call for a unanimous ballot for 5th Vice President since there was only one candidate. All approved.**

Foundation: A motion was made by Nick Riley and seconded by Chuck Raska to approve the new officers for the Foundation Board. All approved. 10:53 am Regular Meeting closed, and Foundation meeting opened. Memorial Foundation General Account \$17,497.22, Memorial Foundation Savings Account \$75,229.13. **A motion was**

made by Nick Riley to approve the new 2021-22 board as the new Foundation board, seconded by Chuck Raska. All approved. 11:00 am Foundation meeting closed, and Regular meeting resumed.

Jason asked the membership if anyone had any questions on the new electronic voting resolution. Jack Runge gave a deeper explanation of the electronic voting process.
A motion was made by Rick Penning and seconded by Brittney Deeringer to approve Resolution #2. All Approved.

New Business: No new business.

Good of the Association: Dan with Grinnell, thanked everyone for attending this year and being respectful. Brittney Deeringer and Rick both announced that they will be running for 5th Vice next year. There was also discussion on Conventions getting out of hand and what we are going to do to try and hold attendees accountable. There were recommendations that the board put together a letter to send out to all fire chiefs informing them of the issues and reminding them to police their own departments.

The new chaplain wanted to thank Todd Edecker for his service as the IFA Chaplain

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Edgewood and seconded by Roger Carr to adjourn at 11:21 pm.