

Iowa Firefighters Association

Board of Directors' Meeting

Sunday, October 28, 2018

Stuart, IA

Present: 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Nick Riley; 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Jason Barrick; 4<sup>th</sup> VP, Chuck Raska; 5<sup>th</sup> VP, Roger Carr; Past President, Marv Trimble; President, James Shutts; Executive Director, Amber Kephart; Ellen Hagen, Jewell; Bob Hagen, Jewel; Cliff Renslow, Stuart; Don Scott, Redfield; Josh Renslow, Stuart; Levi Johnson, Sutart; Mike Kalback, Stuart; Stephen Martinson, Stuart; Jami Schroeder-Carr, Holland; Rob Edgar, Waverly; Steph Cam, Stuart; Mike Renslow, Stuart; Matt Funk, Stuart; Alicia Lidtke, Elberon; Patrick Cornwell, Green Mountain; Cyndi Pederson, Des Moines; Dan Wood, Des Moines.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by President James Shutts

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Past President Marv Trimble. It was seconded by 5<sup>th</sup> VP Roger Carr. Motion carried.

**Guests:**

Fire Marshal Dan Wood gave an update on the computer based testing that is scheduled to go live January 1, 2019.

Patrick Cornwell from Green Mountain discussed the tax levy rate that is currently set and would like to see this be a legislative topic to raise that amount.

A change was made from the June 9, 2018 meeting minutes. The first change was to change the location from Riverside to Solon and to remove Mark McNeese making a motion to approve the agenda and put Jason Barrick.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2018 Board of Directors' Meeting was made by 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Nick Riley. It was seconded by 5<sup>th</sup> VP Roger Carr. Motion carried.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Things have been a little bit more quiet this month compared to last month, but still very busy. I have been getting ready to send out the statements for 2019, getting our new 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President, Roger Carr set up for his term, and sending out several certificates for Years of Service Awards. I have also issued several checks for Mutual Aid benefit this month. I attended CITA Fire School. Our booth had good foot traffic in the morning selling merchandise and firefighters asking about the Association. Roger even came in the afternoon to see what it was all about and got to answer a few questions. I will be attending NATA Fire School in Fort Dodge, my goal is to be more present to answer questions and bring awareness to what the IFA does for firefighters in Iowa.

**Membership Report:**

Total Association membership as of October 26, 2018 is at 14,129, which is up from 2017. Total Mutual Aid membership as of October 26, 2018 is 2,324

### **Financial Report**

As of September 30, 2018 the total assets for the Association were \$449,096.12. Total assets for the Iowa Firemen's Foundation were \$71,698.79.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Don Scott from Redfiled. It was seconded by Cliff Renslow from Stuart. Motion carried.

### **Officer Reports:**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Nick Riley**

We had tumblers made up to give out as gifts for our states networking meeting. We will be selling them as well for \$18.69 with tax is \$20.

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> VP Jason Barrick**

I would like to thank the Stuart fire department for hosting our meeting today. Friday I had the opportunity to go to the visitation of Tom Henrichs with Chuck and James. We stopped by the church for the visitation and then we were invited into the family's home for some good conversation. It was very humbling to me to be able to sit at the kitchen table and listen to the stories they had about Tom. I never knew him but from the stories that were told in that brief time we were there, he sounded like one great person. We had our states networking on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, it was another good year to listen to the comments and concerns from Iowa and the surrounding states. Friendly reminder to please fill out your cancer registry survey as this will better help different organizations understand the effect cancer has on the fire service. All of your information will be kept confidential both with the IFSB and the University of Iowa where the study will go. If you or someone you know is been affected by cancer please fill out the short survey so we can help.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> VP Chuck Raska**

At convention we discussed the decline in drills. We have a meeting schedule in Story City on November 18, to discuss the drills. We have limited it to 2 people per department due to capacity. We don't want to recreate the drills, we want to maintain the integrity of the drills and learn how to help promote them, possibly get a new drill or 2 going. We know there are a lot of concerns as well and we want to hear from everyone and maybe we can come up with some new ideas.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> VP Roger Carr**

I would like to thank Stuart fire department for hosting us. I am extremely humbled to be sitting here. I have been working to learn the roles and rules that I am supposed to be doing. I received my red coat, which is a huge honor. I attended a funeral in Dyersville and it was a humbling and honoring feeling. I attended CITA Fire School to help Amber. I asked a lot of questions to see what all she does there. I attended the states meeting and was extremely impressed with the amount of knowledge in that room. I strongly encourage you to get the cancer registry form filled out and sent to Amber.

### **Past President Marv Trimble:**

I would like to thank Stuart for hosting, this turnout is wonderful. My first year on the board we had 5 legislative talking points that all made it through the House and Senate, then all got vetoed. We went back with 8 items the next year and put the year prior 5 topics at the top. When I started as President I wanted to start a cancer registry. Fire doesn't care if you're being paid or not, it doesn't pick and choose who it's going to target. If we can get this cancer registry going, and give actual numbers to our legislators, then we may have a leg to stand on in the future with them.

**President James Shutts:**

I would like to thank Stuart for hosting us, you have a wonderful station. We met with Skylar and had a very productive meeting. The states networking meeting was wonderful. I was able to get a lot of great information from that meeting. We no longer have to have the notary to get the firefighter plates. We will continue working with the DOT to make this a little easier to get these plates. I attended the funeral visitation for Tom Henrichs as well. I did one years of service award at my own department.

Committee Reports:

**NVFC- Marv Trimble**

Got to nvfc.org and look up the Lavender Report. Share the Load Program is out there as well. I wasn't really aware of what the NVFC did until I became a member. They have done stuff nationally that we are now discussing locally. The NVFC also offers 60 classes online that you can do and get certificates for, be sure to pass along to your training officers. I attended the conference in Bismarck, North Dakota, there are 49 states involved, Hawaii is not because there are no volunteer firefighters.

**Legislative- John Pederson**

\*DOT License plate update

The latest draft was sent by email to board for comment. The new language strikes the notarization requirement and re-wording to leave the language a little more discretionary in the future about in what manner we can receive an application. They also mentioned that hopefully, someday, it will mean an electronic submission in some way. Next steps:

At this point, the rule chapter must be approved at the department level. That means it will go to the department director for his review and get him to sign off. Once that happens, we will send out the draft to stakeholders for comment. We will receive another copy and opportunity to ask any further questions or comment. This process will also allow us to add remarks of support for the draft. Our comments will then be included as it goes to the rules committee. Showing our support will help the passage of the language. Tim feels it will be most likely January before it gets complete

Review of Poker Run

We registered 33 \$10 poker players and sold 23 "mulligan cards" for \$5.00 each. Total take was \$445.00

We paid out the top 3 places; 1st place was 20% of take= \$89.00, 2nd place was 10% of take= \$44.50, 3rd place was 5% of take= \$22.25. This netted the PAC \$289.25

By Iowa law we could only deal cards for 24 hours. Those who played seemed to have a good time. In the future it would be helpful to have the band or allow a board member to announce the game and have better notification of this opportunity. We feel it will grow over time.

Mid-Year PAC ideas: \*50/50 card draw, Bags, we are donating the decanter for a live auction, Scott Bush the owner of Templeton Rye is producing special vats of whiskey at his new distillery in West Des Moines. A 5 gallon barrel will make approx. 30 bottles. He quoted us a price of \$50 per bottle with a personalized label for IFA. We could sell these as a limited edition and raise the price to meet our fundraising goal. The Foundry Distilling Co. is just getting open. We are continuing conversations with him.

#### PAC Contributions

After convention we were advised that there was \$1,131.02 in the PAC fund. Five PAC checks were sent to Representatives that helped us last year. After the election we would like to give more checks to the designated leaders. There is a potential there could be new leaders. We will send out a list for your approval after the election.

#### 2019 Legislative Agenda

We met with Skylar along with Marv and Jim in mid October. He is continuing to working on language that we can take to a member of the majority party after the election. We will try to run them simultaneously if possible.

#### **Convention Report- Rob Edgar**

Registration was down from 2016 which was at 2,170 to this year 1,848. There was around 900 people that used the website to preregister. 1,528 out of 1,560 campsites were sold. 61 teams signed up for co-ed waterball, 16 teams for old timers waterball, 63 teams for women's waterball, 524 total golfers, and 59 total teams for bowling. There were only 13 registrations turned in for the parade.

#### **Good of the Association:**

Ellen Hagen, Past President, gave an update on the Poster Program. A suggestion was made to go to each school for the winners instead of having a big luncheon. Each year, the attendance is lower. In 2015 there were 52 schools and in 2017 there were 23 schools. There is a lot of work and a lot of money that goes into the luncheon.

Washington National Insurance would like to partner with IFA. They offer supplemental insurance policies for cancer, heart/stroke and accidents at very affordable group rates for firefighters. Washington National does not want a copy of our membership list. They want our endorsement to put our logo on their letters when they meet with departments.

A motion was made to endorse Washington National Insurance by 4<sup>th</sup> VP Chuck Raska. It was seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Nick Riley. Motion carried.

Firefighter Day on the Hill is January 31, 2019

A motion was made by Past President Marv Trimble to adjourn. It was seconded by 5<sup>th</sup> VP Roger Carr. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Submitted by

Amber Kephart

Executive Director