

**FEDERATION OF STATE AND PROVINCIAL
PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS**
Minutes of the meeting held in Rapid City, South Dakota
Radisson Hotel
September 23-24, 2004

Note: The list of members and organizations that were represented at this meeting is found on the last page of these minutes.

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Vice Chairman Peter Reagan called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The Ellsworth Air Force Honor Guard posted the colors.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced Steve Dirksen, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of South Dakota. Steve welcomed everyone to South Dakota. Joe Conway, IAFF 5th District Vice President thanked Steve for the invitation to attend the meeting and he also welcomed everyone to the 5th District. Other guests welcoming the attendees to Rapid City were Local President Rod Seals, Chief Gary Shepard, Mayor Jim Shaw, and State AFL-CIO President Gil Koetzle.

Mike Drury informed the attendees that former Wisconsin State President Ted Ryan recently passed away. A moment of silence was observed for Ted and all other Brothers and Sisters who passed away since the last meeting.

Ken Donnelly informed everyone that Chairman McCarthy would not be in attendance at this meeting due to other important obligations in Massachusetts.

Vice-Chairman Reagan called on Secretary-Treasurer Chesney to give his report. Secretary-Treasurer Terrence Chesney presented the minutes of the Spring 2004 meeting. **It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Secretary-Treasurer Chesney presented the financial statement for review. **It was moved and seconded to receive and place on file the financial statement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Secretary-Treasurer Chesney reported that there were no new applications for Financial Assistance Grants. He also reported that the Grant fund has been deleted but several members have stated they are willing to contribute if the need arises.

Vice Chairman Reagan appointed Pete Carozza, Jay Eaton, and Jim Judd to serve on the elections committee. He announced that nominations for office would take place after the morning break.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. General President Schaitberger thanked everyone for their support of the IAFF Executive Board resolution package at the Convention. Passage of these resolutions will advance the services provided to locals to a new level. He also announced that a task force of IAFF staff has been sent to Florida to assist with members affected by the recent series of hurricanes. General President Schaitberger gave a very detailed update on the status of the Kerry campaign. GP Schaitberger also informed the attendees that Alaska recently formed a State Association.

A long discussion took place between GP Schaitberger and the attendees regarding the recent endorsement of President George Bush by Local 94-New York City. There appeared to be a consensus to introduce a resolution at the next IAFF Convention to address endorsement issues and policies.

Vice Chairman Reagan thanked GP Schaitberger for attending the meeting and stated the meeting would recess for a short break.

When the meeting resumed, Vice Chairman Reagan introduced Dr. Schlesinger who gave a presentation on an inexpensive product for testing fire fighters for bladder cancer. The product is made by a company called Matritech.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced representatives from the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Two short videos were shown highlighting MDA's partnership with the IAFF for the last 50 years. The representatives thanked everyone for their support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Vice Chairman Reagan called upon the election committee to conduct the nominations for the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer.

The incumbent officers, Chairman Bob McCarthy, Vice Chairman Peter Reagan, and Secretary-Treasurer Chesney, were all nominated and reelected to office by unanimous vote. Vice Chairman Reagan thanked the election committee.

Vice Chairman Reagan announced that bids would be accepted for the site of the Fall 2006 meeting. Oklahoma and Washington both expressed interest in hosting the meeting. Chairman Reagan announced that members would vote on the Fall 2006 meeting site on Friday morning.

Several Associations gave updates on recent activities in their States.

Vice Chairman Reagan called for a recess of the meeting until 8:30 am on Friday. The meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m.

Friday, September 24, 2004

Vice Chairman Reagan called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m.

A vote was conducted to determine if Washington or Oklahoma will host the 2006 Fall meeting. Vice Chairman Reagan announced that Washington will be the site of the Fall 2005 FSPPFF meeting.

The remaining States and Provinces gave their Association reports.

Vice Chairman Reagan announced that the floor was open for any new business items.

A motion was made and seconded to have the FSPPFF send a letter to Local 94 expressing our displeasure with the choice and timing of their endorsement of President Bush. After a long discussion, the motion passed.

Vice Chairman Reagan stated that North Dakota and Alaska would be invited to attend the FSPPFF meetings.

It was suggested that all Associations provide a link to the Labor History Society on their websites.

A discussion took place about the need for the IAFF to develop a member orientation program for new members. It was suggested that this be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Peter Reagan thanked the Professional Fire Fighters of South Dakota for their hospitality and generosity during the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.