

# **FEDERATION OF STATE AND PROVINCIAL PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS**

**Minutes of the meeting held in Seattle, Washington**

**The Edgewater Hotel**

**September 28-29-30, 2006**

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

## **Thursday, September 28, 2006**

Secretary-Treasurer Chesney called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A moment of silence was observed for all Brothers and Sisters who passed away since the last meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Chesney announced that Chairman McCarthy would not be in attendance until Friday due to his involvement with the Fire Fighter Memorial issue in Massachusetts. He also announced that Vice Chairman Pete Reagan would be unable to attend this meeting due to legislative matters in Arkansas. Secretary-Treasurer Chesney stated that unless there was an objection, he would serve as Acting Chairman for today's meeting.

Kelly Fox, President of the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters, welcomed everyone to Washington and Seattle. Brother Fox introduced several members of the WSCFF Executive Board.

Ricky Walsh, 7<sup>th</sup> District Vice President of the IAFF also welcomed everyone. He gave a brief report on some of the issues that locals are dealing with in the 7<sup>th</sup>.

General President Schaitberger began by thanking everyone for helping to make the IAFF Convention a great success. He gave a brief report on the significant resolutions that were adopted by the delegates. He also gave recognition and credit to the entire IAFF Executive Board and to the IAFF Staff members for making the convention such a positive experience for everyone that attended.

General President Schaitberger gave a very detailed overview of the new services being offered by the IAFF Financial Corporation. One of the newest features is the opening of a virtual bank. All of the rates and services are comparable to most other financial institutions. He urged everyone to encourage their members to participate and to remind them that some profits from the IAFF Financial Corporation are directed into the IAFF general fund.

GP Schaitberger also spoke about the IAFF Legislative Program, the IAFF FIRE PAC, the mid-term House and Senate races, and select targeted State Governor races. He stated that with so many House seats in play, there is a strong likelihood of the Democrats winning the majority in the House. He urged everyone to continue working hard to get our friends elected.

GP Schaitberger also reported that the IAFF is being courted by several potential 2008 Presidential candidates from both parties. He stated that there is a possibility of the IAFF hosting a candidate forum in conjunction with the IAFF Legislative Conference in 2007.

GP Schaitberger answered several questions on a variety of subjects. A very lengthy discussion took place about how the FSPFF and the IAFF could improve the coordination of services to members. The discussion revolved around the increase in services being provided by the IAFF and how that impacts State and Provincial Associations. Some members also voiced concern about how continuing per capita tax increase requests by the IAFF will impact the State and Provincial Associations and visa-versa. After hearing input from many members, GP Schaitberger stated that he would consider further dialogue and brainstorming on this subject with a subcommittee of representatives of the FSPFFA sometime in the immediate future if everyone felt it would be beneficial. Secretary-Treasurer Chesney stated that the group will give consideration to this matter on Friday when Chairman McCarthy returns.

S/T Chesney thanked GP Schaitberger for taking the time to attend the meeting and for spending the extra time with us.

Acting Chairman Chesney stated the meeting would recess for a short break. S/T Chesney called the meeting back to order.

Acting Chairman Chesney stated that the FSPFF Constitution & By-Laws states that the election of officers shall take place at the fall meeting following the IAFF Convention. He appointed Mike Stockstead, Pete Carozza, and Jim Judd to serve as the election committee. Letters from Bob McCarthy and Pete Reagan were read. Both brothers expressed their regrets for not being able to attend the meeting and that they both desired to continue to serve in their current positions and that they would accept a nomination do to so. Brother Stockstead ran the nomination process. Bob McCarthy was elected Chairman by acclamation, Pete Reagan was elected Vice Chairman by acclamation, and Terry Chesney was elected Secretary-Treasurer by acclamation.

Acting Chairman Chesney opened the floor for nominations for hosts for the Spring 2009 FSPFF meeting. CPF President Lou Paulson stated that his California would like to host the next meeting date that was available. California was the only nominee for the Spring 2009 meeting and therefore, they were awarded the bid. Acting Chairman Chesney reminded everyone that the dates for the Fall 2007 FSPFF meeting in Oklahoma have been changed to September 27-29, 2007.

Louie Wright, IAFF 2<sup>nd</sup> District VP gave a presentation on legal issues surrounding MDA "Fill the Boot" campaigns and suggested various ways to overcome them. He stated that if anyone continues to have a problem getting approval for Fill the Boot campaigns he would be happy to help them out. A discussion took place regarding injuries sustained by IAFF members while conducting "Fill the Boot" campaigns. Because of these incidents, MDA recently re-evaluated their insurance policy and increased the coverage. Many members stated that they no longer conduct their drives in busy street intersections; instead they do it at storefronts and parking lots of busy shopping areas to decrease the risk of injuries.

Acting Chairman Chesney called for a recess of the meeting until 8:30 am on Friday. The meeting recessed at 12:35 p.m.

**Friday, September 29, 2006**

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m. Chairman McCarthy expressed his thanks to the membership for their understanding of why he needed to be absent on Thursday. He thanked Secretary-Treasurer Chesney for running the meeting in his absence.

**Secretary-Treasurer Terrence Chesney presented the minutes of the Spring 2006 meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Secretary-Treasurer Chesney presented the financial statement for the period from May 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. It was moved and seconded to receive and place on file the financial statement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Allen Sandifer and Jeff Noble of American Equity gave a presentation on the services that they offer and provide to fire fighters.

Rick Merrill, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Illinois, announced that plans are being made for a retirement party for David Foreman and that everyone will be mailed the final details then they are finalized.

Several Associations gave updates on recent activities in their States.

Chairman McCarthy stated the floor was open for unfinished and new business. Discussion took place regarding the dialogue with GP Schaitberger the day before. Several suggestions for motions were offered and discussed. Eventually, the following motion was made, seconded, and adopted:

**A motion was made and seconded for Chairman McCarthy to appoint a representative of the FSPPFF from each IAFF District to a subcommittee for the purpose of meeting to define goals and objectives of the FSPPFF, and to outline issues that the members of the FSPPFF would like to discuss with GP Schaitberger. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman McCarthy asked for a show of hands on who would be interested in serving on the subcommittee. Chairman McCarthy appointed the following members to the subcommittee:

**Charles Morello  
Leroy Wilkison  
Kelly Fox  
Timothy Hill  
Michael McDonnell  
David Lang**

**Sherwood Smith  
Michael Stockstead  
Paul Hufnagel  
Guy Turner  
Peter Reagan  
Bob McCarthy**

**Frank Montanaro  
Fred LeBlanc  
Rusty McAllister  
Bob Carver  
Lou Paulson  
Terrence H. Chesney**

LeRoy Wilkison, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Maryland thanked everyone for their show of support for their resolution requesting that the IAFF create a nationwide Fire Fighter Presumptive Disability Database. He urged everyone to email any

presumption database information to Rich Duffy as soon as possible to expedite and assist with the creation of the database.

Chairman McCarthy stated the meeting would recess for a short break. Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order.

Carrie Tucker of the IAFF Financial Corporation gave an overview of the IAFF-FC Virtual Bank and how it works. Several members stated that they are using it already and have found it easy to use and beneficial to their members. Carrie encouraged everyone to consider signing up and to call her if they have any questions or concerns.

Several Associations gave updates on recent activities in their States.

Representatives from the regional offices of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and a local MDA Ambassador family made a brief presentation and thanked everyone for their support.

Chairman McCarthy called for a recess of the meeting until 8:30 am on Saturday. The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m.

### **Saturday, September 30, 2006**

The remainder of the Associations present gave updates on recent activities in their States.

Chairman McCarthy asked if anyone else had any business prior to adjournment.

On behalf of the membership, Chairman McCarthy thanked the WSCFF for their gracious hospitality and for hosting the meeting.

**A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.**