

**Minutes of the meeting held on  
May 3-4-5, 2001  
Embassy Suites Downtown/Old Market  
Omaha, Nebraska**

**Guests:**

IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger

IAFF 2nd District VP Louis Wright

IAFF 8th District VP Thomas Miller

IAFF 5th District VP Joseph Conway

IAFF 14th District VP Danny Todd

IAFF VP Emeritus Bob Palmer

Eric Lamar, Assistant to the GP for Education and Training

Kevin O'Conner, Assistant to the GP for Governmental and Public Affairs

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

**Thursday, May 3, 2001**

Vice Chairman Peter Reagan called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. He stated that Chairman Robert McCarthy would not be able to attend the meeting due to important legislative matters that were occurring in his home state of Massachusetts. A moment of silence was observed for brother and sister firefighters who passed away since the last meeting.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced Ken Pollard, President of the Nebraska Professional Fire Fighters. Brother Pollard welcomed everyone to Omaha, Nebraska and also introduced members of his Executive Board and members from the Omaha and Lincoln locals that were in attendance. Brother Pollard also welcomed Bob Palmer, IAFF 2ndth District Vice President Emeritus. Louie Wright, IAFF 2nd District Vice President also welcomed everyone to the 2nd District.

Vice Chairman Reagan also welcomed and recognized IAFF 8th District VP Tom Miller, IAFF 5th District VP Joe Conway, and IAFF 14th District VP Danny Todd to the meeting.

Vice Chairman Reagan recognized and welcomed all the newly elected State and Provincial officers that were in attendance.

Secretary-Treasurer Terrence Chesney presented the minutes of the Fall 2000 meeting. It was moved and supported to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Chesney presented the financial statement for review. It was moved and supported to accept the financial statement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Chesney stated that there were no Financial Assistance Applications for consideration at this meeting.

Vice Chairman Reagan appointed Duane Dixon, Tony Bickmore, and Leslie Dexter to serve as the audit committee.

Vice Chairman Reagan asked if there were any States or Provinces that desired to host the Spring 2003 meeting. Dennis Doan, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Idaho stated that Idaho would like to host the Spring 2003 meeting at the Coeur d'Alene Resort on May 8-9-10, 2003. Since there were no other requests to host the Spring 2003 meeting, Vice Chairman Reagan declared that Idaho would be the host for that meeting.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. General President Harold Schaitberger stated that General Secretary-Treasurer Bollon was out of the country and would not be able to attend this meeting.

General President Harold Schaitberger outlined the many changes that he has made within the internal structure of the IAFF to improve the way the IAFF does business. He spoke about the office computerization systems and the improved GIS program, the redesigned, interactive, website that will be unveiled at the EMS Conference, new methods for the education of members, interaction and partnership with the states and provinces, better use of available technology, and changes in the way field services will be provided.

General President Harold Schaitberger gave an overview and summary of the events that led to the historic passage of NFPA 1710 and stated that the work for a guide to assist locals with the implementation of the standard has already begun. He acknowledged the efforts of everyone that was involved with this effort.

He also spoke about the demographics of the last Presidential election. He stated that he was working with other labor unions to establish the Union Sportsman of America so our members who hunt, fish, and shoot have an alternative to the NRA. He also stated that he will take a more active role in the IAFF's involvement and partnership with the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

He also stated that he is keeping his ear to the ground as he continues to visit fire stations when he is out on the road. He believes that this is an excellent way to find out what issues are important to the members of the IAFF.

At the conclusion of his presentation General President Harold Schaitberger answered several questions about a variety of topics from the membership.

Vice Chairman Reagan thanked General President Harold Schaitberger for attending the meeting and for allowing the other members of the IAFF staff that are making a presentation later in the meeting to also attend.

Vice Chairman Reagan led a discussion on the IAFF policy for submitting names for the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Colorado. General President Harold Schaitberger sent a letter to the FSPPFF stating that there is an ongoing review of the IAFF policy.

Vice Chairman Reagan led a discussion on the proposed by-law change which would create Emeritus membership for long-time members of the FSPPFF. It was moved and supported to adopt the motion to amend the by-laws and create emeritus positions for the FSPPFF. A long discussion took place on the pros and cons of creating Emeritus positions. Members discussed the differences between honorary and emeritus. It was moved and supported to amend the by-law change to strike the word "vote" from the proposal. Additional discussion took place on the amendment. It was then moved and supported to amend the amendment by striking out the entire last sentence which read: "The position does provide the honoree the privilege of a voice and a vote on union issues." Discussion on the motion continued. It was then moved and supported to table all action on the motion. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Reagan called on several states to give their reports.

A discussion took place regarding the IAFF/IAFC Leadership Partnership program.

Vice Chairman Reagan announced that the meeting will recess for the day and will resume at 8:30 a.m. on Friday. The meeting recessed at 11:30 a.m.

#### **Friday, May 4, 2001**

Vice Chairman Reagan called the meeting back to order at 8:40 a.m.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced Kevin O'Conner, Assistant to the GP for Governmental and Public Affairs. Kevin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Partners in Politics Program (PIP). Kevin thanked everyone for their assistance on federal legislative matters.

Dennis Doan, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of Idaho gave an update on a recent State Supreme Court decision which involved sub-contracting issues.

Vice Chairman Reagan asked the Audit Committee to give their report. The committee reported that they reviewed the revenues and expenditures of the FSPPFF for the last year and they found everything to be in order. It was moved and supported to accept the Audit Committee's report. The motion carried.

Vice Chairman Reagan introduced IAFF 14th District VP Danny Todd, who serves as the Chairman of the IAFF Training/Education Committee. Brother Todd gave an overview of the mission of the committee and the work that has taken place so far. Representatives of the FSPPFF attended a meeting in April to give input into the newly designed training and education program. Brother Todd introduced Eric Lamar, Assistant to the GP for Education and Training. Eric gave a presentation on the Haz-Mat Training Program, the new IAFF Website, and the plans for changing the way training and education are delivered to members. A long discussion took place among the members about how training is currently delivered in each State. Eric answered several questions from the members on a variety of topics.

Vice Chairman Reagan and Ken Pollard, President of the Nebraska Professional Fire Fighters introduced Mike McDonald, President of the Omaha Fire Fighters and Steve Langdon, MDA District Director. They told about the recent attempts by the Mayor to prevent the fill the boot

campaign. Eventually, an ordinance was passed which allows the fill the boot campaign to continue.

Vice Chairman Reagan called on several states to give their reports.

Mike Mohler, President of the Virginia Professional Fire Fighters Union, stated it might be a good idea for the FSPPFF to develop a convention resolution to increase the amount of the daily per member subsidy that is given to jointly sponsored State/IAFF Seminars. A long discussion took place on this matter. It was moved and supported that the FSPPFF send a letter to General President Harold Schaitberger and General Secretary-Treasurer Bollon asking them for input into this matter and to find out how much per capita was originally attached to the jointly sponsored seminar program. The motion carried.

Vice Chairman Reagan announced that the meeting would recess for the day and would resume at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. The meeting recessed at 12:05 a.m.

### **Saturday, May 5, 2001**

Vice Chairman Reagan called the meeting back to order at 8:45 a.m.

Vice Chairman Reagan asked if anyone had any items for unfinished business. He also asked if there were any items of new business.

Members discussed recent problems and concerns with the ICMA deferred compensation program and suggested that the IAFF help us send a message to them in lieu of the ICMA's recent stance against the NFPA 1710 adoption.

All remaining States gave their reports on legislation and other significant events taking place within their States.

Vice Chairman Reagan thanked the Nebraska Professional Fire Fighters and the Omaha Fire Fighters Union for their hospitality.

A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.