

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

**Minutes of the meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky**

**Hyatt Regency Hotel**

**May 19-20-21, 2005**

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

## **Thursday, May 19, 2005**

Chairman Robert McCarthy 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. Chairman McCarthy led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman McCarthy apologized for his absence at the last meeting. He was absent because of important obligations in his state. Bob thanked everyone for their show of support by re-electing him Chairman of the FSPPFF.

Chairman McCarthy recognized Brother John Corbett who was attending his first meeting since his automobile accident. John thanked everyone for their support during his recovery.

Bruce Roberts, President of the Kentucky Professional Fire Fighters, welcomed everyone to Kentucky. He also introduced the President of the Louisville Local. They presented personalized autographed Louisville Slugger baseball bats to IAFF GP Harold Schaitberger, Secretary Vincent Bollon, and to the FSPPFF officers.

Chairman McCarthy welcomed IAFF GP Harold Schaitberger. General President Schaitberger recapped the efforts of the IAFF and its affiliates in the November elections. He stated that although Senator Kerry was not elected, the IAFF increased its visibility and gained the respect of all candidates. He thanked everyone for their assistance in the Kerry campaign. He stated that 85% of the candidates supported by the IAFF were victorious. He also boasted that the IAFF FIRE PAC is among the largest of all other labor organizations PACs.

General President Schaitberger stated that he has directed that the IAFF conduct an internal operational audit of every department in the IAFF and the programs and services that are being provided. He spoke about the Legal Guardian Program, the PEP, the upcoming ALTS seminar, and other IAFF programs and services. He also gave a detailed update on the successful IAFF Financial Corporation. He stated that the IAFF is giving serious consideration to some type of licensing and/or royalty program. General President Schaitberger gave an overview of the issues affecting the AFL-CIO and how it has affected our relationship with the AFL-CIO leadership and other affiliated unions. GP Schaitberger answered several questions on a variety of subjects.

Chairman McCarthy thanked GP Schaitberger for attending the meeting. Chairman McCarthy then introduced IAFF 8<sup>th</sup> District VP Thomas Miller. VP Miller welcomed everyone to the 8<sup>th</sup> District.

Chairman McCarthy welcomed IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer Vincent Bollon. GST Bollon gave updates on the IAFF membership, the IAFF budget, per capita, Fire PAC, the OPEIU

contract, the IAFF computer and software upgrades, an NFPA study on firefighters with cardiac problems, and the LM-2 forms requirements for State Affiliates with private sector locals. GST Bollon answered several questions on a variety of topics. Chairman McCarthy thanked GST Bollon for attending the meeting.

Chairman McCarthy stated the meeting would recess for a short break.

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order. He then called on Secretary-Treasurer Chesney to give his report. Secretary-Treasurer Terrence Chesney presented the minutes of the Fall 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.

Chairman McCarthy appointed Bob York, Stacy Birdwell, and Matt Vinci to serve on the audit committee. They were directed to meet with Secretary-Treasurer Chesney to review the books and to issue a report prior to the conclusion of this FSPPFF meeting.

Chairman McCarthy opened the floor for nominations for the host of the Spring 2007 meeting site. Pete Carozza stated that Connecticut would like to host this meeting. Although Oklahoma had expressed an interest in hosting this meeting, they stated that they would really prefer to host the Fall 2007 meeting. Chairman McCarthy stated that since there was no objection, The Spring 2007 meeting will be in Connecticut and the Fall 2007 meeting will be in Oklahoma. The dates for the Spring 2006 meeting in **Green Bay Wisconsin will be May 11-12-13, 2006** and the dates for the Fall 2006 meeting in **Seattle Washington will on September 28-29-30, 2006.**

Chairman McCarthy called on Sid Snyder who gave a brief presentation on benefits and services offered by the Union Insurance Company.

Several Associations gave updates on recent activities in their States.

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

### **Friday, May 20, 2005**

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ronnie Day, the Executive Director of the Kentucky Fire Commission gave a very detailed report on the duties and responsibilities of the Fire Commission as it relates to fire fighter training requirements in Kentucky as well as some state-wide benefit programs for fire fighters.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Kevin O'Conner, Assistant to GP Schaitberger. Kevin reviewed the efforts made by the IAFF in the elections and stated that more effort and attention is going to be given to elections at the local level. Kevin introduced Tom McEachin, who was recently hired to be the IAFF Grassroots Coordinator. Brother McEachin gave a report on what he hopes to accomplish in this new position. He hopes to communicate on a regular basis via email with as many IAFF members as possible.

Chairman McCarthy thanked Kevin and Tom for taking the time to attend the meeting. He then stated that the meeting would recess for a short break.

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order. He called on the audit committee to give their report. Bob York, the Chairman of the Audit Committee reported that the committee reviewed the financial records of the FSPPFF and that all finances were in order. Chairman McCarthy thanked the committee. **A motion was made and seconded to receive the report of the Audit Committee. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman McCarthy introduced representatives from the Muscular Dystrophy Association. A short video was 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. It was noted that Texas passed a law that permits and authorizes "Fill the Boot" campaigns.

Chairman McCarthy called on Vice Chairman Reagan for the purpose of an introduction. Vice Chairman Reagan introduced Mark Martin who is a Union attorney with the Firm of Martin & Kieklak, and Darrin Williams of Cauley Bowman Carney & Williams, PLLC. They gave a presentation on Protecting Fire Fighter Pension Funds from Fraud. Chairman McCarthy thanked them for the very informative presentation.

Chairman McCarthy announced that the floor was open for any old and new business items. A discussion took place regarding the letter that was sent to Local 94 by the FSPPFF. Some members feel that a resolution needs to be submitted to the next IAFF Convention to address the issue of endorsements made by Locals in Federal elections that may be contrary to the endorsement made by the IAFF. It was also suggested that an updated survey be done of officer salaries, per capita, budgets, and by-laws of all FSPPFF associations.

Several States and Provinces gave their Association reports.

Chairman McCarthy called for a recess of the meeting until 8:30 am on Saturday. The meeting recessed at 12:45 p.m.

### **Saturday, May 21, 2005**

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order at 8:30 am. He reminded everyone that the AFL-CIO Convention was being held in Chicago in late July and that all State Presidents should try and attend.

The remaining States gave their Association reports.

Chairman McCarthy thanked the Kentucky Professional Fire Fighters for their hospitality and generosity during the meeting.

**A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.**