

**FEDERATION OF STATE AND PROVINCIAL
PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS**
Minutes of the meeting held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire
Sheraton Harborside
May 10-11-12, 2007

Note: The list of members and organizations that were in attendance at this meeting was "borrowed" by someone during the meeting and it wasn't returned to me.

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Chairman 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. Special recognition was given to former IAFF 9th District VP Michael McNeill who recently passed away.

David Lang, President of the Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire, welcomed everyone to New Hampshire. Brother Lang introduced Bill McQuillen, PFFNH Secretary-Treasurer, and the President of Local 1313. Bill welcomed everyone to Portsmouth.

Michael Mullane, 3rd 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 3rd District.

Chairman McCarty stated that IAFF GP Harold Schaitberger is not going to be able to attend the meeting because he is traveling out of the country. He stated that this is going to be a historic meeting of the FSPPFF meeting because several of the Democratic presidential candidates have agreed to attend our meeting.

Chairman McCarthy welcomed several members attending their first FSPPFF meeting. He also recognized Mike Crouse, former IAFF 16th District VP who recently announced his resignation as Chief of Staff to General President Schaitberger. Randy Atkinson, President of the Colorado Professional Fire Fighters and newly elected IAFF 9th District VP thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for the family of Brother McNeill. Chairman McCarthy recognized and welcomed Ray Shea, President Emeritus of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut. Brother Shea spoke about the early days of the Federation and how it has developed into the important organization that it is today.

A motion was made and seconded to make a \$500 donation to the Colorado Professional Fire Fighters Foundation in memory of Brother McNeill. The motion carried unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Terrence Chesney presented the minutes of the Fall 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 October 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007. It was moved and seconded to receive and place on file the financial statement as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman McCarthy appointed Stacey Birdwell, Greg Markley, and Mike Hanks to serve on the annual audit committee. He asked Stacey to be the chairman of the committee.

Chairman McCarthy reported on the meeting that took place between the subcommittee of the FSPPFF and the IAFF GP. The minutes from this meeting were sent to all FSPPFF members. Brothers Carver, Hufnagel, and Montanaro also gave brief reports on what took place at the meeting. Chairman McCarthy stated a follow up meeting would be taking place later in the summer. He also appointed Gary Rainey, Terry Chesney, and Fred LeBlanc to represent the FSPPFF at a joint meeting with the IAFF on IT issues.

The membership discussed the history of the mandatory affiliation issue. There was a consensus that mandatory affiliation is currently a low priority item for the FSPPFF but that time should be set aside at the Spring 2008 meeting in Alaska to properly discuss this issue as well as other issues that arise out of the joint meetings with the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy asked Bob Carver, President of the FPF to introduce Steven Katz, MD, FACEP, who is the President of the National Paramedic Institute. Dr. Katz and Jim Redgate who is the Chief Operating Officer of NPI, gave a presentation on the IAFF-NPI partnership and the online training center that IAFF members can use to continue their fire-based EMS education. Dr. Katz answered several questions from the audience.

Chairman McCarthy gave some background information on Mit Romney and his poor relationship with the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts. He stated that Romney is not a friend of working people or unions.

Chairman McCarthy announced that there would be a brief recess prior to the introduction of Governor Richardson.

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order and several Associations gave updates on recent activities in their States.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Emily Kane, President of the New Mexico Professional Fire Fighters. Emily introduced presidential candidate Governor George Richardson.

Governor Richardson interacted with the group and explained why he is running for President of the United States and why he would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy announced that the meeting would recess for the day and would resume at 8:30 am on Friday.

Friday, May 11, 2007

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m. Chairman McCarthy expressed his thanks to the David Lang and the PFFNH and their sponsors for hosting the social activities on Thursday evening.

Chairman McCarthy informed the members that IAFF Eastern Trustee Mark Ouellette sends his regrets for not being able to attend the meeting.

Kevin O'Conner, Assistant to the GP gave a brief update on the legislative activities that the IAFF has been working on. He stated that passage of the National Collective Bargaining Law is getting nearer.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Rick Merrill, President of the PFFI, for the purpose of introducing Senator Barack Obama. Rick explained that there was a mix-up and scheduling conflict that had prevented Senator Obama from attending the meeting but he is going to call in to the meeting and will take questions as well.

Via speakerphone, Senator Obama called in and interacted with the group and explained why he is running for President of the United States and why he would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy called on Stacy Birdwell to give the report of the audit committee. Brother Birdwell stated that the committee reviewed the financial records of the FSPPPF and recommended that the audit report be adopted and sent to the IAFF.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the audit committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Hank Kim, Executive Director of National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS), gave a presentation on HELPS, (Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety Retirees Act). He also spoke about several other issues concerning pensions and retirees.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Pete Carozza, President of the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut, for the purpose of introducing Senator Chris Dodd.

Senator Dodd interacted with the group and explained why he is running for President of the United States and why he would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Senator Joseph Biden.

Senator Biden interacted with the group and explained why he is running for President of the United States and why he would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy introduced Charlie Morello, President of the New York State Professional Fire Fighters, for the purpose of introducing Senator Hillary Clinton.

Senator Clinton interacted with the group and explained why she is running for President of the United States and why she would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy stated that the meeting will recess until 6:00 when Senator Edwards will address the group prior to dinner.

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and introduced Senator John Edwards.

Senator Edwards interacted with the group and explained why he is running for President of the United States and why he would like the support of the members of the IAFF.

Chairman McCarthy stated that the meeting would recess until 8:30 am on Saturday.

Saturday, May 12, 2007

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting back to order at 8:50 am.

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.

A question came up about the procedure for organizing new locals. The members discussed the differences in the criteria from District to District that is used to determine if a new local will be organized. It was felt that all Districts should use the same criteria. Chairman McCarthy stated he would submit a written request to have this subject added to the agenda of items to discuss at the next joint meeting with the IAFF.

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

A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.