

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2020
10:30 am, Association Office

Attendance: In Person: Keith Minick, Jamie Caggiano, Josh Holzheimer, Jamie Helms, Jason Pope, Ryan Eubanks, Brick Lewis, Zorrina Harmon, Paul Cromer, Jeff Oswald, Jeff Allen, Ashley Boltin **Via Zoom:** Ken Meadows, Malcolm Burns, Tres Atkinson, John Bowers, Marquis Solomon, Ross Vezin, Billy Dillon, Tracy Williams, Matthew Bullard, Rickie Jenkins, Rick Cramer, Gary Rogers

Meeting Called to order at 10:31 am by President Minick.

Invocation & Pledge by Gary Rogers

President Remarks

President Minick welcomed and thanked everyone for being here. He thanks everyone that was able to attend the Transfer of Command last month. Executive Director King has created a Dropbox folder for everyone's reports and information for the meeting, he made sure everyone had access to this. Please continue to keep the Norris family in your thoughts and prayers along with other fire service members that are sick or in need.

A motion was made by Jamie Caggiano to approve the June 9, 2020 minutes as presented; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.

Finance & Audit presentation and review for year ending September 2019 was given by Ken Meadows with Greene Finney, LLP. (See Attached Audit Report).

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee – Josh Holzheimer reported a group met with Rep. Sandifer this morning. The legislature is still in limbo with the COVID situation, they are not sure of their meeting schedule yet. Ms. Cindy is working with the Ways and Means committee on the VSAFE.

Foundation – Tres Atkinson, the Virtual Conference foundation fundraiser was a success. We raised \$9,368, we are currently working on a few requests. We have one more board member slot to fill.

Supervisory – John Bowers This year's fire tax premiums distributions through the county treasurer have been received it shows a 7% increase from previous years. We have sent our invoices to the Fire Departments. From our research it looks like all but 6 departments received an increase in funds this year. We have several One Percent trainings coming up, August 11, 2020 6-8 pm in Greenwood & August 17, 2020 6-8 pm in Richburg.

Finance – Executive Director King reviewed over the Budget Balance Sheet.

Member Benefits – Ross Vezin thanked the group for the opportunity to serve as member benefits committee chair. Mark Catoe from Barnwell has been added to the committee for this year. They continue to work for new benefits for our membership.

Training & Education – Billy Dillon let the group know they have been meeting via zoom over the last couple of months. We have had a few committee member changes to the T&E Committee. Our committee plans to present to you all in August a plan for Fire Service Improvement Conference. He thanked Jonah Smith and Staff for helping put together the Virtual Conference.

Health & Safety – Tracy Williams let everyone know that Mac Thomas has now been placed on the H&S Committee, they look forward to having him as a part of the committee. The committee will be meeting virtually in August.

By Laws – Jason Pope he is excited to sit in the chair and looks forward to a great year.

EMS Committee – Ryan Eubanks mentioned they have a tentative meeting scheduled for August 20 via zoom. They continue to work on EMS Issues and with other partnering agencies such as DHEC, State Fire and EMS Association.

Life Safety Education – Matthew Bullard reported the LSE leadership team has a meeting tomorrow at the Association office.

Officer Section – Rickie Jenkins the officer section is getting geared up for a great year.

SCFIS – Zorrina Harmon, SCFIS audit has been completed as well, all looks good. Our Trust trustees have met, they have to meet yearly and all is good. Your Trust trustees are Dennis Ray, Keith Minick, Marquis Solomon & Zorrina Harmon. We have been assisting DMH on ways to get their message out to firefighters and EMS workers. We are still visiting departments as they allow us to come in.

SCFAST – Patti Graham, We have been busy with departments around the state. We have attended lots of funerals here lately. We are working on video training and excited to get that completed. August 13 is our all regions meeting and that will meet via zoom.

Sprinkler Coalition – Jeff Allen, I have been busy attending meetings and updating the calendar, meeting with sprinkler companies are ongoing.

Technology & Webmaster – Brick Lewis gave an update the board room technology has been upgraded. Virtual Fire Rescue analytics were given, we feel like we had a good response. Two projects we are working on is continued improvements to our website and improving voting through our database.

Executive Director Update – Executive Director King mentioned Transfer of Command was a success, great venue, good times and our 4th VP was sworn in. The 2020 Voting, the map created shows our best voting number in a long time but still less than 25% of our delegates are casting votes. We have had 3 individuals announce their running for 4th Vice President this year, Randy Arant, Brian Brazier & Bobby VanPelt, all of their pictures and bios are on the website. Ashley group will be focusing on Award presentations. We are going to take those in the field to record and present those, then we will bring them back to the membership for viewing. Ms. LaQuasha office is dark today you will notice, we still are having conversations internally and with you all on the job descriptions before we fill that vacancy. We thank Zorrina's group for paying for the technology upgrades in the boardroom. Please look at the calendar and if you have any updates or changes to meetings please let Jeff, Ashley or myself know so that we can get those corrected. Keith and I have meet with vendors over the last several week, we have enjoyed listening and learning from them. A shared folder has been created, we hope that you have found this to be helpful and one location for all items to be shared for the meeting. My apologies for last week for making everyone drive and then have to go home, unfortunately my household received a positive COVID test last Tuesday morning but since we are fever free.

Old Business

Virtual Fire – Rescue After Action, we are not jumping up and down to do another one yet, but overall it was a lot of hard work but went well. We have had a lot of positive feedback.

By-Laws Change – By Law changes are set to be voted on in October.

Chief Caggiano suggested that we swap the advisory chair and strategic planning chair.

Currently we are proposing 1st VP – Finance 2ndVP – Legislative 3rd VP – Strategic Planning 4th VP – Rotating through the year for multiple committees and if we could think about switching it to and have 3rd Vice President be Advisory Chair and Strategic Planning Chair be appointed.

Discussion was had amongst the group.

Jason Pope will take this suggestion back to By- Laws Committee, they will meet in the next week and will report back at the next meeting with there advice.

Chief Caggiano suggested we have the By- Laws committee look at change the by-laws that once you run for 4th Vice President that you are in until Past President, you don't have to worry about someone challenging you if you are in the 3rd, 2nd or 1st VP and you don't have to run each year. It is hard to stay focus on the committee and work you are doing but yet you have to campaign to maintain your spot.

2022 Fire – Rescue Director King let everyone know that we have received our refund from Columbia Convention Center for the 2020 Fire – Rescue Conference that was cancelled due to COVID. We have researched the 4 possible host cities, North Charleston, Greenville, Columbia & Myrtle Beach. North Charleston is too pricey, Greenville convention center is separate from hotels and restaurants, which leaves Columbia and Myrtle beach as possible host areas. We have listened to the committee and have been meeting with vendors to get their input, we have visited to Myrtle Beach and meet with their facilities and they do have availability if we were to discuss the possibility of moving our conference. Discussion was had.

A motion was made by Jamie Caggiano to move 2022 Fire – Rescue Conference to Myrtle Beach Convention Center and give the Executive Director & Staff the authority to negotiate the contract; seconded by John Bowers. All in favor.

Discussion was that they would like to lock in a 3 year contract with Myrtle Beach Convention Center. It was discussed that with the change, we as a committee are going to have to really promote the 2021 Conference and work hard to make it a success.

Director King encourages that they identify what is success for Fire – Rescue Conference so that we can make it a goal and work towards it. We as a group have to make sure it happens and make sure folks come; we all have to work together. We would like to see the desire of the group to create a conference committee, this would be a group of folks that look at aspects of conference outside of classes taught, this group that focuses on the atmosphere of conference.

New Business

2020 Memorial Service, staff needs direction are we cancelling it or postponing it? We need some direction of what we need to tell the families.

A motion was made by Jamie Caggiano that will recognize 2020 & 2021 deaths at the 2021 memorial service; seconded by Josh Holzheimer. All in favor.

A discussion was had that 2020 Leadership Institute has been extended from January 2021 to June 2021 due to the lack of being able to meet face to face due to COVID. The question is should we start a new class in January or skip a year. The will of the group was to continue operations as normal since this group has such momentum and we don't want to lose that. We will have 2 classes that overlap for 6 months.

A motion was made by Josh Holzheimer at 12:57 to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Jamie Helms. All in favor.