



Iowa Firefighters Association

Board Meeting

January 10, 2021 – Isle Casino & Hotel

President Nick Riley called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Board Present: Nick Riley, Jason Barrick, Chuck Raska, Roger Carr, Aaron Clemons, Kent Brix and Gene Evans.

Guests: Taylor Moore, John and Cyndi Pederson, John Kraemer, and Dan Wood, Leon Abels, Jack Runge, Scott H. Ellen Hagen, Cliff Renslow, Tom Campbell, David Abbas.

Approval of Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from the November 8th Convention meeting. **A motion was made by Aaron Clemmons and seconded by Kent Brix to approve the convention meeting minutes. All approved.**

Executive Directors Report: Taylor gave a brief financial report. She reported that she closed the 125th Statue and Special Fund account and deposited those funds into the General account. Taylor also mentioned that she submitted the paperwork to change the signers on the Everbank account, so we can get updated statements and mature dates on the CDs.

Guests:

Legislative: Cyndi mentioned that the legislative session starts tomorrow. Cyndi is going to put a chili cook-off flyer, legislative tri-fold, and firefighter pin in each senators mailbox to invite them to the Firefighter Day on the Hill event. Roger is going to pick up some bowls and spoons for the chili. Gene is going to print new directional signage for the capitol. John Kramer has a couple different displays he is going to bring to the capitol to set up. There was discussion about making EMS an essential service. It was mentioned that the issue is that no one knows who is going to fund the bill, in the past they have wanted to dig into the fire dollars. Taylor is going to add a line to the bottom of the tri-fold stating that the "IFA supports EMS as an Essential Service."

Fire Service Training Bureau: John Kraemer gave a brief update on the Training Bureau. He mentioned that there have been no changes to the budget. Through covid, they

were able to help 883 training programs throughout the year. In 2020 pass rates improved from 29% to 70% for Hazmat and 46% to 67% pass rate in Firefighter 1. The training bureau was awarded the Assistance to Firefighter grant, so stay tuned for those updates. John also mentioned that their firefighter equipment loan program is doing very well. Updates: FF Day on the Hill is January 21st. The 2020 Assistance to Firefighters grant is now open for applications.

Fire Marshall's Office: Dan Wood gave an update on the rise in call outs this year. He mentioned that 88% of the school inspections are current, which is the highest current rate since he has been with the Fire Marshalls office.

Officer Reports:

Jason: Jason thanked Thomas for allowing us to use the Owl meeting device. The IFA board is considering purchasing a one of the Owl cameras so we can have a virtual option for future meetings. Jason also gave us an update on reaching out to those departments that fell off the last couple years to rejoin the association.

Chuck: Chuck mentioned his main focus has been on getting those dropped departments back into the association. He also mentioned that the board needs to work on recruiting new departments into the IFA.

Roger: Roger mentioned that he came down with covid a couple months ago and is finally starting to feel like himself again. He reminded everyone to check in on their members during this difficult time.

Aaron: Aaron mentioned that he has been working on his list of fire departments to rejoin the IFA and has made good progress.

Kent: Kent thanked everyone for attending this morning. He was able to contact everyone but 2 departments on his list.

Gene: Gene mentioned that he has been busy this holiday season. He encouraged everyone to get the covid vaccine. He also reminded everyone that the membership data was corrupted, and we may not have the correct contact information for some of these departments, resulting in them not getting their IFA dues renewal information.

Nick: Nick mentioned that he attended a couple different award ceremonies. He also thanked the board for attending this weekend and their effort in reaching out to the dropped fire departments

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Good of the Association:

Leon Abels mentioned that 3 or 4 years ago his department paid for several members to join mutual aid, but they were never added to mutual aid. **A motion was made by Gene and seconded by Jason, to allow Leon Abels to do some research and gather the canceled check and roster for those mutual aid members and let them join mutual aid. All approved.**

Jack Runge proposed a way to allow live voting during a zoom meeting. In order to do so, that department would need to assign a delegate and have them send in a phone number so we can track who is voting. In order to make this happen, we will have to make a by-law change. **A motion was made by Jason and Seconded by Gene to allow Jack to talk to his representative and draft something up to present at Mid-Year. All approved.**

Next Meeting: Mid-Year meeting April 17th at 9:00 am

Adjournment: A motion was made by Roger and seconded by Aaron to adjourn at 10:39 am. All approved.