

Iowa Firefighters Association  
Mid Year Business Meeting  
West Des Moines, Iowa  
April 2, 2016

Present: President Mark McNees, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Bill Halleran, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Marv Trimble, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Jim Shutts, 4<sup>th</sup> VP Gene Evans, 5<sup>th</sup> VP Nick Riley, Past President Brad Yeager, Executive Director Wendy Lensing. Also present: Cliff Renslow, Stuart; Don "Foxy" Cox, West Des Moines; Jim Kenkel, Woodward; Randy Novak, FSTB; Leonard Baker, Alden; Jeremy Scott, Pella; Marv Boldt, Traer; Larry Renslow, Stuart; Al Wessels, Dyersville; Tony Whitmore, Iowa Falls; Curt Maddux, Madrid; Marion Valero-Lehman, Perry; Thomas Nolton, Forest City; Brad Lamping, Forest City; Doug Gust, Forest City; Jeffrey Quigle, SFM/DPS; Craig Leu, West Des Moines; John Ticer, SFM/DPS; Dave Zimple, North Liberty; Jim Cunningham, Guttenberg; Ellen Hagen, Jewell; Leo Caloud, Hudson; Bob Platz, Dyersville; Joe Specht, Sherrill; Chad Schmidt, Hudson; Tom Campbell, Panora; Gordy Clarke, Hudson; Mike Kime, Waucoma; Bob Siddell, Solon; Mike Ryan, Manchester; Brian Platz, Iowa City/Solon; Kirk Rice, Iowa Falls; Steven Lilliquist, Forest City; Tim Gansemer, Dyersville; Bill Willenborg, Dyersville; Greg Leerar, Garner; Jim Donovan, Solon; Dan Smith, Solon; Jack Runge, Buckeye; Paul Schellhase, Garrison; Ed Tibbott, Manchester; Henry Westhoff, New Vienna; Gary McCool, Guthrie Center; Randy Sheeder, Guthrie Center; Todd Nyland, Manchester; Joe Moore, Center Point; Brad Pfantz, State Center; John Novak, Traer; Mark Johnson, Forest City; Marcus Jensen, Forest City; Jeff Large, Tama; Don Scott, Redfield; Dave Deeringer, Wellsburg; Trent Anderson, Forest City; Jared Schnebly, Forest City; Jay Westerberg, Forest City; Travis Petersen, Atlantic; Jeremy Sandbothe, Atlantic; Nathan Nelsen, Forest City; Chad Gerdes, Forest City; Alex Smith, Atlantic; Mike Reuman, Traer; Rusty Hockman, Jewell; Terry Jass, Garner; Chelsea Marko, Colo; Roger Bissen, Harlan; Mike Kienast, Harlan; Bruce Blum, Harlan; Terry Jacobsen, Harlan; John Davis, Harlan; Jon Reyhons, Solon; Pat White, Grinnell; Denny Drabek, Garner; Kenny McAdoo, Tama; Dan Vodochodsky, Tama; Richard Jimenez, Tama; Dakota Vodochodsky, Tama; Jeffrey Lager, Tama; JR Haughey, Tama; Brent Dostal, Tama; Mike Tomas, Tama; Jeff Soash, Waverly; Rob Edgar, Waverly; Bryce McKenzie, Waverly; Darren Groen, Waverly; Will Rutledge, Waverly; Donnie Soash, Waverly; Matt McKenzie, Waverly.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Mark McNees.

The Harlan Fire Department Honor Guard presented the colors.

West Des Moines Fire Chief – Craig Leu:

Chief Leu welcomed everyone on behalf of the city of West Des Moines. He became chief in July 2015. He came from Kansas. West Des Moines has 55 career firefighters and 35 paid on call firefighters. He compared the changes that have happened throughout the years within the West Des Moines Fire Department, the mission statements and the issues that are faced to those of the Iowa Firefighters Association. Chief Leu served as President of the Association where he worked in Kansas and was also very involved in the association of his volunteer fire department. He stated the Kansas Firefighters Association is very similar to that of Iowa's.

RESOLUTION #1 – Ellen Hagen:

To the members of the Iowa Firefighters Association assembled here in West Des Moines, Iowa on this 2nd day of April in the year 2016.

WHEREAS: We would like to thank the West Des Moines Marriott, the West Des Moines Fire Department, the Mid Year Committee and the citizens of West Des Moines for their gracious hospitality

THEREFORE: Let it be resolved that this resolution be passed by a standing ovation from all members present at this annual Mid Year meeting of the Iowa Firefighters Association.

Respectfully submitted by the Resolutions Committee.

**Guests:**

**Muscular Dystrophy Association** – Brette Dawson, Area Director for Muscular Dystrophy Association  
Brette said that firefighters have been teaming up with MDA for over 60 years and during that time have raised over a half billion dollars across the country. Last year departments in Iowa raised over \$307,000 for MDA. She thanked everyone for all they have done. Because of the money that has been raised countless research breakthroughs are taking place. She spoke about a new program called Team Momentum that some departments are incorporating into their Fill the Boot campaign where you dedicate your participation in a marathon or half marathon to MDA. When you sign up you get MDA running gear, a training schedule tailored to your ability and an amazing support system. The money you raise through your marathon participation can be added to your Fill the Boot totals. If you are interested you can contact Brette.

Brette introduced Lorena Martin and her twin daughters Aimee & Ashley. They are 8-1/2 years old. Aimee and Ashley were diagnosed with Charcot-Marie-Tooth Syndrome (CMT) type 2d. It affects the messages that are sent from the brain to the muscles, mostly the hands and feet. They have been with MDA for 5 years. Two years ago they went to camp for the first time. Lorena said it was so exciting to be able to see them get to do the things that other kids get to do like zip lines, hiking, swimming and canoeing. They thank the firefighters for all they do with the Fill the Boot campaign to raise money for MDA.

President McNees presented Aimee and Ashley with IFA fire alarm banks. A boot was passed and donations were collected for MDA totaling \$555.25.

**Basic Animal Rescue Training** – Chelsea Marko

Chelsea is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year veterinary student and she volunteers with B.A.R.T. – Basic Animal Rescue Training. It is a non-profit that was founded by a veterinarian that found a need for basic animal care from first responders. The woman that founded it was the wife of a volunteer firefighter and it was brought to light that one of his colleagues had a dog that had passed away in a fire and no one knew what to do with him. It made more sense to her to train first responders what to do than to train veterinarians to go into fires. They teach two modules – a small animal and a large animal. They cover everything from basic restraint to CPR to help the animals and also to help the first responders as well. There are times when you might be trying to get into a building and you can't because there are guard dogs there so they try to teach some skills to keep the first responders safe too. You can find them on their Facebook page at BART Saves Lives or you can send an e-mail to [info@bartsaveslives.org](mailto:info@bartsaveslives.org) and they can set you up with some training information. They have taught at the fire schools and they can also teach at departments as well.

**Iowa Elks –**

President Mark McNees spoke on behalf of the Iowa Elks as one of the Past Presidents of the Iowa Elks passed away and his funeral was today so the President was unable to attend as planned. The Iowa Firefighters Association has had a long standing relationship with the Iowa Elks with the fire safety trailers that we have throughout the state. That is the Iowa Elks major project. We are looking at trying

to get a grant to get another one up in Northeast Iowa. The Iowa Elks use money raised for their major project to help with the upkeep and supplies for the fire safety houses. You can contact the host departments if you want to use these trailers for fire safety education for kids at schools, fairs or other events. It's been a great project. When IFA sent out the dues information for this year we included a letter and card from the Elks for a raffle fundraiser for this project. We've had a pretty good response from this. The drawing will be held at the Elks spring meeting at the end of April.

#### **Red Cross – Joe Solem**

Joe Solem is a government liaison with the American Red Cross. He spends a lot of time in the State Emergency Operations center but he also responds to fires. In some cases these have been fatalities and that is always something that is very difficult to deal with. The Red Cross has set out a Home Fire Preparedness Campaign. They want to save lives and reduce injuries. Their goal over the next 5 years is to reduce deaths by 25% nationwide. They have enlisted the help of churches and other faith-based organizations, schools, etc. to help with this. The fire marshal's office and their national headquarters have been providing smoke alarms and they have been going into communities and trying to figure out the best place to target and they have been installing smoke alarms in homes without one. They talk to a department that is interested in doing this and they get the word out to the community and solicit organizations in that community to help with the project. They try to get teams of 3 together that go to the homes and install the smoke alarms. They install the alarms, speak with the homeowner about fire safety and plans for escapes, record that the alarms were installed. They will also replace batteries if the home has detectors that aren't working. They have about a dozen installations planned between now and the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. If you are interested in a smoke alarm campaign in your community please contact them.

#### **Iowa EMS Association – Mark McCulloch, VP**

Mark pointed out that the mission of Iowa EMS Association is very similar to Iowa Firefighters Association – education, legislation and creating some standards for the industry. You can find information on their website at [www.iemsa.net](http://www.iemsa.net). Their legislative focus for this past session included Education, Training and Resources for Responder; Sustainable Funding and Measurable Outcomes; Community Availability for Behavioral Health Services; Funding for Mobile Integrated Health – Community Paramedics.

Upcoming Events - Memorial service on May 14<sup>th</sup> to kick off EMS week. West Des Moines EMS Station 19  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Billing Conference – April 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, Embassy Suites, Des Moines  
Annual IEMSA Conference – November 10 – 12, Iowa Event Center, Des Moines  
They are giving out EMS Scholarships. Information is on their website.

President McNees mentioned that we have been working together with IEMSA, the IAPFC, and IFCA on legislation the past several years and even more closely lately due to fireworks. Working together makes our voice that much stronger on these issues. We look forward to continuing to work together.

#### **IFCA – Pres. Henry Westhoff**

Henry thanked the Iowa Firefighters Association for keeping everyone up to date on what was going on with the fireworks and working together on legislation.

Next weekend is the Fire Chief's Workshop in Ames. Get applications in quickly.

Resource manual is now on the IFCA website. You do need to be a member to access that.

President McNees noted that if anyone is a new officer or knows of a new officer that may not be familiar with the IFCA they are a great resource for information. He had personally directed new fire officers to their association for information.

#### **Iowa Emergency Management Association – Mike Ryan**

Mike thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Iowa Emergency Management Association. Their President Darrell Knecht was unable to attend. Legislatively they were glad to help out however they could with the fireworks bill. They agree that they don't need anything else out there that can cause more problems, more calls or more injuries. Some other things that they have been working on were keeping the funds in 911 and not allow them to be used for interoperability. That has taken a lot of their lobbyist's time this year. They tried also to get a tax break for convenience stores to be able to buy standby generators. In rural areas where there aren't a lot of convenience stores if there is a widespread power outages for an extended period of time it can be difficult to get fuel for not only response vehicles but for the general public as well. They would also like to see tax free weekend for preparedness supplies such as backup generators, flashlights, bottled water, first aid kits, etc. for your personal home preparedness. This was the first year that they tried to introduce this. They also took a look at rules on drones and there are so many moving parts to that right now that they are going to just wait to see how that all sorts out. They are supporting a bill that would provide funding for advocates for long term recovery committees. These are the people that step in and help with unmet needs for your residents following a large scale disaster such as a flood or tornado. Sometimes after Red Cross, insurance companies, other volunteer agencies, FEMA, Small Business Administration, etc. we still have people that have basic unmet needs and the long term recovery committees are the ones to step in and help with those things.

Your local emergency manager is your contact for state and federal resources. They are more than willing to help with any planning efforts you have, special events, fairs, large community gatherings. They are always available to help if you have a large response. They will come out and help with incident command, public information, logistics, and resources to support an operation.

The district representatives meet once a month in Des Moines.

Go out and build your relationships with other agencies in your jurisdiction before a disaster. It's hard to exchange business cards when you are mitigating or responding to a disaster.

#### **Iowa Interoperability Board – Ellen Hagen –**

Iowa Statewide Interoperability Communications System Board (ISICS) was created in 2007 legislative session under Code of Iowa Sections 80.28 & 80.29. The Board is currently comprised of 19 appointed members, representing a cross section of public safety including volunteer and professional fire fighters, police, sheriff, Emergency Medical Services, emergency management, chief information officer, public health, LE Training Board, several state agencies, and a member at large with four additional non-voting legislative representatives, representing both major parties in both house and senate. The Interop Board meets once a month at 10:30 am in West Des Moines City Council Chambers for about two hours to conduct monthly business. Beginning in 2015 these monthly meetings are recorded and uploaded to YouTube, and stakeholders may participate via an open conference line. The Board has organized along 7 standing committees in meeting their Code of Iowa obligations:

1. Finance
2. Governance
3. Operations
4. Outreach

5. Technology
6. Training and Exercise
7. User Group Committee

The primary legislative goals of ISICSB are to establish, monitor, and maintain a statewide interoperable land mobile radio (LMR) platform, AND a statewide interoperable data platform.

As for the LMR statewide platform, a statewide LMR platform known as Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communication System or (ISICS) is being built out as we speak. This “lease to own” radio platform was funded in Iowa’s 2015 legislative session. The entire statewide platform has been preliminarily factory tested, and now sets in a large building in central Iowa and is deployed as each tower site is prepared. The Interop Board plans to use ISICS platform as the primary interoperable communications platform for the 2016 National Governor’s Conference in Des Moines, June 2016. Several counties have already indicated a willingness to share infrastructure and grow out ISICS in their area to enhance their operational radio and to expand interoperability. Within the next 24 months all of Iowa will be covered with and have available for use a 95 percent mobile, latest technology, 700 MHz, Project 25, Phase 2 - Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) – LMR platform for operations or to interoperate upon between jurisdictions. These are exciting times in Iowa interoperability.

As for Iowa’s statewide portion of a national public safety broadband network, or data platform, Board Chair Tom Lampe was appointed by the Governor to serve as Iowa’s State Point of Contact (SPOC) for NPSBN. The Board has created a specific sub-committee co-chaired by the Director of Iowa Communications Network (ICN) and State Chief Information Officer. This Broadband Sub Committee has been the Board’s primary collection point for Iowa’s portion data collection to facilitate planning of what Iowa needs as part of a National Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) known as FirstNet. FirstNet was funded by congress to create a nationwide independent “public safety grade” broadband platform. Every state must build out their portion of FirstNet to public safety grade standards and other mill specifications criteria, or agree to partner with FirstNet to build out their state. FirstNet currently has a nationwide “request for proposal” (RFP) on the street to identify a nationwide vendor to build out this broadband network. Much more will be forthcoming once we have specificity of private partner vendor and how that vendor proposes to complete the national broadband network.

Should you have any questions about either of these exciting projects please see me and I will provide you contact information for our Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) Craig Allen or ISICSB Chair Tom Lampe who would relish the opportunity to come present options to your department about how to increase interoperability using either or both of these statewide platforms.

#### **Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors – Jack Runge**

Jack said that President Doug Kolkman asked him to pass along his thanks to the IFA for their growing relationship between the society and the IFA and they hope to grow that and if there is anything they can do they are more than willing to help out.

#### **State Fire Marshal – Jeff Quigle**

The SFM Division had 31 fire deaths reported for 2015 and this was a decrease from 2014. Statistics on fire deaths have been gathered each year since the formation of the State Fire Marshal Division in 1911. We are at 20 confirmed fire deaths as of this date, which at the same time last year we had 15. An interesting fact to note is only 3 of the 20 fire deaths had working smoke detectors and all of the fire deaths occurred in residential occupancies other than one which occurred outside while burning brush. Bureau Chief Randy Novak is starting the process of completing an (AFG-FPS) Assistance to Firefighter Grant/Fire Prevention and Safety to continue to purchase smoke detectors for installation throughout the state. The application period opens April 4, 2016. The SFM Division has conservatively distributed

approximately 35,000 smoke detectors since the inception of the program and continues to partner with the Iowa Firefighters Association and the Central Iowa Chapter of the American Red Cross regarding distribution and installation of smoke detectors throughout the state. The SFM Division has purchased 10,000 smoke detectors from the recent grant we received. The SFM Division has currently received 5000 smoke detectors and will be receiving another 5000 smoke detectors during the next two months. The majority of the smoke detectors that have been received along with what will be received have been committed; however, if you are interested in being placed on the list to receive smoke detectors in the future, please contact Steve DeJoode at 515-725-6145.

The Department of Public Safety is continuing to fund and sponsor the Iowa Fire Bridge (Image Trend) for fire reporting statistics. This is a free service for Iowa's Fire Departments to report statistics. This is a web based system and reporting can be completed from anywhere that you have access to a computer. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY 16, 88% of Iowa's Fire Departments are reporting fire data through Image Trend. If your department is currently not reporting I would encourage you to contact Dan Wood with the State Fire Marshal Division and establish an account for reporting fire data. The Department of Public Safety continues to host the web based software program. The cost to the Department is approximately \$36,000 per year.

The Fire Prevention Bureau conducted 2,956 Fire Code Inspections during FY 15 in a variety of facilities to ensure compliance with both federal and state laws and rules. Facilities inspected by our fire inspectors include: nursing homes, child care facilities, schools, colleges, and state institutions, hospitals, residential care facilities, state-owned buildings, and jails and penitentiaries. We are currently working on the final phases of filling a Fire Inspector position to be stationed in Southwest Iowa.

The Arson and Explosives Bureau has been very busy with fire investigations and explosive disposal work this year. As of today's date SFM Agents have worked 5 accidental, 4 arson and 12 undetermined fires. SFM Bomb Techs have safely completed 18 explosive disposals. The Bureau has responded to 46 K-9 requests and 13 protective details. The Bureau has 14 open cases for 2016 and a total of 31 open cases from May 2013 through December 2015. The Bureau has 2 sprinter bomb response vehicles stationed in Western and Central Iowa. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> sprinter response vehicle to be stationed in Eastern Iowa is currently being up-fitted and will be ready for service by the summer of 2016. The Bureau currently has 1 accelerant K-9 stationed in Mt. Pleasant. We also have 2 explosive K-9's stationed in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. We are also completing the final stages of filling the Special Agent/Bomb Technician in Northwest Iowa.

The State Building Code Bureau is in the process of hiring a Construction Engineer that has been vacant since last year. During FY 15 the State Building Code Bureau performed plan reviews on more than 504 sets of architectural plans to ensure compliance with the State Building and Fire Codes. The total Project Construction Values were more than \$972 million dollars. We have implemented the State Building Code Bureau B-Safe team. This team consists of State Building Code Bureau staff, architects, and engineer volunteers. This team will respond anywhere in Iowa to analyze houses, buildings and structures to determine if they are structurally safe after a natural disaster. The State Building Code Bureau provides this service free of charge.

The Electrical Licensing and Inspection Bureau has recently completed a small reorganization due to the retirement of the Electrical Supervisor that will continue to optimize efficiency and customer service. Prior to the reorganization there were 18 field inspectors, one field supervisor, one Chief Electrical Inspector/Executive Secretary, and four clerical support staff. After the reorganization, the Bureau will have 17 field inspectors, 2 Lead Worker field Inspectors, and one Chief Electrical Inspector/Executive Secretary. With the elimination of the field supervisor position the Bureau was able to add another field inspector in the busy territories of Eastern Iowa and create 2 Lead Worker Field Inspectors with no additional positions. In FY 2015 the Bureau issued 14,626 Electrical Permits, completed 23,973 Electrical Inspections, signed Reciprocal Electrician Licensing Agreements with surrounding states, continued to

enhance the on-line software for the permitting/inspection and licensing programs and established procedures for enforcement.

The Healthiest State Initiative and the State Fire Marshal Division are combining efforts to keep Iowans safe and a bit healthier. Organizers are encouraging Iowans to “Walk at the Whistle” on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 during Walk to School Day as part of the annual Healthiest State Walk. There will be more information forthcoming.

The Department of Public Safety is currently working on a much needed update of our web-site. There is a team of individuals who have been assigned from each Division to work on this project. Watch for more information on this in the future.

In closing after you leave this meeting and return home, please make sure you have working smoke detectors on every level of your home and in each sleeping room. This increases your chances of surviving a fire by 52%.

**Randy Novak – FSTB –**

**FSTB Budget:** The Bureau is level funded for FY16. The Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund is funded at \$825,520 for FY16. We continue to receive training money in the Firefighter Preparedness Fund (income tax check-off) and the Paul Ryan Memorial Training Fund (fee on F/F tags). Budget for FY 17 – level funding.

In FY16, the Fire Service Training Bureau received a one-time appropriation of \$100,000 to support the purchase of mobile training units and the necessary equipment to operate these mobile training units. These funds were to be a match with outside funding. Below is a summary of the use of this money.

<b>Mobile Training Unit/Equipment</b>	<b>Federal Share</b>	<b>State Share</b>
Interior Fire Attack Simulator – delivered in September 2015 at a total cost of \$336,660 (with a federal share of 85%, and a local share of 15%). This MTU is replacing an existing unit over 17 years old.	\$286,161.00	\$50,499.00
Mobile four-story drill tower – purchase order sent in October 2015, with an expected delivery of April 2016. The purchased price is \$219,777 (with a federal share of 85%, and a local share of 15%).	Estimated at \$191,111.00	Estimated at \$28,666.00
Training equipment to support these mobile training units (to include items such as: hose, ladders, standpipe packs, A/V support equipment, etc.).		Estimated at \$20,835.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$477,272.00</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>

Federal funding provided through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, administered through the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA/USFA.

**FSTB Staffing:** We have filled our Account Tech 3 position. Linda Thede transferred from DOT in February 2016. The Bureau has submitted a budget proposal for a Curriculum Developer (Fire Service Coordinator). We are currently at 9 FTE positions.

**Grants:** The Bureau has applied for the following federal grants:

- FSTB received our National Fire Academy “State Training Support Grant” for \$20,000 for federal FY 16 (August 1, 2015 to July 30, 2016). This is being used to support the delivery of NFA

Approved Courses (Instructor I & II, Fire Officer I & II) and NFA 2-Day Courses. We are in the process of applying for the FY 17 August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017) NFA "State Training Support Grant".

- FSTB received a 2014 AFG grant for a new mobile drill tower (\$220,000). We have issued a PO for the new mobile drill tower (\$219,777). We expect delivery on April 25, 2016. We have applied for a 2015 AFG for a new mobile hazmat rollover tanker (\$130,000 with \$113,044 federal share and \$16,956 state share).
- FSTB has applied for two 2014 AFG-FP&S grants: A \$200,000 (through IFA) on behalf of the SFM for smoke alarms, and a \$20,000 on behalf of the SFM for the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program. The smoke alarm grant has been funded, while the Juvenile Firesetter grant has not. We plan on applying for the 2015 FP&S grant for smoke alarms.

**Major Events:** (check our website: [www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/fstb](http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/fstb) )

- FSTB Programs (2016)
  - Regional and State Fire School Announcement.
  - *Volunteer Fire Chiefs Workshop*, April 9 at Ames.
  - Live Fire Skills, April 30 at FSTB.
  - Seminar: *Flawed Situational Awareness: The Stealth Killer of First Responders*, July 6 at Ames.
  - *Hazardous Materials Symposium*, October 20-21 at Ames.
  - *Instructors Conference*, November 11-12 at Ames.
  - Announcement for various open enrollment classes will be mailed to Iowa fire departments throughout the year.
- National Fire Academy (NFA) Courses (2016):
  - *Leadership I: Strategies for Company Success*, April 28-29 at FSTB.
  - *Command & Control of Incident Operations* (TRADE Region VII delivery), June 13-18, 2016 at FSTB.
  - *Incident Command for Highrise Operations*, September 13-14 at Des Moines.
  - *Leadership II: Strategies for Personal Success*, September 15-16 at FSTB.
  - *Shaping the Future*, November 17-18 at FSTB.
  - *Leadership III: Strategies for Supervisory Success*, December 1-2 at FSTB.

Check our website for new information: [www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/fstb](http://www.dps.state.ia.us/fm/fstb)

- You can now sign up for an automatic e-mail notification when something has been added.

**NOTE: NEW MAILING ADDRESS:**

**Fire Service Training Bureau  
1015 Haber Road  
Ames, IA 50011-3104**

NOTE: We are now on Facebook at Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau

### **Scholarship Award – Cliff Renslow**

This year's IFA Scholarship recipient is Jenna Nearad from Swisher. She serves as a Cadet Firefighter on the Jefferson-Monroe FD. Past President Cliff Renslow presented her with a certificate for her scholarship. Jenna will be attending Kirkwood Community College. She will be taking her EMT-1 and EMT-2.

Jenna thanked the IFA for awarding her the scholarship. She looks forward to continuing her education in the Fire Science and Paramedic program at Kirkwood.

A member of the Drill Rules Committee needed to leave early so Resolutions # 2 - #10 were moved up in the agenda.

### **Credentials Report – Cliff Renslow:**

Alden – 26, Atlantic – 50, Belle Plaine – 44, Center Point – 28, Dyersville – 63, Epworth – 54, Evansdale – 29, Forest City – 42, Garner – 26, Garrison – 31, Grinnell – 46, Guthrie Center – 47, Harlan – 65, Hudson – 40, Iowa City – 25, Iowa Falls – 44, Jewell – 25, Madrid – 36, Maquoketa – 43, Mechanicsville – 22, Monticello – 40, Osage – 47, Panora – 32, Redfield – 26, Solon – 41, State Center – 50, Stuart – 34, Traer – 30, Waverly – 45, Wellsburg – 26, West Des Moines – 49. Total towns – 31. Total votes – 1206.

### **Resolutions - # 2 - # 10 – Ellen Hagen – Resolutions Committee**

#### **Resolution #2 –**

In an effort to keep up with the changes to hose used in the fire service, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to General Rule #29:

Beginning at Convention 1995, pyrolite couplings shall be used in contest 8 & 9; pyrolite or brass couplings, whichever the custodian provides, may be used in contest 6 & 7. **Anywhere 1&1/2" hose is mentioned should be interpreted as 1&1/2" OR 1&3/4" hose.**

Explanation: If departments carry 1&3/4" hose on their apparatus and if that's all they have, they shouldn't have to buy 1&1/2" hose just to compete at Convention.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee

Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

#### **Resolution #3 –**

In an effort to keep up with the changes to hose used in the fire service, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following changes to Drill Rule #1 (Thief):

EQUIPMENT USED: Three sections 2&1/2" hose; Two sections 1&1/2" **or 1&3/4"** hose; One 2&1/2" x 1&1/2" gated wye; One 2&1/2" nozzle; Two 1&1/2" nozzles; Three targets; One hydrant; One hydrant wrench.

OBJECT: A contestant runs to the hydrant and turns the hydrant on while a contestant runs to the end of the extended 2&1/2" and knocks down target #1. After target #1 is down it is reset while two contestants carry 1&1/2" **or 1&3/4"** hose to 2&1/2" x 1&1/2" gated wye and couple them to the wye, and a contestant returns to the wye. Two contestants extend 1&1/2" **or 1&3/4"** lines, a contestant turns the water on to them, and targets #2 and #3 are knocked down. A contestant knocks down target #1

again after targets #2 and #3 go down to end the contest.

LAY-OUT: Two sections of 2½" hose are coupled and extended from the hydrant towards target #1. The third section of 2½" hose is connected to the hydrant and laid towards target #2 and #3 with the 2½" x 1½" wye connected. A 2½" nozzle is coupled to the hydrant line. Contestants one and four start at a line 5 foot from their drill position. Contestants two and three start at a line behind the hydrant with the 1½" or 1¾" hose loaded and the nozzles on the hose. The coupling of the extended 2½" will be laid at the point 20 feet in front of and parallel to the hydrant and 20 feet perpendicular from the hydrant. The 2½" x 1½" gated wye will be laid at a point 40 feet in front of and parallel to the hydrant and 10 feet perpendicular from the hydrant. Target #1 will be placed 35 feet straight in front of the nozzle end of the extended 2½" line. Targets #2 and #3 will be placed 75 feet in front of and 5 feet on each side of the gated wye.

RULES: 2½" shall be charged and NOT drained before the first drill is run. The 2½" line is connected to the hydrant, the nozzle shall be coupled on the extended 2½" line on a mark on the pavement, and the targets shall be set as specified above. The 2½" nozzle shall be closed after target #1 is knocked down the first time and cannot be opened again until both targets #2 and #3 are down. Contestants two and three may load the 1½" or 1¾" hose in any manner they wish. At the end of the contest all couplings shall be hand tight.

All equipment needed except the 1½" or 1¾" hose and (2) nozzles will be provided by the Association. Hose supplied by department must be standard double jacketed hose not to exceed 51 feet in length and shall have a maximum of one gasket of standard thickness in the female end. At the end of the contest participants shall assist judges and timers in returning all equipment to the starting position for the next team. Full protective clothing shall be required. General Rule 26 shall apply. Towns with more than one team participating shall supply at least one set of 1½" or 1¾" hoses per team entered to avoid delays between teams caused by loading the hoses. The Thief will be the first drill to run.

PENALTIES: Ten seconds will be assessed per violation if contestants two or three cross their starting line before target #1 goes down the first time, or contestant four leaves the hydrant before target #1 goes down the first time, or if the 2½" nozzle is not shut off after target #1 is knocked down the first time. Couplings not showing three full threads or hand tight – 3 seconds; couplings showing less than one full thread, disqualification. If target #1 is knocked down the second time before targets #2 and #3 are down, or if a contestant knocks down a target not assigned to them, disqualification. If the 1½" or 1¾" hose supplied by the contestants is measured at any time before, during, or immediately after the contest and is found to exceed 51 feet in length or more than one gasket is found in the female end, the team shall be disqualified.

Explanation: If departments carry 1¾" hose on their apparatus and if that's all they have, they shouldn't have to buy 1½" hose just to compete at Convention.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee

Marv Boldt

John Laing

Brad Pfantz

#### **Resolution #4 –**

In an effort to keep up with the changes to hose used in the fire service, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following changes to Drill Rule #3 (Leaderline):

The two and one-half (2 1/2) inch lines from the hydrant to the valves will be charged. Any alteration of Association equipment shall cause disqualification of the department from this drill. The contestants shall furnish their own hose and nozzle for Drill #3. The hose shall be two lengths of standard, double jacketed, ~~one and one-half inch 1&1/2"~~ **or 1&3/4" hose**, no longer than fifty one feet per length, coupled, with one standard thickness gasket per female coupling. The nozzles shall be ~~one and one-half inch 1&1/2"~~ nozzles with one-half inch bore. No additives will be permitted. All towns entering more than one team shall supply at least two sets of ~~one and one-half 1&1/2"~~ or **1&3/4"** hose. Starting point of threads on valve to be on top.

All participants will furnish their own and work the revolution in protective clothing; firefighters' boots, coat and helmet, with gloves optional (See general rule # 26)

Each team shall be ready when called to the line, to step into the starting box with their hose and nozzle. Hose may be rolled or folded to be carried in any manner the team sees fit. Ropes or straps may be used to secure hose rolls or folds if desired. Hose must not be dragged until after it has been carried across a line even with the valves and at right angles to the pavement centerline. Two teams will be run at the same time; one to start in box one and work in lane one, the other to start in box two and work in lane two.

At the firing of the starter's gun, the participants connect the hose to the valves, the coupling connections at the valve must be hand tight (see general rule #19) at the finish of the drill, lay the hose past the simulated doorway, back through the doorway and around the other side to approach the target. The nozzle is then used to knock the football from the cement block. The winning team must knock the football off the block so that it hits the pavement on the opponent's side of the centerline. Winning teams will be determined by elimination. Judges will toss a coin for choice between two teams for working lane.

TARGET: Regulation football nested about 1-3 diameter into hollowed out cement block, 16 inches x 8 inches x 8 inches with a 1x4 24 inches high at the rear of the block, extended over the top and down the front of the block. (Meaning for practical purposes, the cement block placed in a 24 x 16 inch frame made out of 1x4 or 2x4.)

DISQUALIFICATION: Failure to lay hose through the doorway as indicated. Any act, such as crossing the centerline or directing water across the center across the centerline, which physically interferes with the opposing team. Moving the base of the simulated doorway more than 6 inches out of line. Coupling connections at the valve not hand tight. Dragging any portion of the hose across a line even with the valves and at right angle to the centerline, or the loss of any fire fighter gear will disqualify the offending team

Explanation: If departments carry 1&3/4" hose on their apparatus and if that's all they have, they shouldn't have to buy 1&1/2" hose just to compete at Convention.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

**Motion was made by Kirk Rice, Iowa Falls to accept Resolutions 2, 3 and 4. It was seconded by Don Scott, Redfield. Motion carried.**

**Resolution #5 –**

In an effort to add consistency and clear up misunderstanding to when a coupler must cease tightening couplings at the wye, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule #1 (Thief):

PENALTIES: Ten seconds will be assessed per violation if contestants two or three cross their starting line before target #1 goes down the first time, or contestant four leaves the hydrant before target #1 goes down the first time, or if the 2&1/2" nozzle is not shut off after target #1 is knocked down the first time. Couplings not showing three full threads or hand tight – 3 seconds; couplings showing less than one full thread, disqualification. If target #1 is knocked down the second time before targets #2 and #3 are down, or if a contestant knocks down a target not assigned to them, disqualification. If the 1&1/2" hose supplied by the contestants is measured at any time before, during, or immediately after the contest and is found to exceed 51 feet in length or more than one gasket is found in the female end, the team shall be disqualified. **If the hands of the contestant at the wye are touching the coupling or wye when target #1 goes down the second time, disqualification.**

Explanation: This change was already an assumed rule by many contestants and judges, but wasn't spelled out. This clarifies that since the time stops when the last target goes down, the coupler cannot continue tightening the couplings.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee

Marv Boldt

John Laing

Brad Pfantz

**Questions – Denny Drabek, Garner asked why 1-3/4" hose was not written in this resolution? Brad Pfantz, Drill Rules Committee answered that it was because there are two separate resolutions. Resolution # 3 would address the hose size for Drill # 1 but Resolution # 5 is clarifying the disqualification. One could pass and one might not so they were written as two separate resolutions.**

**Motion by Brent Dostal, Tama to accept resolution # 5. It was seconded by Curt Maddux, Madrid. Motion carried.**

**Resolution # 6 –**

In an effort to add consistency and clear up misunderstanding to when a coupler must cease tightening the coupling at the valve, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule #3 (Leaderline):

DISQUALIFICATION: Failure to lay hose through the doorway as indicated. Any act, such as crossing the centerline or directing water across the center across the centerline, which physically interferes with the opposing team. Moving the base of the simulated doorway more than 6 inches out of line. Coupling connections at the valve not hand tight. Dragging any portion of the hose across a line even with the valves and at right angle to the center line, the loss of any fire fighter gear, **or the coupler's hand still on coupling or valve when football leaves the cement block** will disqualify the offending team.

Explanation: Same as with Drill #1 (Thief), contest is over when football is shot out of block, therefore,

the coupler should be done as well. This also was an assumed rule by most contestants and judges.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

Discussion was held as to how the contestant at the valve is supposed to know when the football leaves the block. Judges are supposed to be watching and blowing whistle immediately when the football leaves the block to signal end of contest. Discussion continued that this is judgement call by judges because if the hands are on the coupling when the whistle blows are they disqualified or not? If the person lets go immediately it should be o.k. if they continue to tighten they would be disqualified.

**Motion was made by Don Scott, Redfield and seconded by Kirk Rice to table Resolution # 6 until after lunch break. Motion carried.**

**Resolution # 7 –**

In an effort to standardize all drills and be objective with the awarding of points, the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule # 4 (Chief's Race):

Two fast stepping feet and legs, furnished by participant.

TIME: Taken from firing of the starting gun until ~~tape is hit~~ **the participant crosses the finish line.**

OBJECT: Run 50 yards in shortest time.

RULES: Every participant to run the 50 yards ~~if possible~~ individually.

PENALTIES: **Starting ahead of the gun the second time shall disqualify the participant.** ~~None. The judges will depend upon the starter to hold participants in line until the starting gun, if possible, then the first come, first served with the Do Re Mi.~~

PRIZES: Trophies, 1<sup>st</sup> place – 4 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 2 points, 4<sup>th</sup> – 1 point

\*\*Note: THE FIRE CHIEF'S RACE is for FIRE CHIEF'S ONLY. This does not permit assistant chiefs, other officers, or any member of a fire department, to run in this race. Rule #14 will be enforced.

Explanation: Even though points are being awarded for this contest, the rules were written in a less than serious manner, as was the method to determine the top four contestants. We're cleaning this contest up to make it objective (timed) just like all other contests.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

**Question was asked if this means that each participant will run this individually? Marv Boldt replied that yes, this would mean the Chief's Race would be run individually, no longer as a group. John Novak asked when this would be run. Chief's race has always been run while we are setting up for Leader Line. We need to know when this would be run. It would also take an additional officer and officials to run this since it's always been run after the other individual contests and prior to Leader Line.**

**Motion was made by Kirk Rice, Iowa Falls to pass it as read and leave to the board to decide the timing of when it would be run. Second by Larry Renslow, Stuart. Motion carried.**

**Resolution # 8 –**

In an effort to standardize the starting position for all training drill revolutions the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule # 6 (Two Firefighter Coupling):

RULES: Association nozzle must be used. Nozzle to lie flat on ground at starting line. **Firefighters to stand erect with hands above head** ~~Pipeman to stand erect, with hands at side,~~ until the starting gun is fired. Nozzle must show three full threads on coupling, or hand tight. Participants are permitted to address the coupling and nozzle only at the time immediately before they participate. Once nozzle leaves the contestant's hands and touches the ground, timing stops and contest is over. If a contestant touches the nozzle after nozzle touches the ground, contestant will be disqualified.

Explanation: The General Rules have never specified a uniform starting stance. In addition, individual contests have contradictory sections regarding the contestant's starting stance.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

**Motion to accept was made by Cliff Renslow, Stuart. It was seconded by Curt Maddux, Madrid. Motion carried.**

**Resolution # 9 –**

In an effort to standardize the starting position for all training drill revolutions the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule # 8 (Replacing):

RULES: Hose shall be charged before first participant run, and the coupling and nozzle shall be place on the proper marks on the pavement. Participants may indicate to the judge which side of the center section they wish the extra section to be placed. **Firefighters to stand erect with hands above head until the starting gun is fired.** Three firefighters start from a parallel line and 10 feet from the hydrant; the nozzleman shall be at a line five feet either side of the nozzle at the starter's gun. No participant shall cross the starting line or address the hose before the drill starts. Couplings shall be marked at three full threads and the judges shall set each coupling accordingly at the start of each drill. At the conclusion of each drill, nozzle will be left open and couplings in line will not be broken or hose drained, and judges shall place the couplings and nozzles on the proper marks on the pavement.

Explanation: The General Rules have never specified a uniform starting stance. In addition, individual contests have contradictory sections regarding the contestant's starting stance.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

**Motion to accept by Larry Renslow, Stuart. Seconded by Al Esch, Epworth. Motion carried.**

**Resolution # 10 –**

In an effort to standardize the starting position for all training drill revolutions the Drill Rules Committee proposes the following change to Drill Rule # 9 (Extending):

LAYOUT: Hydrant should be located at street curb. Targets set 15 feet from curb. Number 1 target 75 feet from hydrant. Number 2 target 125 feet from hydrant. Number 1 hose section laid parallel to curb and 15 feet from it. Male end even with hydrant. Female toward target. Number 2 hose section, 5 feet further out in street and in same manner as Number 1. Nozzle standing upright in center of two lines. ~~Firefighters will stand upright, hands at sides,~~ ***Firefighters to stand erect with hands above head until the starting gun is fired***, one firefighter beside the nozzle, and the other two on either side of him/her and outside of the two hose lines. Hydrant closed as specified by judges.

Explanation: The General Rules have never specified a uniform starting stance. In addition, individual contests have contradictory sections regarding the contestant's starting stance.

Respectfully Submitted, Drill Rules Committee  
Marv Boldt  
John Laing  
Brad Pfantz

**Motion to accept by Curt Maddux, Madrid. Second by Al Muhlhausen, Maquoketa. Motion carried.**

**Marv Boldt – Drill Rules Committee –**

Marv addressed issues that were brought to the attention of the Drill Rules Committee following competition at convention. These issues concerned whether or not all the contestants in the contests had registered at the convention as required in General Rule #25. The first concerned Rusty Finley from Brandon who won the One Man Coupling. Marv brought Paul Schellhase from Garrison along with him as a witness and went to Brandon to speak with Rusty. Marv asked him if he had registered at convention as no record was found indicating he had been registered. He said he thought he paid cash. He was given 30 days to come up with a receipt. Rusty e-mailed Marv Boldt and said he'd been unable to find a receipt. Marv told Rusty that he would be disqualified from the event for not registering and he accepted that. President McNees said that the board accepts the decision of disqualifying Rusty Finley from Brandon.

Marv stated the second issue involved Todd Kelley, Justin Hazen and Kenny Arnote from Albion that placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Extending a Hydrant Line. No convention registrations were found for any of them. Marv spoke to Todd and asked if their team had registered. He stated they had not. Convention was close and they had come over that morning for the contests. Todd accepted the disqualification for Albion.

President McNees said the board accepted the decision to disqualify Albion also.

Both participants brought up that they were members of Iowa Firefighters Association and wanted to know why they had to register at convention when they were only doing contests and nothing else at convention. Marv said maybe an answer would be paying to enter contests just as they do to bowl or golf.

Marv thanked the rest of the drill rules committee for their work on the drill rules and the issues that have come up.

President McNees thanked the drill rules committee for their work and said that the records would be changed to reflect the change in the drill results following the two disqualifications.

Discussion was held about checking for registration prior to each drill being run or possibility of one day registrations for those only coming for drills.

Following a break for lunch a **motion was made by Don Scott, Redfield to remove Resolution # 6 from the table. It was seconded by Brent Dostal, Tama. Motion carried.**

**Marv Boldt – Drill Rules Committee – proposed change to Resolution # 6** - In the portion that was underlined to be added – strike “when the football leaves the cement block” and change that to “after whistle blows”. The added line will now read *or the coupler's hand still on coupling or valve after the whistle blows* will disqualify the offending team.

**Motion to approve Resolution # 6 as amended was made by Don Scott, Redfield and seconded by Kirk Rice, Iowa Falls. Motion carried.**

**Mark Johnson, Forest City made a motion to reconsider Resolution # 5. It was seconded by Brent Dostal, Tama. Motion carried.**

**Marv Boldt – Drill Rules Committee – proposed change to Resolution # 5** - In the portion that was underlined to be added – strike “when target #1 goes down the second time” and change that to “after whistle blows”. The added line will now read *If the hands of the contestant at the wye are touching the coupling or wye after whistle blows, disqualification.*

**Motion to accept Resolution # 5 as amended was made by Brent Dostal, Tama. It was seconded by Jeremy Scott, Pella. Motion carried.**

**Motion was made by Cliff Renslow, Stuart to approve the minutes of the convention meeting held in Story City, Iowa on September 13, 2015. It was seconded by Mark Johnson, Forest City. Motion carried.**

#### **Executive Director's Report – Wendy Lensing**

I'd like to thank everyone for coming to this mid year meeting today. I don't have a lot to report on because I have been spending most of my time working on the dues so that everything was as current as possible for the meeting. I've had a lot of phone calls about dues. I apologize but I have been behind on getting all of them processed this year. They were sent out a bit later than usual and due to timing issues with other events such as the mailing for this meeting that needed to go out as well as family interruptions to my work schedule a lot of the processing was delayed until the last couple of weeks. The poster contest luncheon is coming up next weekend. Ellen Hagen has been taking care of notifying the winners and getting that event lined up. I passed that on to her. I appreciate her taking that over. The first week of May Mark, Bill and I will be going to Washington, DC for meetings and the NVFC spring conference and Bob Platz and Roger Bissen will be coming out for the conference. I've been working on getting our appointments set up out there.

If you haven't signed up to get our emails I encourage you to do so. Our Constant Contact system has been working great. We've been sending out a lot of emails lately as well as notifications on our Facebook page. That is the best way to keep informed about legislation and other things going on in between issues of the *Iowa Firefighter*. I sent out information about Mid Year. Unfortunately I also sent out quite a few emails and notifications due to two of our Past Presidents passing away – Tom Hancock

and Brian Seymour.

I need drill officials for convention. If you are interested in helping please let me know.

#### **Financial Report – Wendy Lensing**

Our total current assets for the Iowa Firefighters Association as of February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 were \$494,317.90. The total assets of Iowa Firemen's Foundation as of February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 were \$50,502.86. Of that total \$1,392.99 was for the Smoke Detector project. The rest is actual funds for the Foundation.

**Motion to approve the financial report was made by Ellen Hagen, Jewell. It was seconded by Marv Boldt, Traer. Motion carried.**

#### **Proposed Budget – Wendy Lensing**

The board met in the middle of January prior to our January board meeting in Storm Lake and worked on the budget. We just finished our first year after switching accounting years from calendar to fiscal so we had to take into account some of the adjustments for that. The budget we worked on is for the period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. Our estimated income for that period is \$221,310.00. Our projected expenses for the fiscal year are \$228,593.10. That leaves us with an estimated loss of \$7,283.10.

**Motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Roger Bissen, Harlan. It was seconded by Rusty Hockman, Jewell. Motion carried.**

#### **Audit Report – Gene Evans**

We, the auditing committee, have examined the books of the Iowa Firefighters Association, the Mutual Aid Department and the Iowa Firemen's Foundation for the year ending June 30, 2015. We have compared the books with the financial statements of all divisions. We have reconciled the books with the respective bank account statements, compared the checks written for mutual aid deaths with the completed statements covering the respective death. We have examined other phases of the office operations as we deemed necessary. It is our opinion that the financial operations of the Iowa Firefighters Association, the Mutual Aid Department and the Iowa Firemen's Foundation are in order and the financial statements of all divisions are correctly stated.

Gene Evans, Chair, Nick Riley and attested to by President Mark McNees

**Motion to accept the audit report was made by Al Muhlhausen, Maquoketa. It was seconded by Don Scott, Redfield. Motion carried.**

#### **Officers Reports –**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> VP Bill Halleran –**

Welcome everyone to the 2016 Iowa Firefighters Mid-Year. I look forward to this event because it means convention is getting closer and I look forward to the camaraderie among all of you. It looks like President McNees has a great Mid-Year planned for everyone.

To date we have been pretty busy. I have attended several award invites to some Fire Departments. This tradition is very honoring due to offering credit where credit is due. If anyone on your Fire Dept. has reached at least 20 years of active service, please let anyone on the board know and we will see if we can get someone there to present the certificate.

Several of us attended the Governors address this year at the Capital. As the Governor laid out his financial plans, we were optimistic that we would get our standard funding knowing that the education request was going to trump any and all other requests.

President McNees and I attended the EMS Day on the Hill this year. Many of the State Capital issues/requests are standard across the board for most Emergency Services entities. You will see this gaining momentum in the future as we try to obtain a better unified voice among Iowa Firefighter's Association, Iowa Fire Chief's Association and Iowa Association of Professional Fire Chiefs. We feel that if we team up as Emergency Services we represent each other in numbers at the Capital. Annual Firefighter Day on the Hill was on St. Patrick's Day. We decided to do things a little different this year as we contracted with the Capital Staff to make the chili and serve it. With low participation of teams bringing chili for the competition, we felt it best suited to have the Capital kitchen do it, this way it allowed the board to talk with the legislators as they came by. I personally feel the Chili that is brought in for the competitions is better and the legislators noted this as well. But until we can get more teams to attend that day we will probably continue to use the Capitals Kitchen staff.

Benefited Emergency Response Districts or better known from the past as just Benefited Fire Districts is gaining some much need momentum. EMS only benefited districts have been allowed since 1995. On the fire side these were taken away in 1975. (55) benefited fire districts were grandfathered in but no new ones were allowed to start up. A bill was introduced this year during the legislative session to allow the Benefited Emergency Response districts for Fire to be reviewed again. As of this time, no new news has been brought forward.

This potentially new option would allow the Fire/EMS districts the opportunity to bond much like a school district does. The main issue is that the financials will go up budget wise. If this were to gain momentum, we need your assistance on this issue to support it. We as the IFA cannot fight this battle alone. For more information on this George Oster has led the charge assisting the IFA board. Please see our website as well as George has articles in this month's IFA newsletter.

We have good attendance here at the Mid-Year banquet. Next year's event will be held in Coralville at the Marriott. I would like to take a straw poll here. The one thing that we hear back from people is the cost of the meal is too expensive. What would be a good value? Marriott stated that would be willing to look at options on this. Grill out burgers/brats, pasta bar, etc.. We would love to get the dinner attendance up versus people leaving and eating out.

On a sad note, I attended both the funerals for Past Presidents Tom Hancock and Brian Seymour. Both were very well respected by many and will be truly missed by many.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Marv Trimble:**

I had the unfortunate honor of attending the funerals of Tom Hancock and Brian Seymour. I say unfortunate because they went too early. I say honor because we need to recognize their contributions to the fire service and society in general.

I had the pleasure of awarding years of service awards to my friends Bill Kuhn and Jim Takes in Urbana January 16th. February 20th I presented Robins Chief Brain Boots and Keith Feldkamp 20 year awards. The political season is in session. I went to the Capitol on January 27th to testify at a senate subcommittee meeting and then January 28th for the Firefighter Breakfast. On March 30th I received an email stating another subcommittee was meeting about the future of the fireworks bill in the Ways and Means committee. Luckily I was able to leave work early so I could get home to change clothes and get to the Capitol for a 10:00 A.M. hearing. There were only two of us that testified. Michael Tripplett, the lobbyist for IEMSA, and I were the only ones to testify. We both were against the bill. Two against, none in favor, it passed. Not sure about the math on that one.

I want everyone in the emergency services to realize we will have additional responses as a result of the passing of this bill. Over 72% of all injuries and deaths occur from the time the pager alarms until we return to the station. With increased access will come increased incidents. We will respond to all of

them. This places us at increased risk. Please get behind the effort to stop this bill. Contact the senators on the Ways and Means committee and voice your opposition.

In two weeks I will be going to TEEEX in College Station Texas. I am a team leader for Iowa Task Force One, the Iowa Urban Search and Rescue team. Six of us will be going to Structural Collapse 4. This will cover multiple story building collapse. The team went to Oelwein and Des Moines to shore up multiple story buildings so they could be investigated safely. The team also does search, urban and wildland. We have been involved with multiple lost person searches. The team also can assist your department with Swift water, High angle, Tower, Trench, and Rope rescue. The other asset is the mobile communication system. If you lose your radio system due to a tower or other equipment failure we can get you temporary radio communication within a few hours. The whole team practices to be on the road within three hours. Remember, this team is here to assist you when your resources are exhausted. We don't take over. Contact your EMA director to activate the team.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Jim Shutts:**

Hello and I would like to welcome you all to another great midyear meeting of the Iowa Firefighters Association. I'm sure the midyear committee has a wonderful evening planned. I would like to thank the fine folks at the Marriot, the West Des Moines Fire Department, and the City of West Des Moines for their wonderful hospitality. As for myself and the rest of the board we have been busy trying to get numerous bills either passed or thrown out. We all decided to pursue one subject as to cut down on everyone rehashing the same information.

I picked the E-911 surcharge Fund. The current HF-2439 is a bill to establish a priority of funding, increases the amount of moneys allocated for funding to the public safety answering points (PSAPs), and limits the carryover amount to \$3.5 million annually. The bill will require the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to conduct a study by January 15, 2017 to determine the most efficient way to consolidate the PSAPs. Currently, 46.0% of the total amount of E-911 surcharge generated per calendar quarter is distributed to the PSAPs. There are 114 PSAPs in the state, including the Department of public safety. This bill would change the initial distribution to the PSAPs to 60.0% of the total amount of moneys generated by the E-911 surcharge per calendar quarter. The allotted revenue will continue in proportion to the square mileage served by each PSAP and the number of wireless E-911 calls received by each PSAP. The bill also eliminates the accumulation of a carryover operating surplus in the fund by directing the program manager to expend and distribute all of the funds except for \$3.5 million. This is the amount needed in reserve in case of a catastrophic occurrence within the system. There will be Grants to any PSAP agreeing to consolidate. These Grants will not exceed one half the projected cost of consolidation or \$200,000, whichever is less. It is an assumption that revenues will continue to be generated as they have been in past years, and are estimated to be \$28.1 million annually Beginning in FY2017, annual projected expenses (other than direct payments to the PSAPs) are estimated to be \$6.7 million. There will be no impact to the General Fund as all revenues are from the E-911 surcharge fund.

### **4<sup>th</sup> VP – Gene Evans:**

I would like to begin by also thanking the West Des Moines Fire Department and the Marriott for their outstanding hospitality this weekend. Great venues surrounded by a vibrant community make this meeting a true pleasure to attend.

I would like to ask all of the Members present here today to join me for a moment of silence in remembrance of those who have answered the final call this past year. We especially remember Doug Cook- Mechanicsville, Past President Tom Hancock-Epworth, Past President Brian Seymour- Indianola, and all of those who we now name in our hearts.

A final message that I would like to convey regards Department organization, taxation and donations. As we all have seen in the media, some Fire Departments have been involved in scrutiny from their governing bodies regarding the procurement and disposition of donated funds.

If your Department does not currently have a 501c3 Non Profit status, I would strongly suggest consulting with a trusted Tax professional or Legal Counsel to facilitate the formation of a Non Profit Corporation. We all work hard for the monies that are raised by pancake feeds, Firemen’s dances, etc. and it would be a shame to have the funds re-appropriated without our consent. Our good friend George Oster is the resident expert on this matter, and he is very willing to assist with the formation of an entity to insure that donated funds remain in the control of the Fire Department. I would also mention that there are links under the “Information- How to Organize” tab on the IFA website providing templates for 28E agreements, pertinent sections of the Iowa Code, Non-profit Corporation information and other useful documents.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Firefighters for the service that you provide to your communities. It is my privilege and honor to stand within the ranks of Iowa Firefighters and to serve on this Board.

Remember- Get there safe, Work safe, and Get Home Safe!

**5<sup>th</sup> VP – Nick Riley:**

I’d like to thank everyone for coming. This is actually my first Mid Year meeting. I was “volun-told” that it was my job at this meeting to ask all first time attendees to please stand and be recognized. Also, after the meeting we need to have all first time attendees meet for a picture.

Marv mentioned in his report that every time we respond to a call we put ourselves at risk. I’ve been doing some research...

Each year, an average of 100 firefighters die and 100,000 firefighters are injured in the line of duty from a variety of causes including, extreme physical exertion, underlying medical conditions, and motor vehicle crashes. The United States Fire Administration (USFA), an agency of the Department of Homeland Security, cites motor vehicle crashes as the cause of death for between 20–25% of the annual line-of-duty fatalities. Motor vehicle crashes are the second highest cause of death for firefighters. The leading cause of death is stress and overexertion which accounts for approximately 50% of the fatalities. Other significant causes of death in the dataset include: caught/trapped (10%), fall (5%), collapse (3%) and other (7%). Fire truck crashes, although rare in comparison to non-emergency vehicle crashes, tend to have grave consequences for fire truck occupants and for occupants in other vehicles involved in the crash. Despite revising national standards to improve fire truck safety and reduce firefighters’ risk of injury and fatality, the annual injury and fatality rate has remained essentially unchanged over the past decade.

Fatality Analysis Recording System (FARS) database tracks all fatal crashes in the United States. For this analysis, data from 371,169 crashes between 2000 and 2009 was queried to collect crash characteristics on crashes involving fire vehicles. The database contained 195 cases where fire trucks were involved in fatal cases. In 49 of those cases, at least one fatality occurred in the fire truck.

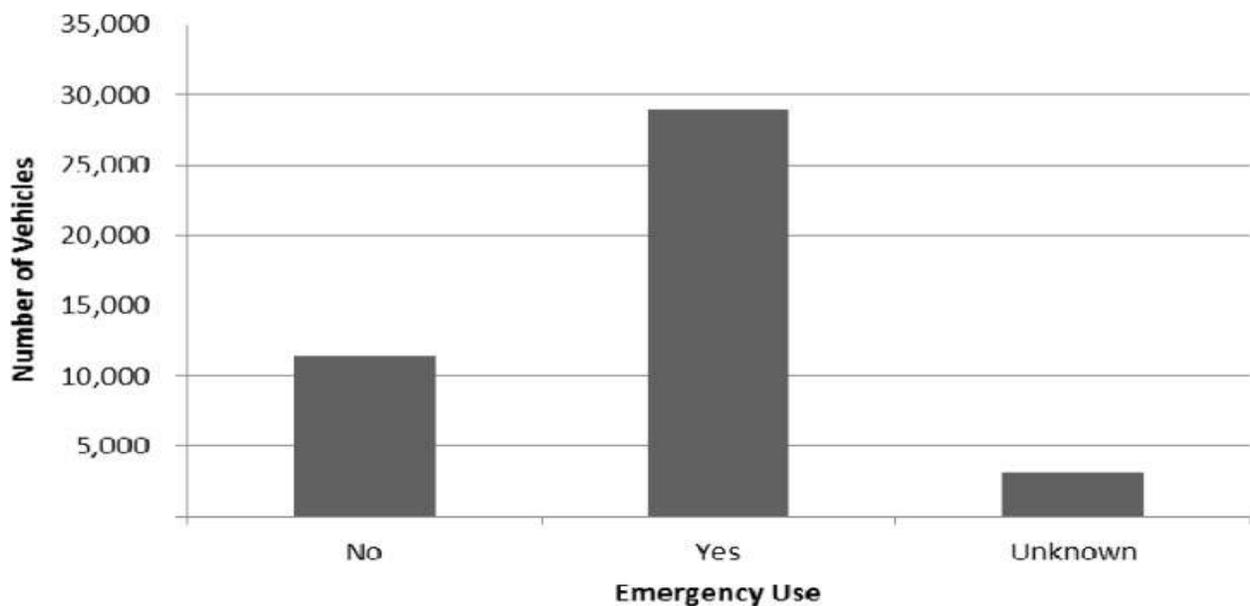
<b>Fire truck Crash Data (2000–2009)</b>	<b>Fatal Crashes (FARS)</b>
	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>Number of Crashes</b>	49
<b>Number of Occupants Involved</b>	476
<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	50

Injury Severity (2000–2009)	Fatal Crashes (FARS)	
	Frequency	Percent
No Injury (O)	223	46.9
Possible Injury (C)	77	16.2
Non-incapacitating Evident Injury (B)	89	18.7
Incapacitating Injury (A)	36	7.6
Fatal Injury (K)	50	10.5
Injury, severity unknown	0	0
Unknown	1	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>100</b>

**Occupant Ejection (2000–2009) Fatal Crashes (FARS)**

	Frequency	Percent
Not Ejected	27	54
Totally Ejected	17	34
Partially Ejected	5	10
Not on PAR	0	0
Not Applicable	0	0
Unknown	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Chart indicates that most fire truck crashes occur when the truck is being used during an emergency (66%).



Studies have found that fire truck crashes are most common near intersections, in the PM peak periods, and involved high-risk behaviors like speeding and passing maneuvers. Research has shown that restraint use is an important factor to consider when aiming to reduce the number of firefighter fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. In one departmental survey, 42% of the firefighters thought that the size and weight of the vehicle would be enough to prevent against serious injury in the event of a crash. The question remains: why are firefighters neglecting their seatbelts?

Approximately 500 firefighters are involved in fatal fire truck crashes each year and 1 out of 100 of these occupants dies as a result of the crash. Despite efforts and changes in regulations that govern fire vehicle safety, the average fatality rate per year has remained relatively unchanged. Rollovers are the most common accidents that result in firefighter deaths, and a majority of those fatalities were unrestrained occupants. Improving fire truck restraint systems could reduce the number of injuries and fatalities that occur in fire truck crashes, but the restraint systems will only be effective if firefighters use them while in the fire truck.

**Past President – Brad Yeager:**

I'd like to thank everyone for being here today. It's good of you to spend your day here with us, hearing what's going on in the association. We certainly appreciate that. I'd like to thank Mark and his committee for putting this all together. Those that were here last year remember my daughter was here helping out with some things. She couldn't be here today unfortunately but wanted me to say "Hello" to everyone for her, especially to her favorite president Mark McNees.

I owe you guys an apology. The past couple of years I've had some personal issues that have taken time away from my duties on the board. I appreciate the support of my guys and the board and some others. Thank you.

**President Mark McNees:**

I would like to thank WDM chief Craig Leu for welcoming us and addressing the meeting. Also a big thank you to the Harlan honor guard for presenting and posting the colors.

The board has been very busy working on several issues. I am going to address the cancer presumption legislation I wanted to initiate this year. It became apparent quickly, that though there is interest in such protection, there are many moving parts to implementing such legislation. Career firefighters are covered now, but each individual city is responsible for covering any costs. This is not feasible for smaller communities. Several states have coverage under workers comp insurance. Obviously, this is an area where there would be several interested entities to include career and volunteers in that program. I look at this effort in the same way that heart attack presumption came to be implemented. It began with career firefighters and then was afforded to volunteers doing the same work. I have already started discussing the issue with legislators from both parties in both chambers. Discussions have revolved at this point on some basic questions on how it could be implemented. I am sure there will be some documentation requirements that will be necessary, a time frame of service before coverage may take effect, and what cancers may be included. Currently there are specific cancers showing up in firefighters at increasingly younger ages. It is becoming a larger issue and studies are being done and the NVFC is leading the way on this issue. I hope that over the summer we can build a framework of legislation that can provide firefighters coverage against this disease. I don't pretend that this will be easy to accomplish, but we have to start. I have offered to lead this in the next year as I hope the past president position will allow me some more time to focus on this.

We have had discussion in recent months, at the urging of past president Scott Hagenson, who suggested he believed it was time for a new long range planning committee. I agree and have been working on this for some time. I wanted to have someone off the last committee to serve again to give it

some continuity. We began to ask several and Roger Bissen agreed to serve again. I then asked the board for some names of people they thought might be interested. At the moment I have four who have agreed to serve and have a couple more who are thinking about it. I would like at least five and as soon as it is filled we will announce the names. They are tasked with looking at all aspects of the association from finances, meetings, membership, communications etc, and will meet as necessary. I am asking they give their report at the next mid- year meeting.

In the past, some of our standing committees have not been functioning as well as they could be, or were having quite a bit of their work done by Wendy. I have asked them to begin to take full responsibility for their duties to take some of the work load off the executive director's plate. I am pleased that they have responded positively, in particular the fire prevention committee and the Hall of Flame committee. I am also pleased to announce that Ashley Hockman will be coordinating the Hall of Flame work scheduling, ticketing and other issues. This will take a large load off of the executive director. Wendy has been doing this for too long after we lost our previous coordinators. This was never meant to be part of that position, so we are very happy to have Ashley agree to take this on. She has been very involved and I know will do a super job. The drill rules committee has done a great job of addressing issues, the convention committee is on top of things, and the membership committee will be busy very soon. I thank them all for helping the association.

It has been mentioned already, but I will briefly touch on the tremendous loss we have felt as an association. You never know what will come your way, but I never imagined we would lose two past presidents during my term as president. It has been a very rough couple of months with the passing of Tom Hancock and Brian Seymour. It was a shock to us all and they both left an indelible mark on this association. I thank everyone who was able to attend the visitations and funerals and for your support of the families. They are greatly missed by me and many others.

I see Todd Edeker is in attendance. For several years he has served as Chaplain of the IFA. It has been a work in progress as to what role the chaplain plays within the association. I want to state that he is not just here to give a blessing at the banquet. The chaplain is here for consultation to any department or individual that needs help. Anyone who has been through a CISD knows how important and valuable a chaplain can be. Many of our departments do not have a designated chaplain, so they can contact Todd and if he cannot respond he will work to find someone in your area who can help. Todd has been taking additional courses and I thank him for his dedication to our association. I think a chaplain is a vital part and very necessary.

The board has been working on a more organized list of people that have expressed interest in running for 5<sup>th</sup> VP. As the board changes people who may have expressed an interest, or who have been approached to run, have been lost. So we are trying to keep a list of people who have been approached, who have expressed an interest, or who have said they are interested but they need some more time before it would work. We can then check back to encourage those people to become candidates. The board wants to be a resource for information and wants to try and insure we have candidates who announce at least by mid-year that they are running. I believe it's in the memberships' best interest to get to know those who may represent them and the earlier they know who is running the better it is for everyone. We are still awaiting someone to announce for this next year, and also for convention host. We are finding it is becoming more difficult to find people interested in serving and one issue is the time commitment. It is something that will also be looked at by the long range planning committee.

I have mentioned this before and began discussions with the board a couple of years ago to come up with a board guideline regarding the reserves the association has on hand. The board at the last meeting voted to institute a policy that will keep one year's operating expenses on hand in undesignated reserves, with any extra reserves available for critical needs or shortfalls. This gives future boards some guidance on how to plan on a budget and what would trigger the need for a dues increase. This provides

some best business practices that will help control spending and provide those triggers to better justify a dues increase.

I have had the privilege the past few months of making presentations in Essex, which included a 60 year certificate. I have also been to Exira and Red Oak. It is always great to get out and meet firefighters and see their stations and equipment. Hearing their stories and seeing the pride they have and that their communities have in them always makes the trip worth it. We try to make all we can when requested. I want to thank the board for their efforts, Wendy for all she does even under stressful situations, the membership for their support, my mid-year committee, and my family for their continued support that allows me to serve the IFA.

#### **NVFC - Bob Platz and Roger Bissen:**

Bob - I want to thank the board for letting me stay on the NVFC board. I plan on returning again full of energy.

Since I have been back I spent a lot of time on conference calls. The new chairman has some ideas he wants to push forward. He added me on the cancer committee due to the fact I had bladder cancer. Our first meeting will be in May when we meet again. We have all kinds of ideas but we will discuss them first. The health and safety committee chairman tells me we will be looking at physicals within the next 3 years if you haven't been told that already.

We want to go with the Volunteer section of the I-CHIEFS and talk to Mrs. Hope Janke on why we can't get the PSOB caught up and paid off.

There needs to be changes in the AFG grants. We got the \$25,000 Micro grants but never changed any procedures to make it simpler. The last I heard they were going to award 2 hoods and gloves instead of one for safety. The legislative committee is working on getting AFG funding for 2016—2017.

The NVFC has appointed Roger to some committees which he can explain.

We read the AFG grants in Baltimore 4-5 weeks ago.

May 15-21 we will be reading the SAFER grants, and then this fall we will read the 2016 grants.

Brian Seymour will be missed in the NVFC as he was very active on his committees.

I do want to thank everybody for the prayers while I was sick. I spent right at 3 months in the hospital.

Roger – Last fall Mark asked if I would be interested in taking Brian's position as a delegate on the NVFC board. I'd like to thank Mark and the board for that. I went through orientation. As of right now I will be serving on the By-Laws Committee, Wireless Communications Committee and Hazardous Materials Response Committee. If there is anything that I can take to the National level that you have a concern about let me know and I'll speak on behalf of us here in Iowa. Last week I was on a conference call for the By-Laws committee and I have met some of these folks that I'm working with back when I was on the board and we were doing the states networking and I got to meet a lot of the people I'm working with today and I'm learning real fast that the National Volunteer Fire Council is a very well respected group and they have a lot of respect for us here in Iowa. I was really impressed that the conference call that I was on took a moment of silence to remember Brian. That really touched my heart.

#### **Memorial Committee – Mike Reuman:**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Memorial Service will be Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> in Coralville. There will be a candlelight service the night before. We have a block of rooms at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center. That is the same location as it has been in the past but Radisson bought out the Holiday Inn there. Just ask for the block of room with the Iowa Firefighters Association. The cutoff date for adding names to the wall is May 10<sup>th</sup>.

I received an e-mail a couple weeks ago from the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the memorial out there in Emmitsburg was started in 1981 so Line of Duty Deaths nationwide on that goes

from 1981 to the present and they are in the process of wanting to go to all the states, and we've given them the information for Iowa, they want to add another section that is pre-1981 and pick up all the firefighters that died in the line of duty years and years ago. They are also going to do a brick project. Individuals or fire departments can buy a brick. Individual bricks are \$100, department bricks are \$150. All that information is on their website at [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org). There will be a dedication of that new section in June.

We have had totes made up for sale for the memorial this year for \$12.

#### **Legislative Committee – John Pederson:**

I grew up in Lake Mills. I moved to Des Moines about 40 years ago and I've been a lobbyist for the past 27 years. I lobbied for the Attorney General's office, Governor's office, and for the past 10 or 11 years I've been a multi-client lobbyist. I really appreciate the board. If questions come up about something they have been very quick to respond.

I believe the session will run a bit longer than scheduled. They have to decide where final cuts will be made.

You've heard about the fireworks bill. If you can contact your legislator and ask them not to support this please do.

The money for training fund is still intact at \$825,520. The CO alarm bill will go into affect 7-1-18.

A couple clarifications on the E911; last year we sent the appropriations bill down with the language changing the 46% to 58%, the governor struck that language and kept the \$4 million coming out of the fund which we didn't like very much. This year we've got up to 60% for the fund going to the PSAPs but we want to make sure that is signed before we ever send an appropriations change down where they can take any money out of that fund. We're going to closely watch that and make sure if we can get those PSAPs up to 60%, spend down the money over time so they can't steal anything else, we'll continue to try to do that. There is \$200,000 for the consolidation fee so if two PSAPs get together and have the ability to consolidate you would be rewarded with \$200,000, I believe each, to consolidate.

The last thing I want to talk about is the 4 elements of lobbying. There isn't a single bill that passes up there that doesn't have somebody behind it. It doesn't matter if it's environment, if it's firefighters or anything else there is somebody behind there pushing that bill. It may be a legislator. It may be an individual that's gone through some tragic thing or it may be an organization such as yourselves. Always keep in mind that when you see in the paper some bill that is coming up, somebody wants that.

Somebody is pushing for it. Legislators hear from people and they listen and they respond to that with either votes, or no votes or trying to kill legislation. Not one single bill passes without 4 elements. First and foremost there has to be an issue. What do you care about? What is your issue? Then you have to have an organization or an individual that pushes that through the process. You also need a presence at the capitol. You can push it through emails and calls but if you're at the capitol you can hire professional help or you come up with a presence such as your "red coats" which are always nice to see up there.

The 4<sup>th</sup> thing, and the only thing I think out of the 4 things that we lack a little bit, is contributions. I'm going to talk a little bit about PAC dollars – Political Action Committees raise money for individuals to contribute to campaigns to give to folks who back your ideas and back your issues and causes. We're not trying to go out and "buy votes". That isn't what this is about. Contributing to a PAC allows you better access and tells somebody that "I like it when you raise our training dollars" or you do something for us in one way or another. If we can raise this PAC a little bit more we will contribute to individuals who have helped us in the past or agree to help us in the future. This is an election year. They will be asking for contributions. If each firefighter were to give \$1 we would make a heck of a dent in making some contributions to leadership and committee chairs that run our budget through the process. Over time we'll be sending out some "cheat sheets" so when you have your meetings back home, you go to training, you pass the hat maybe once or twice a year and if you can throw a \$1 into the hat we'll get it

into the PAC and be able to provide individuals that are running for the House or Senate with some contributions. They all have to raise money. There will probably be some races in the Senate that will exceed \$500,000 - \$750,000 for a single Senate seat. That's how important it is to different groups that care about what's going on and who is in control up there. Please contribute at least \$1 and get your other members, your friends to do the same. Unless you write a check or contribute more than \$25 we do not have to report that to the officials at the state government. If the money is sent to Wendy in a check from one individual you can say "our 42 members raised \$100" we can divide that down and no one is over \$25 and it doesn't have to be reported as individuals. I encourage you to do that and with that I thank you for what you do.

Marv Trimble said he agreed and he threw \$1 into a boot to pass around the meeting.

#### **Convention Committee – Marv Trimble:**

We met yesterday. We had a lot of great input. We talked about the equipment. We have two sections of 2-1/2" hose that got damaged last year. Waverly graciously offered to throw 2 sections in. That is something that has been done in the past. It's kind of a gentlemen's agreement that if you host you throw in a couple sections of hose. I co-hosted in Garrison last time with Vinton and I didn't know about it so I don't know if we donated any hose or not. But, if your department has a little bit of extra hose that you can bring along and donate we have hose every year that gets trashed. Please keep that in mind.

Contest assistance – I know when we hosted we had no idea how much help John needed during the day. We were able to talk to Waverly yesterday and we got that all taken care of.

We talked about the late registration or one day only for the events. I think right now would be a bad time to have Waverly do it because they are already in their process. But, I think it's something we need to talk about doing in the future if someone wants to come down, run the events and go home and not pay the whole registration fee, but make sure it's enough to cover the expenses of putting on the contests.

I really want to thank Story City for fixing up all the boxes to 30 amp.

One thing that we know is going to need help and we don't have this quite figured out yet is the shower trailers. We're going to have to work on that. We just started talking about that yesterday. We need to get some estimates on what it will cost and how those are going to be paid for in the future.

#### **Hall of Flame Committee – Rusty Hockman:**

Thank you to all that have helped in the past to make this a very good project for state education for kids. It's worked well over the years. I thought we had one of the best set ups this year getting it set up and ready to go. However, on the other end, we had one of the worst teardowns we've ever had on Monday morning. We didn't find out until a couple days before that we weren't going to be able to use the school kids that had helped in the past. We had to leave the trailer sit and come back Monday night. Thanks to Alden Fire Department and Perry Fire Department that were able to give us some help and we got it tore down and put in the trailer. We're working on finding another bunch of school kids that can maybe help again.

We did purchase a new trailer and we were able to get that switched towards the end of the year.

Thanks to those that helped get that switched over. We are now riding on 3 axles instead of two.

Thanks to the coordinators Jim Bagenstos from La Porte City and our daughter Ashley for doing the day to day coordinating of the volunteers. It was the board's wishes to take one of the things that got thrown in Wendy's lap when the project started – scheduling, getting tickets sent out and all that – and get someone to take that over. They talked to Ashley and she is willing to take over that job I guess.

The fair this year runs August 11<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. Set up will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the fairgrounds underneath the grandstand. If you can help with that it is greatly appreciated. Teardown will be at 8 a.m. on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Unfinished Business – none**

**New Business: - none**

**Good of Association:**

Social hour starts at 6 p.m. tonight. Meal is at 7 p.m.

**Waverly Fire Department** – Thank you everyone for your support this weekend. We sold 971 campsites. 49 bowling sections are gone. We still have openings for Friday at 3:30. 93 golfing spots are taken. 142 registrations are done. We will continue conversations with Marv about a possible one day registration. For those trying to keep up with us, Facebook is best. We will have website up April 11<sup>th</sup> – [www.waverlyfireconvention.com](http://www.waverlyfireconvention.com) . Waverly Fire Department and the City of Waverly look forward to seeing you in September.

**Jeremy Scott – Pella** – Last year we competed in the Fight for Air Climb. It is put on by the American Lung Association. Our department decided to do it because our chief's wife had to have a double lung transplant. I challenge anyone out here to put a team together and compete this year. It's actually next weekend. We went from having one team to now having 3 teams. We set a goal to raise \$5000. We are halfway there. If you want to help us reach our goal let me know. I don't know how many teams are signed up to compete. I believe Story City Fire Department won it last year. We think we can beat them this year because their guy that ran the fastest can't be there this year.

Jim Timmer a 35 year member of Delhi Fire Department and past chief passed away last Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Wake is Sunday at the Catholic Church in Delhi and funeral is Monday.

**Al Muhlhausen** – presented \$60 for the memorial that was raised at Coralville Winter Waterfights.

**\$176.34 was raised for the PAC.**

**Ellen Hagen** – Thank you to everyone that participated in the poster contest.

**Meeting adjourned 3:09 p.m.**