

## Minutes – EDIAFC Conference Call March 13, 2005 - 7:00 P.M.

**Present:** Askenstedt, Lowden, Cohan, Gouty, Warrick, Watson, Seavey, Pienkowski, Jenaway,

**Absent:** Stahl, Walton, Chiaramonte,

**Minutes:** The board received the minutes from the Board Meeting of 02/25/05.

There was a **motion to approve the minutes of the 02/25/15 Board Meeting** by Gouty and a second by Walton.

**Motion approved unanimously.**

### 2005 EDIAFC Conference:

1. Speakers - Morning speakers will be Congressman Curt Weldon and a speaker to be named from Nextel talking on interoperability. The PM speaker will be Dennis Rubin from Virginia speaking on safety
2. Hotels will be The Crown Plaza Valley Forge (full service hotel) at \$109 single and \$119/double or the Fairfield Inn at \$99.
3. Sponsors: Campbell Supply, Commerce Bank, Motorola Total Fire, Draeger, Choice Marketing, and National Fire Sprinkler Assoc. have all promised to help. Motorola will sponsor Dennis Rubin; Bill has touched with some other vendors. Campbell Responded and Commerce has not responded. Nextel will be a platinum sponsor for \$5,000.00. Conectiv has given \$1,000.00. All of the 5 states except NY will provide \$500.00 sponsorships. NY is waiting their next BOD meeting. NJ Career Chiefs gave \$500.00.
4. Registration will be \$50.00 and include lunch and 1 banquet ticket. Extra Banquet tickets will be \$35. Please register. Board members must also pay to attend.
5. The KOP Ladies Auxiliary is working on a luncheon fashion show for the ladies program
6. The conference luncheon will be at a new station with cheese stakes and hoagies
7. The Banquet and President's cocktail party will be held in at the KOP Social Hall.
8. The conference program will be \$900 for 40 pages with color cover. ICC will sponsor the program book.
9. Jim Broman has emailed that he will attend the 5 state meeting and conference. He is a candidate for IAFC 2<sup>nd</sup> VP in 2006.

Bill Jenaway reported that registration is very low. So far there are 9 registrations and only 7 rooms reserved. Many Board Members are still not registered. There were problems with Thursday reservations. Bill is working with the hotel. Make your reservation for Thursday and they will adjust the rate later.

Please remember to have your Officer reports in by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please follow up with your states and sponsors to have them submit ads and checks they have committed to.

Garry Briese and Bob DiPoli were asked to submit letters to address the Conference and to be placed in the conference program. Both agreed. Bob DiPoli plans to attend. The secretary asked the Board to have Bob as a guest and waive registration and banquet costs. There was a **motion** to comp Bob DiPoli his registration and partner banquet ticket by Pienkowski and second by Warrick. The motion was approved unanimously.

Les Warrick reported on the status of the Memorial Service. Bill Askenstedt said Father Steger will not be attending.

Bill Jenaway and Bill Askenstedt will investigate doing a conference mailing.

Bill will have another blast for the conference put out in the Daily Dispatch (**Will be in Tuesday 3/15/05**)

### Secretary Treasurer Report: No Report

**Conference Calls:** Remember the new conference call phone number is: **1-866-809-4014** and the new code is **2730202**, the dates for the EDIAFC conference calls are: Apr. 17, May 22, June 12, July 17, Sept. 11, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, and Dec. 11. All dates are Sunday nights. Time will remain 7 P.M. the phone number remains 866-809-4014 and the Code remains 2730202.

**Banner:** Jim Watson reported he has the banner and it came out well.

**IAFC Report:** Bill Walton was not on the call and had no report.

### **NFA Letter approved by the Five State Summit**

Mike Chiaramonte did the original draft. Several changes were proposed and sent back to Mike for final approval. The letter has yet to be completed. The Board opted to wait on the letter at the last meeting. **This is still tabled.**

### **Fire Rescue GPO**

The Board's frustration with the GPO was transmitted to them in a letter from President Cohan. Bill Askenstedt has been in touch with Caryn and they are exploring ways to begin addressing the web problems. Bill will work directly with their web designer to explain the issues and offer assistance and suggestions. Jim Seavey will go to the GPO Meeting in Seattle at the GPO's expense. The Great Lakes and Missouri Valley Divisions are having problems with the GPO as well. Bill Askenstedt will be on the GPO conference call this week. Ken Pienkowski expressed concern that the letter sent by Bernie had not been answered. Bill Askenstedt will be on the GPO Conference Call on Thursday in place of Jim Seavey.

### **FRI Luncheon**

Our Board approved the FRI luncheon for Friday from 11:30 to 1:00 PM. The secretary is working on the arrangements. It should be finalized at the Division Secretaries Meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> in Fairfax. The Board agreed in Evesham to have a single speaker for the Board and to possibly invite Dennis O'Neil from the NFA. Ted was nominated in Evesham to be the FRI speaker. Mike Chiaramonte has requested to be the speaker in his roll as President. The Board decided to wait until the next call you decide the speaker.

### **February Board Meeting & Five State Meeting**

The meeting was held and successful. Please get your expenses in as soon as possible.

### **Valor Committee**

Les Warrick provided an update on the current Valor Award. Only New York has submitted a nomination.

Mike Chiaramonte requested the Board discuss the new award format he has recommended but was not on the call to discuss it. **Tabled.**

### **2006 EDIAFC Conference**

NYS AFC had previously offered to host the 2006 conference in Binghamton, NY. At the recent 5 State Meeting, Tom LaBelle announced that the NYS AFC was moving their annual conference from Syracuse to Lake George. He has offered to host the 2006 EDIAFC Conference in conjunction with Fire 2006. He has requested the Eastern Board to respond as soon as possible as to our intent and our needs assuming we agree to have the conference with them.

There was discussion pro and con to a joint conference. Ted Lowden expressed concerns about revenue issues and the potential loss of revenue and future sponsors. There were numerous questions regarding how the conference would work in Lake George. The Board decided to ask Ken Pienkowski to meet with New York and get more information. The matter will be discussed on the next call when the information is secured.

### **IAFC C&B Committee**

Bill Askenstedt contacted Larry Vaughan at the Board's request to see if he would accept the seat held by Ken Anderson as the EDIAFC representative to the Committee. Ken is resigning after FRI. Larry said he was honored by the request and would get back shortly with his decision.

### **Bob DiPoli's Retirement Dinner**

There was a motion by Watson and second by Warrick to send the President or a representative to Bob DiPoli's Retirement Dinner. Ken Pienkowski asked if there was money to afford this. Bill Askenstedt said there was money for any single item of this cost. The problem he saw was the numerous unbudgeted expenses approved by the Board when added together. Ken asked if this set a precedent for other IAFC Presidents retiring. The Board consensus was that it was on a case by case basis and there was no precedent being set. Bernie Cohan said he had planned to attend. **The Board approved the motion to send the President and pay his expenses unanimously.**

**Ken Anderson's Retirement**

The Board discussed Ken Anderson's retiring from the IAFC Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Bill Askenstedt said Larry Vaughan had been contacted and asked if he would consider being appointed to take Ken's place. Larry had answered that he was honored by the offer and would let Bill know shortly. He has not yet done so. Bill was asked to follow up (An email was sent on 3/14/05 in follow up).

The Board discussed a proclamation for Ken in appreciation of his years of service. Bill Askenstedt suggested it should come from the IAFC since it was an IAFC Committee. Bill offered to work on an IAFC Proclamation which would express the thanks of both the IAFC and the Division. Bill will discuss this with Garry Briese next week in Fairfax. The intent would be to do a proclamation to be presented at one of the General Sessions at FRI.

**FRI Expenses**

The Board approved 4 nights expenses at FRI with the normal travel and per diem. Ted Lowden encouraged Board Members who could do so, to get their fire departments to cover their costs. Les Warrick asked about FRI registration costs. Bill Askenstedt said the Board had opted not to cover those expenses on a prior conference call. Les felt the issue should be revisited in the Future. Bill Askenstedt said the cost would be about \$5,000.00 and the Division could not afford it without making budget changes or increasing revenues to pay for it. He pointed out that the Officer's travel budget was already \$7,000 over budget without all expenses being in yet. No action was taken by the Board.

The Board approved an Executive Board Conference Call for Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. Askenstedt, Cohan, Watson and Chiaramonte will be on the call.