

**Minutes EDIAFC Conference Call October 14, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Askenstedt, Watson, Warrick, Cohan, Walton, Stahl, Maney, Showmaker, Mellits, Lowden, Gouty

Absent:

**Minutes**

The board received the minutes from the September 16, 2007 conference call.

There was a **motion** by Cohan and a second by Watson to approve the minutes of September 16 conference call. **Motion passed.**

**Secretary Treasurer Report:** Expenses have been paid for Board Members who have turned them in. Bills for the hospitality room were reimbursed to Russell. The IAFC invoice for the luncheon has not yet been received. Costs for the Board and the hospitality room are about \$12,000.00. Another \$4,000.00 plus will still be paid for the luncheon.

The secretary forwarded a separate report to the Board in a prior email and asked the Board if there were any questions or comments.

Conference Calls: Remember the conference call phone number is: **1-866-809-4014** and the code is **2730202**. All of the calls are Sunday at 7:00 PM. The 2007 schedule is as follows;

<b>Month</b>	<b>IAFC Call</b>	<b>EDIAFC Call</b>
November	08	11
December	13	16

**Fire Rescue GPO:** Jim Seavey reported Verbally at the conference that he met with several GPO members in Atlanta and that he is now up to speed with the latest GPO information. He will participate in the future GPO conference calls.

The Secretary reported that \$2,024 was received for the second quarter of 2007 from the GPO. A separate email was provided previously giving the breakdown to the Division and the states. The GPO disbursements continue to grow slowly and are helping as a alternative income source.

**EDIAFC Constitution and By-Laws:** President Stahl contacted Ken Anderson to ask his assistance with C&B Committee issues while Jon Townley is recovering from illness. Ken will help out along with Jon. Bob Stahl will participate in the process and he also requested Barry Dampier and Bob Edwards from New York and Pennsylvania to help out. The committee will begin work on correcting some language in the elections area of the Constitution as well as other language changes needed. The President stated that he thought the committee would make progress. He reminded the Board that the proposed changes had to go to the IAFC C&B Committee for approval.

## **Kentland (Maryland) Volunteer Fire Department**

Pete Mellits stated that the County Executive had intervened in the situation and that the local issue has since been resolved. An agreement on how the EMS unit would function was reached locally resolving the staffing and housing the EMS unit itself. Pete stated that while the local issue has been resolved, there is still an overall issue of harassment that exists.

President Stahl asked if the County Executive was going to remain involved in assuring harassment does not continue. He also asked if the Fire Chief might possibly be resigning. Pete said that he was uncertain of the retirement but that he did think that other issues would come to the County Executive.

### **Affiliate Membership**

The Secretary reported that he had emailed all of the other Division Secretaries to determine why they had all expressed concerns about the omission of the Divisions in the affiliate member applications. Many had expressed their disappointment at FRI but none of the Divisions supported Bill Walton when he raised the issue to the IAFC Board. The Secretary stated that none of the Division Secretaries responded to his email.

In the interim, The membership department sent out an email asking the Divisions if they had approved affiliate membership categories in their By-Laws. They stated that if a Division had approved an affiliate membership category in their Division By-Laws, then they would include the Division in the next affiliate membership applications that were produced. Only the Southeastern Division has an authorized affiliate membership category in their By-Laws. Since then, three other Divisions have either created affiliate categories or are in the process of doing so.

It appears that the intent is to now throw the problem back on the Divisions and say that the reason the Division Membership was not included in the affiliate membership applications is because the Divisions failed to create an affiliate category in their By-Laws. It further appears that there will be no support from other Divisions and that the solution may be that we need to create an affiliate membership category in our By-Laws.

The Secretary recommended that the committee reviewing the C&B we asked to draft a By-Law that creates an affiliate membership category in the Division and that a \$10.00 dues be adopted for that membership.

Consensus was that the Board would ask the C&B Committee to draft an amendment to create an affiliate membership category for the Division with a \$10.00 dues charge.

## **FRI 2008**

The Secretary confirmed that we have a confirmed room block at the Marriot in Denver which will accommodate all of our members. The hotel has already confirmed the block and we will have 350 rooms plus 25 VIP rooms. That is more than we ever book in our block.

We will need to discuss the hospitality room in Denver, because with that many rooms all in the same hotel, the costs for the room could be considerable. One answer is to obtain sponsors and it is suggested we begin that process right after the York Conference. The Secretary will work with the hotel to get the largest room possible, but often, IAFC, which pays the room cost for the Secretary, President and hospitality suite, places limits on how much they pay. It is possible that to obtain a larger suite, we could incur room costs that are considerable. We will need to look closely at what we intend to spend in next year's budget.

## **EDIAFC Conference**

Mark Showmaker reported that a few sponsors were obtained during the FRI Conference and he has obtained others locally. All Board Members need to assist in soliciting additional sponsors.

Mark reported that he and the President are working on speakers and making progress. Jack Gouty suggested a program done by Dennis Rubin. Mark reported that we probably have a full list of speakers already but he will keep it in mind.

The Secretary reported that VFIS has committed to \$5,000.00 and ACS to \$3,500.00 and that a letter was sent to ICC asking for them to renew their sponsorship of \$1,500.00. He stressed that the entire Board need to pursue sponsors for the conference.

Greg Cade from the USFA has been invited to attend as the Keynote Speakers.

## **Web Site**

The Secretary reported that there were still several board members who had not provided bios and or pictures as decided on the last conference call but, that all that were received are currently on the web site.

The Secretary also reported that he and the President have been emailing the IAFC about privacy policies. Mark Light first responded that he did not believe the IAFC had one. President Stahl politely pointed out to him that the IAFC in fact did have one and referred him to the location on the IAFC web site.

Mark then replied that he would have staff get back to us and as yet they have not. The Secretary plans to follow up with the staff in Washington during the Leadership Summit

### **PFESI Dinner**

The Secretary reported that he and Mark Showmaker had developed the ad for the PFESI ad book and sent the check and add to PFESI as a sponsor of their dinner. This was in accordance with a motion of the Board on the last conference call.

### **Leadership Summit**

Since the discussions regarding attendance on the last conference call, Bernie Cohan and Mark Showmaker have opted not to attend the Leadership Summit and we have received refunds from the IAFC for their registration fees.

### **Labor Legislation**

Jim Watson raised the issue of a house and senate bill regarding labor issues that might potentially affect the two hatters. Pete Mellits said there was language in the bill that specifically protects the “two hatters” Several members confirmed that was the case. There was discussion of the NVFC statement regarding the bill and the protection of two hatters. The Secretary and President stated they believed the IAFC could have made a stronger statement supporting “two hatters”

### **Steve Reid**

Pete Mellits reported on the condition of Steve Reid. He is improving. The Secretary will send a get well card

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 P.M.