

**NEW ENGLAND DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS**

April 6, 2016
Annual Board of Directors Meeting

NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA

Meeting called to order at 1507 by Chief Locke.

Pledge to the flag and invocation given by Rev. Blume.

Honored guests were introduced.

- Bob Duval from NFPA was proud to be able to host the event, and welcomed guests to NFPA's new Headquarters and conference center. He presented a new job opening at NFPA to anyone interested and qualified.
- Jim Pauley, NFPA President, added that the new conference center allows NFPA to bring discussions and committees to the place where the papers and policies are made. He thanked the fire chiefs and fire fighters for what they do every day, stating that NFPA provides the standards, information, and knowledge, but they are the ones that do the job day in and day out.

Secretary's Report:

- The minutes from the previous board meeting (via teleconference) on February 11, 2016 were presented in writing (see attached). A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to wave the reading of the minutes and accept as written.
- FRI registration opens for San Antonio, TX August 18. It is suggested to book rooms now before they fill up.

President's Report:

- Chief Spurr discussed his recent health issues and thanked everyone for their understanding and support. Last year, he discussed why there is a division and association in New England. There have been meetings about it and there is still a lot of work to do, but he is hopeful there will be resolution to the issue. It is still worth pursuing. Thanks to all that planned this event.

Reports from the IAFC:

Rhoda Mae Kerr, President IAFC

- Chief Kerr presented the brochure describing the IAFC. There has been over \$10 billion in AFG and SAFER grants since 2001, and the IAFC will continue to support funding.
- Chief Kerr has spent some time testifying on behalf of the IAFC and advocating for the importance of information, as it is critical to protect firefighters. In addition, she advocated to Congress to prevent AFG and SAFER grants from being rolled over into one program.

- The annual IAFC Board Meeting was held in March, and 3 days were dedicated to discussing organization itself. Are we providing the best services to our members? It was agreed unanimously to keep the divisions and sections as they are now. Dues structure discussion is ongoing, and was tabled until the next meeting.
- There was a 3.6% growth in 2015. Part of that growth depends on existing members bring in new members.
- Everyone is encouraged to go to www.IAFC.org and see what the site has to offer.
- Chief Kerr presented an award to Gerry Dio in recognition of his service on behalf of the IAFC.

Mark Light, IAFC

- There is a physician's guide to the 1582 physical being developed in order to have greater security that the physicals are done accurately. There is also a certification program for physicians being developed to properly train them how to perform the physicals.
- Another project underway is a fuel oil transportation program to train the fire service to deal with bulk fuel transport.
- On the federal level, he is working to remove the sunset clause in SAFER grant.
- The IAFC submits names of qualified individuals for fire service government appointments. If you know anyone interested and qualified, please pass their names on.

International Director's Report:

- Chief Gerry Dio attended the FRI in Atlanta, stating the discussions were energetic but effective.
- Please remember to donate to the Fallen Firefighter Fund when you have the opportunity.
- Chief Dio thanked all for their support, and he is grateful for the experience as International Director.
- Jack Parow added that the Board of Directors will stay the same, between both the Divisions and the Sections. Even if a section loses a seat, the membership is still involved as a Division.

Committee Reports:

- *Bylaws*
 - A ballot will be coming out soon. The Fire and Life Safety section would like a non-fire department representative as part of the Board, and the current bylaws do not allow for that. The recommendation is to NOT support this change.
- *Seminar*
 - The class for the seminar is being presented by Billy Goldfeder. All attendees are asked to email their state's director topics that are important to you so we can best put together programs that serve the membership.
- *Elections*
 - Ballots going out for IAFC 2nd VP. The Division is not taking a position on either candidate. All are encouraged to vote.

Election of Officers:

- A motion was made by John Wood, seconded by Tim Wall, and voted unanimously to accept the nominations for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President as posted.
- A motion was made by Tim Wall, seconded by William St. Michel, and voted unanimously to appoint John Wood to a three-year term as Secretary/Treasurer.
- A motion was made by William St. Michel, seconded by John Wood and voted unanimously to appoint the State Directors as posted.
- Nominations were accepted for the International Director position. Chief Spurr was nominated by Chief Duross, and Chief Locke was nominated by Chief Wood. A ballot vote was taken, and the result was Chief Locke 36 votes, Chief Spurr 31 votes.

Other Business:

- Tim Wall, VCOS, stated that the Vice Chair has stepped down, and Chief Chuck Flynn is now the new Vice Chair. He added that Kidde is sponsoring a new national video program for volunteers. Finally, there are many VCOS sponsored programs upcoming in the next few months.
- Tim Wall congratulated Chief Richards for being inducted into the CT State Firefighter Hall of Fame.
- Chief Locke presented Chief Spurr with award in recognition of his service. He challenged everyone to ask what can the Division do for you? There is still a lot of work to be done.

Adjournment:

- A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 1622.

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

April 6, 2016

Annual Board of Directors Meeting

NFPA Headquarters, Quincy, MA

President calls meeting to order 15:00

Pledge to the Flag

Invocation Rev. Gary Blume

Welcoming Remarks Corporate Sponsor NFPA

Introduction of Guest

Rhoda Mae Kerr, President IAFC

Mark Light, Executive officer IAFC

Others

Communications

Secretary Report

Presented written report

San Antonio, TX FRI

Treasurer's Report

President Report

Report from the IAFC

Rhoda Mae Kerr, President IAFC

Mark Light

International Director Report

Gerard Dio

Committee Reports

By-laws

GPO/Bookstore

Seminar

Elections

Election of Officers

President from VT

1st Vice President from NH

2nd Vice President from RI

International Director 3-year term

Secretary/Treasurer 3-year term

State Directors RI, VT, ME,

Other

Presentation

**New England Division
International Association of Fire Chiefs**

February 11, 2016

Board of Directors Meeting

Teleconference Meetings

Members Present:

President Robert Spurr

1st VP Steve Locke

2nd VP Chris Christopoulos, Not Present

Secretary/Treasurer John Wood

International Director

Gerard Dio, Not Present on call

State Directors:

Michael Bucossi

John Duross, ME

Steve Achilles, NH

Tim McLaughlin, RI Not Present on call

Kenneth Richards, CT

Charlie Doody, Not Present on call

Meeting started 08:12

Immediate Past President

Chief Michael St. Michel

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Treasurer's Report was accepted and approved.

President Report

President Spurr plans to pick up sponsors for the division's annual meeting and seminars during FCAM Show the past couple of days. He feels that FCAM has a strong relationship with the NED. He believes that MA chiefs will have a large showing at the divisions program in April.

He spoke about the by-law change being proposed by the eight divisions regarding the clarification of the relationship between the divisions and the IAFC.

Committee Reports

Seminar-Chief Richards reviewed the conference seminars issues. He will be leaving early on April 7, 2016, as he needs to be back home to be inducted into the CT Firefighter Hall of Fame.

Meeting adjourned 08:50

New England Division of International Association of Fire Chiefs

Secretary's Annual Report

I hereby submit the annual report of the Division Secretary to the members of the New England Division of International Association of Fire Chiefs, Incorporated, for the fiscal year May 1, 2015 through April 6, 2016.

The Board of Directors met three times and had two teleconference calls during the past year to conduct the general business of the Division.

In addition, the board met during the August Fire-Rescue International Conference in Atlanta, GA for the annual luncheon meeting.

At the November 2015 quarterly meeting of the Board there was discussion generated regarding the differences between having one New England Fire Chiefs organization rather than the two that exist now for the six States. Topics included; organization change, structure change, membership, constitution and by-law change, how the IAFC would play a role, personalities involved, cultural change, traditional change, transitional processes. The results of the discussion ended with consensus that the first step should be to meet with the Executive Board of the NEAFC in the near future or at their next quarterly meeting to review the topics above and to determine the next step in the process. The secretary will contact the NEAFC president to arrange for a meeting.

The Division Executive Board met with the Executive Board of the NEAFC on December 4, 2015. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and open up communications regarding the future of both organizations. To explore what it would take to consolidate both organizations for the future of the fire service and hope for a better New England Fire Chiefs organization as one; instead of the two separate New England Fire Chiefs organizations, which makes it very confusing for the both memberships. Most members belong to both organizations. It is also confusing to the State Fire Chiefs Associations in each State.

Both Executive Boards agreed the first step would be for a combined meeting of both boards sometime in February or the near future. Unfortunately, the NEAFC Board declined to meet with the Division Board at this time. There is hope that in the near future the NEAFC Board will agree to meet to discuss the pro and cons of having one New England Fire Chiefs organization.

Previous Year's Historical Report 2015

At the Division's quarterly meeting November 2014 the executive board reported the results of the NEAFC meeting. After a considerable amount of discussion the Division board voted to exercise the 90 day separation section of the agreement between the Division and the NEAFC. The vote was contingent upon and only if the NEAFC did not feel that it would be detrimental to the conference. The joint conference has been struggling with revenue and low attendance during the past couple of conferences. To help reduce expenses and the fact there will not be much for the Division to participate in during the conference; the board voted to separate from the joint conference with NEAFC and return to doing a conference on their own moving to the sitting president's State for their annual meeting and seminars each year.

This past year the annual meeting and seminars were held in South Portland, Maine at the Sable Oaks Marriott Hotel as the sitting president was Chief William St. Michel. The annual meeting was held May 5, followed by a 1 ½ day seminar ending May 7, 2015.

Communications between board members to conduct Division business continued throughout the year using email and telephone conference calls. The president and secretary performed the task of completing the daily business of the Division.

The Board of Directors encourages you all to visit the web-site for information regarding the Division and view the links attached. The board also has a Facebook page New England Division, IAFC please like us on Facebook. Forward any suggestions you might have to Secretary Wood; you can view the site at nediafc.org.

There are Division members and officers that participate with committees for the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). These committees are constitution and by-laws committee, building and fire prevention code committees, elections committee, FRI program planning and site committee.

The secretary attended the annual secretary's meeting at Fire Rescue International in Atlanta, GA to prepare for the FRI conference registration and programs. The secretary worked the registration and membership booths and assisted with other duties of the conference. The FRI Convention was well attended by New England Division members; the luncheon meeting, hospitality room, and presidential celebration had good representation by the Division members who attended FRI. Officers of the Division attended testimonials and memorials services throughout the year.

We would also like to thank the many vendors and exhibitors that have made donations, and have helped sponsor the Division events throughout this past year.

In closing, I would like to thank President Robert Spurr, the Board of Directors, and the members of the Division for their support. I have enjoyed working for and with them throughout the year. I consider the opportunity to serve you in this capacity a privilege and look forward to doing so in the future.

That concludes the Secretary's report.