



Lake Region Firefighters Association

July 18, 2011 Lake Region Meeting Minutes

President Doug Storck called the meeting of the Lake Region Firefighters Association to order at 7:38 PM. The pledge of allegiance to the U.S. flag was said. A moment of silence was observed for all fallen firefighters. We were welcomed to St. John's University by host chief Steve Berhow. Chief Steve Berhow welcomed everyone for coming. Roll call was taken by the St. John's University Fire Department at the registration table showing 43 firefighters representing 12 fire departments. There were 8 guests and vendors present. Minutes from the April quarterly meeting were emailed. Reading of April quarterly meeting minutes were waived with a motion made by St. Cloud and seconded by Albany to approve the minutes. The treasurer's report was presented.

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
Plaza Park Bank						\$4,495.02
Deposit	05/05/2011			Deposit	\$240.00	\$4,735.02
Deposit	06/06/2011			Deposit	\$80.00	\$4,815.02
Total Plaza Park Bank					\$0.00	\$4,815.02

Motion was made by Forada and second by St. Cloud to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

REPORTS

MSFDA – Mike “Spanky” Schroeder

<http://www.msfga.org>

- State Conference in June at Detroit lakes, 330 voting delegates attended. This was a good training opportunity for people attending.
- MSFDA has hired a support specialist; she is Dee Dee Jankvoich from Isanta. Her main project will be working on the conference.
- Shane Schmidt, MSFDA president, is retiring from the Alexandria Fire Department. He is retiring so his son can join the fire department. Alexandria has an age limit of 35 to join the department and Shane's son is getting to the limit and not positions are opening.
- The two scholarships to the Texas A & M Municipal Fire School in College Station, Texas were awarded JoAnne Plaster of the Willmar Fire Department and Brigit Kelley from the St. Francis Fire Department. JoAnne will be taking classes in Fire Investigator, Brigit will be taking Fire Officer I.
- 3 bylaw resolutions passed.
 - State Conference Schedule will be on a rotating basis: Owatonna, Grand Rapids, Detroit Lakes, Alexandria & either Bemidji or Brainerd.
 - In the event a vacancy is created for the office of the association, that vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors.
 - Fire Marshall is now a voting member of the association.
- Reminded everybody that water rescue is different than swift water rescue. People need to be trained to the proper level for the job they are attempting. (OSHA)

- Looking at possible changing Fire Service Day at the Capitol to February.
- Ed Hoffman new representative for the Fire Certification Board.
- A number of the various fire associations are working on the 990 issue with the IRS.
- Fire Safety account, Governor Dayton had vetoed a bill that would have removed 8 to 9 million of the unallocated money from the account.
- 2012 Homeland Security Appropriation, US House restored \$320 million appropriated to the Fire Act Grant.
- Bruce West is now the Executive Director of the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education. Bruce used to work for HSEM.
- Honorary Life member is a member who has served not less than 20 years as an active firefighter in one or more of the fire departments in the State of Minnesota, provided that said department or departments hold membership in MSFDA.
- 9/11 10 year anniversary is coming up. The Festival of Tribute & Honor in Minneapolis September 16 – 18 2011. See www.nhcsa-mn.org for more details.
- Next state conference will be June 14 – 16 2012, in Alexandria.
- Thanked the Lake Region for those that attending the Firefighter Funeral in Cambridge and representative for the firefighter in Glenwood.
- **MSFDA Website:**
<http://msfda.org>

MSFCA Report – Mike Schroeder for Bill Thoennes

<http://msfca.org>

- Annual Conference - October 20-22, 2011 St. Cloud, MN at the St. Cloud Civic Center.
 - Symposium: On January 8, 2011 a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) shooting occurred in Tucson, Arizona resulting in 6 deaths and 13 injuries. Northwest Fire/Rescue District Fire Chief Jeff Piechura will share information on his department's preparation and their inter-agency response that resulted in the transport of 13 shooting victims to area hospitals within 39 minutes from the first 9-1-1 call. Lessons learned from their Post Incident Review will be shared including the follow-up support functions provided on-scene and throughout the following weeks in assisting the community in recovery from this horrific tragedy.
- Marty Scheerer will be stepping down as president, Randi Polzin will move up from vice president to president, Bill Mund from St. Cloud will take over the vice-president for remaining two years.
- Looking at doing a possible spring mini conference for outstate members.
- If you should happen to have a firefighter death; make sure to pass the information on to Bill Thoennes, Mike Schroeder or any of the officers of the Lake Region. Remember we are here to help you.

Certification Board – Dean Wrobbel

<http://www.mfscb.org/>

- Recertifications are due April 30, Theresa will be sending out reminders if you have not sent yours in.
- Fire Investigator practical exam will occur sometime this summer. Collecting names to have enough people to prepare the building for inspection. You must pass your written before taking the practical.
- If you need any other testing contact Theresa and she help get testing done.

State Fire Marshal - Jerry Rosendahl & John Steinbach

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/sfm/>

- No Report due to state shut down.

VFBA – Steve Spaeth or Barry Nelson

<http://www.vfbaofmn.com>

- No Report

DNR

www.dnr.state.mn.us

- No Report due to state shutdown

IAFC - Great Lakes Division - Bill Mund

<http://www.gld-iafc.org/>

- No Report

Technical College

Ridgewater College – Mike Roe

<http://www.ridgewater.edu>

- Expanded region, Mike is working on contacting people that used to be serviced by Alexander Tech.
- FFI in Parkers Prairie in November, in Litchfield in January.
- HazMat money looks like it will be coming through shortly through the Fire Act Grant.
- Will be having a aircraft, 21st Century construction, Handling and Mayday, RIT
- Fire Inspector I class.
- State School in March.

St. Cloud Technical and Community College – Chad Steffens

<http://www.sctcc.edu>

- Chad introduced himself as the new director of outreach for fire training.
- Aug 15 Clear Lake & Big Lake, Firefighter I, HazMat Ops & Firefighter II.
- Sept 15, Sartell & Waite Park, Firefighter I, HazMat Ops & Firefighter II.
- Looking at building a RIT trailer, right now Hennepin Tech is the only trailer available. Middle to the end of September to get that down.
- HazMat training LP Burn, HazMat Awareness, Ops, refresher, Ethanol.
- Blended Officer 1 class, ½ online, ½ classroom. Lecture every other week.
- Officer managing fire department personnel and advanced fire administration. Completely online.
- Simulator is available, contact SCTCC if you want to schedule.
- Remember the tuition voucher program will be discontinued check your balance and use up your dollars. You can check your balance at the following website:
<http://www.firecenter.mnscu.edu/fire/tuitionvoucher.html>

MN Board of Firefighter Training & Education – Marv Calvin

www.mbfte.state.mn.us

- No report.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) – Bruce West

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem>

- No report due to state shutdown.

Old Business

- Still working on the Associate member. Review at the next board meeting in September and available at the October meeting.
- Looking for somebody to be our MSFDA representative in October 2012. Spanky will help the person transition to the position. Anybody interested should contact Doug or a board member.

New Business


- Jeff Drais reminded everybody about the Minnesota Public Safety Service Award, which is to honor individuals that have distinguished themselves through acts of dedication or heroism and who might otherwise go unnoticed. If you have an individual who might be eligible for this honor you can get an application online at <http://www.northmemorial.com/ets/publicsafety.cfm> or contact Jeff Drais.
- Firefighter Memorial, Mike Schroeder put on a presentation about the firefighter memorial. The Minnesota Fire Service Foundation is working on the memorial in St. Paul. This is not the same as the memorial that was proposed a few years back. They are looking to raise money for the memorial; they are trying to raise the money by firefighter for firefighters. 190 line of duty deaths of firefighters since 1881. Each fire department is encouraged to send \$30 per member, either directly or through relief associations. Need to raise \$600,000 by December 31, 2011. If they do not reach that goal they will return the money to the donor. Foundation is a 501(c)(3)
 - The presentation is available on the Lake Region website: www.lakeregionfire.com
 - Some discussion about previous money donated for the previous memorial and what happened to the money. We will discuss the memorial at the Board meeting and bring it to the October meeting about making a donation. *(A donation of \$1,000 was made for the previous memorial in January 2004)*

Good of the Region

- None

Next meeting will be October 17, 2011 – Alexandria. This is the annual meeting and elections.

Motion to adjourn was made by Waite Park second by St. Stephen. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.



Jeff Drais, Secretary/Treasurer