



Lake Region Firefighters Association

January 12, 2015 Lake Region Meeting Minutes

President Bill Thoennes called the meeting of the Lake Region Firefighters Association to order at 7:30 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 Morris by Fire Chief Dave Dybdal thanked everybody for coming out, reminding everybody that Morris will be celebrating their 125th Anniversary and inviting everyone to show up the 2nd weekend in July and help them celebrate. City Council member Jeff Miller commended the fire departments present and Morris for receiving honors and fire department of the year in 2014. Roll call was taken showing 82 firefighters representing 26 fire departments. There were 8 agency representatives and vendors present for a total attendance of 93.

Minutes from the October quarterly meeting were emailed. Reading of October quarterly meeting minutes were waived with a motion made by Forada and second by Albany to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented.

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
Plaza Park Bank						\$ 4,959.00
Check	10/27/2014	5040	Iceberg Web Design	Website update / redesign - Phase 1	\$(1,382.05)	\$ 3,576.95
Total Plaza Park Bank					\$(1,382.05)	\$ 3,576.95

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

REPORTS

MSFDA – Dave Yurczyk

dave@davescustom.com

<http://www.msfd.org>

- MSFDA Board meeting will be January 17, 2015
 - Contracted full time with DeeDee Jankovich, Executive Administrator
 - Opening for MSFDA Representative for the Training Board.
 - Dave is the new MSFDA treasurer
- 2015 140th MSDFA Conference will be in St. Cloud, June 11 – 13, 2015
 - Registration packages will be mailing out soon.
 - Reminder to send 20 year members in for lifetime membership and deceased members for the memorial service. Pictures and years served.
 - St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center
 - Host hotel will be Kelly Inn
 - http://msfda.org/annual_conference
- Accepting Nomination Forms for the Following:
 - Bill Thoennes talked about the nominations.
 - Fire Fighter of the Year
 - Fire Department of the Year

- Rookie of the Year
- Prevention/Community Awareness
- Nomination Form: http://l.b5z.net/i/u/10139957/f/Nomination_Form.pdf
- Fire Service Day at the Capitol, Monday February 2nd, 2015
- Be sure to sign up for the Minnesota Firefighter. If you have any articles or pictures make sure you contact DeeDee. (deedee@msfda.org)
- Fire Service Day with the Minnesota Twins!, Sunday, May 31st at 1:10
http://www.msfc.org/assets/2015HomePage/Fire_Service_Day_2015.pdf

Mark Rosenblum – MSFDA President

valleyfire25@yahoo.com

LETTER FROM MSFDA PRESIDENT

Dear Minnesota State Fire Department Association Members:

Many of you may have heard that our former treasurer Tony Bronk was recently charged for allegedly stealing \$188,000 from our organization over the past four years.

We were shocked and angered by this unfortunate situation. I want to assure you that we value the trust you put in this organization. We believe in holding people accountable for their actions. We demand that the best and most reliable staff serves on the MSFDA Board of Directors so we can continue representing Minnesota firefighters and fire departments.

The MSFDA is financially sound. Here is what we have already done and what we will do in the coming days and weeks to ensure the funds you provide us are never mishandled again:

- We have overhauled our financial policies and procedures.
- We will institute more checks and balances in our financial systems.
- We will work with an external audit firm to ensure we have proper controls in place.

Please contact us if you would like more details about how we will ensure best practices in financial dealings are always followed.

Thank you for your continued support during this difficult situation. We are putting together a great conference for you June 11-13 in St. Cloud. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Mark Rosenblum
MSFDA President

MSFCA – Bill Thoennes

parkdept@rea-alp.com

<http://msfca.org>

- The board voted for to fill the executive director position by Fire Service Consulting (FSC), Nyle and Theresa Zikmund.
- 4th Annual Fire Officers School at the Arrowwood in Alexandria February 7-8, 2015.
 - You can start making reservations at Arrowwood, Hampton Inn or Holiday Inn.

- 9 Education classes.
- Bring your family.
- Giving away a TV for visiting each vendor's booths.
- MSFCA membership information:
http://www.msfca.org/general/assets/2015/Membership_Form_2015_fillable.pdf
- March 20, 2015 board meeting will meet for a brainstorming and retreat.
- 8 departments in the region have not started their MFIRS reports, the regional directors will be contacting department.
- 2015 MSFCA conference will in Duluth a week later usual October 22 – 24 2015. Make your room reservations now. Not EdMN (formerly MEA) week.

Bill Mund – MSFCA President

- Fire Safety Account, asking the legislature to allocate the full amount for the entire biennium
- Working on changing the law for non-career firefighter families to receive ongoing healthcare benefits should the firefighter die in the line of duty. Career firefighters already have this benefit.
- Supporting a ban on the 10 worst flame retardants in Minnesota. Study have come out about cancer in firefighters and many of the retardants are believed to contribute to the cancers.

Certification Board – Dean Wrobbel

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

Dean.Wrobbel@ci.stcloud.mn.us

- MBFSCB website is being reworked.
- Looking at fee structure, mainly for people with multiple certifications.
- New office address: 2704 County Hwy 10, Mounds View, MN 55112
- Next executive meeting will be January 14, 2015 with the Board of Firefighter Training.

State Fire Marshal – Bruce West

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

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/sfm/Documents/Fire-Marshall-Updates/Fire%20Marshal%20Update.pdf>

John Steinbach - Investigator

- 2 fire deaths so far in 2015
- 41 fire deaths for 2014.
- Chief Deputy Bob Dahm retired after 26 years.
- New Chief Deputy, Jim Smith from St. Paul Fire.
- School Inspections Team, School Supervisor Forrest Williams attended a panel at the National Fire Academy in Maryland.
- 2015 Minnesota State Fire Marshal Conference
April 14-15, 2015
Ramada Plaza – Minneapolis
<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/sfm/public-education/Documents/2015-SFMD-Conference-Brochure.pdf>
- Fire Marshall West is asking departments that are able to participate in the firefighter retentions program to get their certified firefighter roster completed.
- Remind everyone if they need an investigator to contact the State Duty officer and not call your investigator directly. They could be on vacation or unavailable and might not get your request.
- If you want (free) training on fire scene preservation contact John or Toby.

Toby McLain – Investigator

- Has additional information not available on the website such as a brief history of the Fire Marshal's office, history of pipeline safety. Summary of 2013 fire in Minnesota
- Investigator territorial map.

Scott Radke (scott.radke@state.mn.us)

- A new version of ImageTrend will be coming online next year.
- If you need any help or training on ImageTrend (reporting) contact Scott at the Fire Marshal's office

Technical College

Ridgewater College / Alexandria Technical College – Mike Roe

<http://www.ridgewater.edu>

- State School Alexandria, March 21 – 22
- Mankato State School, March 6 – 7
- M State Fire School, Morehead, March 14 - 15
- Willmar – April 24 – 25 Basic pump operator class.
- Water flow class, instructor used to work for Akron brass. 2 part class.
- Firefighter I/II

Available from all Tech Colleges.

- Through the Smoke – available at all Tech Colleges.
- Arson 101, from Fire Marshall Office.
- Bakken Oil program

St. Cloud Technical and Community College – Dan Buchholz

<http://www.sctcc.edu>

DBuchholz@sctcc.edu

- ISO classes available free of charge.
- Traffic incident command class, how to respond to traffic accidents.
- FITOAM conference January 24 – 25 2015
- Ice / Cold Water Rescue Class March 14 in Rice.
- Active Threat Training Simulation May 30th at SCTCC
- EMT / EMR refreshers available.

FITOAM (Fire Instructors and Training Officers Association of Minnesota) – Max Radil

<http://www.fitoam.org>

- Annual Conference – St. Cloud, January 24 – 25 2015
 - Train the trainer type conference.

MN Board of Firefighter Training & Education – Steve Flaherty

www.mbfte.state.mn.us

steve.flaherty@state.mn.us

- Send in your invoices for any classes.
- This year is the 2nd half of the biennium and cannot carry forward any money, they need to distribute all the money this year.
- Round 7 allocations, \$97 per firefighter.
- Kevin Sedivy, Fire Service Training and Licensing Specialist.

- Help with documentation and paperwork.
- 26% of Lake Region did not take advantage of MBFTE funding.

VFBA – Steve Spaeth & Barry Nelson

<http://www.vfbaofmn.com>

- No Report

IAFC - Great Lakes Division - George Esbensen

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

- No report

DNR - Tim Oland, Rural Fire Programs Coordinator

www.dnr.state.mn.us

- Changes to 50/50 grants
- Reminder to submit invoices when getting grants.
- Some freightliners are coming in
- New types of vehicles coming in, not duce and half.
- Pumps, generators, etc.
- State surplus program, trucks available. Humvees are much value to the fire service
- Check website for equipment available.

Fire Training Coordinator at MnSCU – Marv Calvin

<http://www.mnscu.edu>

marv.calvin@ridgewater.edu

(320) 212-7462

- No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) – Bob Berg, State Teams Planner

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

robert.m.berg@state.mn.us

(651) 201-7444

- Railroad classes from pipeline safety. Will be around the state teaching departments to deal with the Bakken oil being transported through the state.
- New director Joe Kelly, joseph.kelly@state.mn.us, (651) 201-7405
- Free classes around the country, HSEM pays for your travel and lodging.
https://app.dps.mn.gov/HSEM_Training/view_class_list.asp

Minnesota State Fire Department Association Lobbyist – Sherry Munyon

smunyon@capitolaccess.us

- No report

Old Business

July 20, 2015 Meeting– District 2 – Bowlus at Community Center

Vice President, carry over from October

Jeff Draiss, St Stephen was nominated. St. Cloud made a motion to cast as white ballot, Benson seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer

Gary Winkles, Albany was nominated. St. Stephen made a motion to cast as white ballot. St. Cloud seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

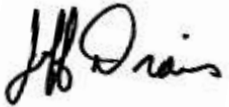
- None

Good of the Region

- Alexandria will be sponsoring a class Mayday for Mental Health, Chief Patrick Kenny March 30th
- Looking to boost attendance, attend regional chiefs meetings.
- Additional trainings.
- Send events for the website, we can now post them on the site.
- Send pictures of your fire department for the website.
- 2 day passes for passes for the Viking Winter Classic Spectacular and the Viking Speedway January 30th & 31st.

Next meeting will be April 20, 2015 – District 1 – Freeport, Community Center, 307 7th St Se

Motion to adjourn was made by Albany seconded by Forada. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.



Jeff Drais, Secretary/Treasurer